

## US lifts ban on Peruvian pomegranate arils

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced its decision to lift the ban it had imposed on pomegranate arils from Peru 4 months ago.

According to the Federal Import Order No. DA-2018-36, dated October 4 of this year, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) admitted the entry of pomegranate arils from Peru, thus revoking the Federal Order No. DA-2018-19 that prohibited the importation of said product.

The measure is effective immediately in accordance with the Systems Approach approved and described in an Operational Work Plan to be signed between APHIS-USDA and SENASA-MINAGRI.

APHIS will require that the consignments of pomegranate arils be accompanied by a Phytosanitary Certificate and an Additional Declaration issued by SENASA, stating that the shipment was inspected and found free of the Tephritidae fruit fly, in accordance to the provisions of the Federal Import Order No. DA-2018-36.

### The Minister's visit

The lifting of the ban came as a result of the work visit that the Minister of Agriculture Gustavo Mostajo made to Washington last month, where, in the company of representatives of the Peruvian embassy in the United States, he met with USDA and APHIS authorities. There, he addressed, among other issues, the restrictions that the US imposed on the importation of pomegranate arils on June 11.

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