



CFIA On-farm Food Safety Program Recognition Viewed as Major Step by Pork Producers

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(Ottawa, ON) – The Canadian Pork Council (CPC) fully supports the recent announcement of the agriculture ministers in Whitehorse to officially recognize on-farm food safety programs. A communique, released on Friday, sets out an action plan which includes official recognition by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency of on-farm food safety programs at the national level, which will include the Canadian Quality Assurance program (CQA[®]) used by Canadian hog producers.

CPC President Edouard Asnong is very pleased by the announcement. “CFIA’s recognition is a critical element in support of our programs. Endorsement of our CQA[®] program will provide a federal ‘seal of approval’, which is crucial for our continuing success in domestic and international markets,” he explains.

Asnong also feels this is a significant and positive step for our industry, “The CPC hopes that this move on the part of government will encourage more industry stakeholders to get behind quality assurance programs. We look forward to continuing our work with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.”

The Canadian Quality Assurance program was launched in April 1998. By following this program, Canadian producers can ensure local and global customers that they are following the highest standards for hog production. To date, over 6,500 hog producers across the country are enrolled in the CQA[®] program. The Canadian Pork Council and CQA[®]-enrolled hog farmers are taking important steps to ensure that Canadian pork continues to be of the highest quality in the world.

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