

Product Claims (food or otherwise)

There are very specific conditions that must be met if vendors are going to make any type of claim about their products, either verbally or in writing.

Organic Certification: Any vendor claiming their products are organic must be able to provide proof of organic certification. If such proof cannot be provided, they are not able to use this term either in writing or verbally. If a producer or processor is selling products as organic that are not certified, complaints can be submitted for investigation by calling 310-FARM.

Nutrition Labelling: Most foods sold at farmers' markets do not require nutrition labelling when the vendor is the person who made the product, and the product is being sold direct to consumer. However, there are foods which do not receive this exemption regardless of where they are sold. Vendors must check the CFIA website for more information -

<https://inspection.canada.ca/food-labels/labelling/industry/eng/1383607266489/1383607344939>.

Natural Health Products: Sales of functional foods, natural health products, and cosmetics are allowed at farmers' markets, however, if the vendor claims in writing or verbally that the product has a therapeutic effect on the body (ie: treating a disease, disorder or skin condition), it is considered a drug or natural health product and must have a Drug Identification Number (DIN) or a Natural Health Product Number (NPN) on the label.

Contact Health Canada at 1-866-225-0709, and here: [Natural health products](#). Health Canada assesses all natural health products before allowing their sale in Canada and verifies that they have been properly manufactured.