

# ORGANIC:

## **MORE THAN JUST "GRASSFED"**

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# ORGANIC: MORE THAN JUST A WORD

**Federal organic standards specify the amount of grass that must make up an animal's diet, in addition to restrictions on animal welfare, pesticide use, and more.**

Many, if not most, Canadian farmers raise their dairy and beef cattle on some combination of grass and grain. However, grassfed farming aims to ensure that ruminants' diets consist of as much grass and forage as possible – grass-based diets can be a healthier choice for animals and consumers alike. And while there are many independent grassfed labels in North America, under the Canadian Organic Standards:

Herbivores must have access to pasture during grazing season, with 60 per cent of their daily dry ration intake must come from grass, forage, or silage. The other 40 per cent comes from organic feed that is free of genetically engineered organisms and has not been treated with persistent synthetic pesticides.

Both grassfed and organic animal products have health, environmental and ethical benefits. The combination of both is an industry practice to strive for. When you buy organic, you are buying grassfed and more.

- **60% of of dairy feed must come from grass and forage**
- **Organic animals are required to have access to pasture**
- **Grassfed may still use pesticides and other non-organic substances**
- **"Grassfed" is not regulated and can mean different things**
- **Grassfed organic is best!**

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For more information about this campaign and our membership: [organiccouncil.ca](http://organiccouncil.ca)



**OCO**

Organic Council of Ontario  
The Voice for Organics in Ontario