



WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE INSPECTED

INSPECTION ACTIVITIES

Pre-inspection

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) inspects to:

- Verify compliance with regulations
- Investigate reported problems (eg. complaints)
- Respond to a request from industry (eg. To obtain an export certificate or import permit)
- Follow up on a previous inspection
- Investigate establishment or product contamination



1

Your establishment may receive an inspection notice from the CFIA.

2

An inspector meets with you to outline the scope of the inspection. Any changes to your company profile¹ and preventive control plan² should be provided to the inspector at this time.

3

The inspector conducts an initial walk through, determining areas that may need to be addressed.

4

The inspector confirms the scope of the inspection based on the walk-through.

During Inspection

7

The inspector determines if regulatory requirements are met and completes a report.

6

The inspector documents inspection observations using a tablet or mobile device.

5

The inspector verifies if preventive controls are complete and effective through:

- Onsite observation
- Reviewing documents and records
- Interviews with staff
- Sampling and measurement

Post-inspection

8

An inspector meets with you to discuss inspection results and your establishment receives the report.

9

Your establishment takes corrective actions for any non-compliant areas.

10

The inspector schedules a follow-up inspection.

To request permissions such as licences, permits, authorizations, registrations and export certificates online, visit inspection.gc.ca/MyCFIA

¹ A company profile introduces the business and outlines information about its operations such as, commodities produced or sold, addresses, contact information, and the legal name of the company.

² A preventative control plan describes a system-based approach that focusses on prevention as a way to achieve compliance; it identifies hazards as well as demonstrates how to minimize them to an acceptable level and mitigate risks, with or without written documentation, depending on the applicable regulations.