



Not everyone is so sanguine.

Canada's growing gluttony for Chinese imports is a disaster waiting to happen, says Bruce Cran, president of the Consumers Association of Canada. Other than writing to their MPs or buying only locally grown food, Mr. Cran says, there's not much Canadian consumers can do about it.

"Consumers are handicapped because we don't have the information we need on the labels," says Mr. Cran, whose family has sworn off all apple juice, regardless of its country-of-origin label, because so much of it comes from China.

Ms. Wood feels similarly skeptical. "We just don't think it's safe," she says. She wishes food labels were more specific. For instance, she has a jar of olives that says "Product of Canada" on it.

"Now, we know we don't have olive trees in Canada," Ms. Wood says. "So where does it come from?"

### Made in China

The top 10 foods in volume Canada imported from China in 2006 (in millions of kilograms).

Mandarins, clementines and similar citrus hybrids, fresh/dried	33.9
Frozen fish fillets	24.4
Apple juice	21.7 (millions of litres)
Pears and quinces, fresh	13.6
Raw peanuts	10.6
Frozen shrimps and prawns	10.4
Pasta	10.3
Mushrooms	8.9
Other citrus fruits	8.8
Shrimps and prawns, prepared or preserved	7.3

SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

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