

# Info - bio

THE ORGANIC FEDERATION OF CANADA NEWSLETTER

16 February 2021

## Canadian Standards Interpretation Committee

REMINDER -Comment period – 21 January to 21 February 2021

The [Standards Interpretation Committee](#) opened the first public comment period presenting interpretations in compliance with the version 2020 of the [Canadian Organic Standards](#) (published on 11 December 2020).

- Is organic feed required during transport and handling of livestock when the duration of transit exceeds 5 hours (6.5.5)?
- When liquid ingredients are composed of solids dissolved in added water, is the added water excluded or included in the percent organic calculation?
- When calculating the organic percentage of a multi-ingredient product, that is a mixture of solid and liquid ingredients (9.1.3c), and there are no reconstitution claims, is the mass of each ingredient used as-is, or should any salt or water in each of these ingredients be removed prior to the calculation?
- Can gelling agents such as guar gum and xanthan gum be added into drinking water/feed for crickets? This will stop crickets from drowning especially as they are small when they first hatch.  
... and many additional questions and answers.

[Click here](#) to see the proposed answers to various questions raised by organic stakeholders regarding the National Standards for Organic Agriculture.

**The proposed responses are subject to a 30-day comment period, ending 21 February 2021.**

All comments regarding these answers should be sent to [cfia.opr-rpb.acia@canada.ca](mailto:cfia.opr-rpb.acia@canada.ca).

Please note all the Standards Interpretation Committee's [Final Questions and Answers](#) have been updated to reflect the content of the 2020 Canadian Organic Standards (COS).

- If a final answer has both blue and black text, the part of the answer written in black corresponds to the 2015 COS and **the part of the answer written in blue corresponds strictly to the 2020 COS.**
- If the answer is written completely in black, this means the answer applies to both the 2015 and 2020 editions.

The 2015 COS remains applicable  
for one year after the publication of the 2020 COS.

## IMPLEMENTING THE 2020 CANADIAN ORGANIC STANDARDS!



Now is the time to check whether the changes to the Canadian Organic Standards 2020 are having an impact on your production system and plan for any changes you may need to make to your operation.

To help you understand the content of the Organic Standard 2020, the OFC has made available documents that compare the Organic Standard 2015 and the Organic Standard 2020 side by side, with the changes highlighted.

All of these comparative documents [are available here](#).

ORGANIC SCIENCE MADE EASY

### New podcasts with Canadian researchers



*'We pay farmers to produce food, but we need farmers to be stewards of our global landscape'.*

Sustainable vegetable production can shape the agricultural landscape: with his research activity in the Organic Science Cluster 3, Sean Smukler, from UBC, is building an online tool to enhance nutrient management planning in vegetable production and to provide better stewardship of the land.

[Click here](#) to listen to the podcast; the transcript is [available here](#).



Martine Dorais, PhD, professor in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences at Laval University, holds the [Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food \(MAPAQ\) Research Chair](#) in organic greenhouse and controlled environments since November 2020.

Dr. Dorais has participated in 16 research activities within the Organic Science Clusters: 9 of these activities deal with greenhouse production.

She tells us about major advances in fertilization, substrates, lighting and effluent control in greenhouses and describes the greenhouse of her dreams, a zero-waste hybrid complex. [Click here](#) to listen to the podcast in French; the English transcript is [available here](#).

All OSC3 podcasts, Organic Science Conversations, are [available here](#).

<p>The third issue of the magazine <b>Organic Science Canada</b> will be published in March. Stay tune!</p>	The cover of the magazine "Organic Science Canada" for Issue 3, Spring 2021. The cover features a close-up photograph of several insects, including a fly and a bee, on a leaf. The text "ORGANIC SCIENCE CANADA" is prominently displayed in white on a green background, with "SCIENCE FOR PRODUCERS   ISSUE 3   SPRING 2021" in smaller text below it.
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## Emma Bryce is joining the OFC as the new Communications Manager

Emma currently runs a mixed livestock operation where she raised pastured hogs, sheep, and poultry. She also grows a small vegetable and flower garden and grows medicinal herbs. Emma is currently pursuing her Master of Science at Royal Roads University in Environment and Management with a focus on diversified pollinator species.

Emma has long enjoyed being a voice for small-scale, organic farms as the director on the boards of a variety of local, provincial, and national agricultural not for profits, including BC Young Farmers, Canadian Young Farmers Forum, the BC Agriculture Council, the Langley Sustainable Agriculture Foundation, and the Fraser Valley Conservancy.



Emma, on her small farm in Chilliwack, BC.