

Information Package for Canadian Commercial Sprout and Microgreen Growers

This package is designed to help us serve you better. Please review it carefully and let us know if you have any questions.

OUR SEED

We work primarily with Saskatchewan organic farmers. Seed that doesn't grow well in our climate is sourced from organic farms outside of Canada.

Our business started on our small organic farm in 1982. Our farm continues to be farmed organically and supplies a very small amount of the seed we carry at Mumm's Sprouting Seeds.

All of our seed is certified organic. Our current certificate can be found on our website: <u>https://sprouting.com/our-certificates/</u>

NEW ECOMMERCE SITE FOR COMMERCIAL GROWERS

We hope to launch our new ecommerce site for commercial growers in fall of 2023! Bulk rates and shipping quotes will be available at your fingertips.

We're offering our commercial customers a 5% discount off the cost of seed on their first ecommerce order on the new website! We appreciate you and couldn't be in our fifth decade in business without you.

SHIPPING

Order Processing Timeframes:

We try our best to fulfill your order as fast as possible. Our normal processing times are 3-5 business days from the time your order is placed until it ships. However, we've experienced surges in orders that can make processing times longer than usual. We'll do our best to post current processing times on our ecommerce site.

Canada Post:

Canada Post shipment usually take 7-10 business days for delivery to most locations in Canada, but can take longer during peak shipping times.

Truck Shipments (LTL):

Truck shipments usually take 5-8 business days to most locations in Canada, but can take longer during peak shipping times.



Orders usually need to be about 175 kg before truck shipping becomes more economical than Canada Post. A full pallet is 1000 kg of seed (700 kg for sunflower), and will receive the most economical freight rates from the freight carriers. Please contact largeaccounts@sprouting.com if you'd like a quote for an order shipped via LTL.

We kindly ask that you give us a minimum of 3-5 business days to prepare your truck shipment. We're usually not able to do rush or same-day shipments by truck.

Our truck shipment days are Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Last-minute changes to your order may cause delays. Please make sure you review and approve your invoice, and keep in mind that we need your orders finalized prior to the truck shipment day. (We often have many truck orders leaving on the same day, making it difficult to process last-minute changes. Changes to your order often mean that orders have to be unpacked, repacked, rewrapped, and the paperwork re-done.)

Damaged Truck Shipments:

If a truck shipment arrives damaged

- 1. Note the damage on the BOL & have a staff member sign
- 2. Have the driver sign
- 3. Take photos of the damage
- 4. Notify us as soon as possible.

We may not be able to reimburse you for losses if we can't collect insurance from the trucking company if we don't have this information in a timely manner.

Rush Shipments:

We do our very best to accommodate rush shipments. That said, rushed shipments can be an unpleasant experience for us and you, especially if we can't get the seed to you when you need it. Please try to allow adequate lead-time for your orders whenever possible.

Overnight shipping is not possible from our rural location. Canada Post does not have reliable Xpress shipping. Purolator has reliable rush shipping options, but it is costly.

Holidays & Christmas Slowdown:

We follow the statutory holiday schedule during holidays and Christmas. Please also keep in mind that shipping companies, whether Canada Post, Purolator or trucking companies, do slow down as well. During the Christmas season we are also competing with every Christmas present being shipped and delivery time might be longer than usual.

SAMPLES

Sample new lots

Although we test every lot of seed that we sell, we recommend testing a sample prior to purchase. We cannot duplicate every growing condition possible. Your sample test will



determine if the lot is going to work well for you. We especially suggest this with sunflower and wheat.

Sample packages are available on the commercial ecommerce site at the wholesale rate. If you are interested in smaller sample sizes free of charge, please leave a note in the Notes and Special Requests field during checkout, or send us an email.

Please let us know as soon as you can if a sample works well for you, since some of our lots move very quickly. You can select specific sunflower lots on the sunflower product page. However, other products do not have lot selection enabled. If you have tested a lot that works well for you, you can leave us a request in the Notes and Special Requests field during checkout.

SEED QUALITY

We guarantee the quality of our seed for one year after you purchase it, if stored in a cool, dry place.

We test every lot of seed carefully to ensure it will grow well in a variety of conditions. That said, some lots of seed work better for some growers than others. If you are having any trouble at all with the quality of a lot, please let us know right away so we can help you troubleshoot.

If we can't easily help you to get a good result from a lot of seed that is causing problems, we're happy to offer a discount, refund or replacement lot. (If we've recommended testing a sample prior to purchase and this option is waived, we will not be able to offer a refund. If troubleshooting is refused, we may not be able to offer a refund.)

If you've simply ordered too much seed or change your mind, we're happy to accept a return but we kindly ask that you cover the cost of return shipping. If the bag has been opened, lab testing fees will also apply.

AVAILABILITY

Ask us about availability – we do our best to keep good supply of all of our products but we work with many types of specialty seed so sometimes we're out of stock. Ask us if you have any questions about availability or when we expect a seed to be back in stock.

Notify When Back in Stock :

You can sign up for back in stock notifications on our ecommerce site. You'll receive an email when the seed is available again. In the meantime, feel free to contact us anytime for ETA updates.



Let us know if there's any seed you're looking for that we don't carry. We will be happy to keep a list of seeds we do not normally carry but that you are interested in. If there is enough demand for a certain seed, we will try our best to find a source for it.

STORAGE

Seeds keep best if stored in a cool, dry place. Seed should keep up to a year (some longer), if stored in a very cool, dry environment. Seed will last even longer if stored in the fridge or freezer. Sunflower seeds and alliums (garlic, onion, leek) seem to be more suceptible to heat and may loose germination faster than other seed types.

PAYMENT

We accept Visa, Mastercard, Interac eTransfer, and PayPal.

We don't store credit card information unless you ask us to do so.

Please ask us for a credit application if you're interested in terms of net 30.

FOOD SAFETY

FSSC 22 000

We are certified to a GFSI food safety certification, FSSC 22 000. Our current certificate can be found on our website: <u>https://sprouting.com/our-certificates/</u>

Pathogen testing:

All of our seed is tested for pathogens at an accredited 3rd party laboratory. Certificates of Analysis are available for all lots upon request. These seeds however are a raw agricultural product that may contain potentially harmful microbial contaminants. It is the grower's responsibility to ensure adherence to all pertinent federal and food safety regulations.

HACCP/GMP :

The Small Scale Food Processor's Association offers HACCP courses to it's members at a reasonable cost. Please visit <u>http://foodsafety.ssfpa.net/</u> for more information.

Government of Alberta's *Commercial Microgreens : Production and Best Practices* <u>https://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex15965/\$file/268_18-1.pdf?OpenElement</u>

CFIA Code of Practice for the Hygenic Production of Sprouted Seeds :

These guidelines apply to all sprouters selling across provincial borders, but we believe it's good practice for all growers, regardless of size. http://www.inspection.gc.ca/food/fresh-fruits-



and-vegetables/food-safety/sprouted-seeds/eng/1413825271044/1413825272091 (This document has been archived, but remains an excellent resource.)

Sample HACCP plan for sprouts :

The CFIA also offers a generic HACCP plan for sprouts : <u>http://www.inspection.gc.ca/food/safe-food-production-systems/haccp-generic-models-and-</u>guidance-documents/generic-model-sprouts/eng/1368630463879/1368630464660

Seed sanitation :

Best practice is to sanitize seed prior to growing. The CFIA recommends a minimum of a 3 log reduction, as per 8.4.2 of the CFIA Code of Practice for the Hygenic Production of Sprouted Seeds. Thanks to the great work of a team of researchers at UBC, there is an inexpensive organic seed treatment that is more effective than the CFIA's recommended clorine treatment. **Organic seed sanitation : a soak in water at 50°C for ten minutes followed by a second soak in 2% hydrogen peroxide and 0.1% acetic acid at room temperature for 10 minutes.**

Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada

Development of validated seed disinfection strategies for the organic production of sprouted vegetables <u>https://www.dal.ca/faculty/agriculture/oacc/en-home/organic-science-cluster/OSCII/theme-c/activity-c24.html</u>

UBC

Disinfection of Alfalfa and Radish Sprouting Seed Using Oxidizing Agents and Treatments Compliant with Organic Food Production Principles https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0362028X22102917#:~:text=In%20co nclusion%2C%20the%20present%20research,2%20plus%200.1%25%20AcOH%2C%20c an

REPACKAGING

We are happy to supply seeds in bulk to customers who wish to re-package at their own facility. However, our food safety program doesn't permit our company name to be used on any packages that are manufactured outside of our facility. Please use your company name on any seed repackaged outside of our facility. Also, it is recommended to print lot numbers or codes on the pouches. You can either use an internal lot number that is linked to our original lot number, or you may simply use our lot number. This is important should there ever be a food safety issue with the seed and we need to issue a market withdrawal or recall.



We also offer white label services if you're interested in having us manufacture into your brand's pouches at our facility.

FURTHER SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

The International Sprout Growers Association

The ISGA has been an invaluable resource, support, and advocate for sprout and microgreen growers for decades. We have been members since the early 1990s. https://isga-sprouts.org/

The International Microgreen Growers Association

The IMGA is the professional assocation of microgreen growers and companies providing products and services to the microgreen industry. <u>https://imgga.org/</u>

The Urban Farmer

The Urban Farmer offers a 5-week self-study course teaching you everything you need to know to grow and sell microgreens.

SeedLeaf

Offers an online microgreens management system to help with crop planning and order management. https://seedleaf.co/

Freedom Farmers

Online training and community for people seeking self reliance though modern farming practices. Courses on microgreen production are offered. https://freedomfarmers.com/courses/

OUR TEAM

Customer Service:

Anita Davis leads our customer service team and is ready to help answer your questions or take your orders. ph. (306) 747-2935 e. 221 or (800) 263-4490 <u>mumms@sprouting.com</u>

Large Accounts:

Kathy Sevigny leads on all large accounts, including orders shipped on a truck with a freight carrier. ph. (306) 747-2935 e. 229 or (800) 263-4490 largeaccounts@sprouting.com



Quality Analysis and Commercial Growing Consultant:

Janice, Lois, and Christina work in our quality analysis team. Lois has many years experience growing sprouts and microgreens commercially, and has helped to solve growing problems with commercial sprout and microgreen growers across North America. Janice and Christina have experience testing all of our lots under various growing conditions. ph. (306) 747-2935 or (800) 263-4490 guality@sprouting.com

Carolyn Crawford, General Manager

ph. (306) 747-2935 e. 226 or (800) 263-4490 carolyn@sprouting.com

Happy growing!

Lisa Mumm

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