

Eat Local Grey Bruce Co-operative Inc.

Product Policies

Exceptions/changes can be made to this policy only with ELGB board approval.

All local producers must commit to the objectives of the coop as stated in the by-laws.

Preferential Levels

Products sold on the Eat Local Grey Bruce online store are given preference based on the following hierarchy:

Level 1: Ecologically-produced local food

Level 2: Locally-produced food

Level 3: Certified Organic Ontario-produced food

Level 4: Ecologically-produced Ontario food

Level 5: Ontario-produced food

Level 6: Imported - Certified organic food.

Definitions:

1. Locally-produced food: Whole food products (i.e. vegetables, meat, etc) grown within a **120km radius** from Owen Sound. OR value-added food products (i.e. jams, pickles, pies) that are made within 120-km radius of Owen Sound AND contains at least one main ingredient grown within a 120-km radius of Owen Sound.

2. Ontario-produced food: Whole food products grown within the province of Ontario OR value-added food products that are made in Ontario AND contain at least one main ingredient grown within Ontario unless the main ingredients are not commercially grown within Ontario. Preferential treatment for products that do not contain GMOs.

3. Certified organic food: Food products that have been certified by a regulatory body as meeting all the requirements of organic food production and that are labelled as such.

4. Ecologically-grown food:

a) Meat:

- . Humanely-raised (i.e. access to pasture during the summer months and adequate space over the winter)
- . Free of growth hormones and sub-therapeutic antibiotics
- . Non-GMO feed

b) Produce:

- . Free from Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)
- . Free from chemical pesticides and fertilizers

Additional Product Policies:

1. Vegetables & Fruit:

- a. Eat Local Grey Bruce Co-operative will sell **only locally-grown vegetables & fruit from June 1st to October 31st or as they are available.**

2. Meat Products:

- a. Eat Local Grey Bruce Co-operative will sell only locally-grown meat products year-round.

3. Non-food Products:

- a. Non-food products (i.e. wool, books, preserving equipment, ELGB promotional items) may be sold with board approval. Preference will be given to products of Ontario first, then to products of Canada, then to Internationally-made products.

4. Food additives:

- a. Products containing food additives (such as artificial sweeteners, high glucose corn syrup or MSG) will not be sold at the co-op UNLESS those food additives are more or less essential to the preservation of that product (i.e. nitrites in deli meat) OR UNLESS otherwise deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.

- b. Flours that were desiccated with a glyphosate product shall not be allowed.

Food Labelling Policies

- 1. Informational sheets about ELGB producers and their products will be made available on the website as soon as possible (pending staffing) after a new product enters the online store.

- 2. Other labelling that provides an educational benefit to members and customers will be completed as time and

staffing allows.

3. Must be labeled in accordance with Local Health Unit standards - i.e. ingredients and contact info.