

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Mexico

Post: Mexico

Mexico Declares Itself Free of Mediterranean Fruit Fly

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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Report Highlights:

Report Highlights: The Mexican Secretariat of Agriculture (SAGARPA) published in the *Diario Oficial* (Federal Register), on October 30, 2014 an announcement declaring Mexico as free of the Mediterranean fruit fly.

General Information:

Introduction: This report summarizes an announcement the Mexican Secretariat of Agriculture (SAGARPA) published in Mexico's *Diario Oficial* (Federal Register) on October 30, 2014, declaring the country as free of the Mediterranean fruit fly.

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a *cursory* review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete regulation or announcement as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

Title: Agreement that declares Mexico as free of the Mediterranean fruit fly –*Ceratitis capitata* (Wiedemann).

Executive Summary:

On October 30, 2014 SAGARPA declared [Mexico as free of the Mediterranean fruit fly](#) –*Ceratitis capitata* (Wiedemann). The announcement was published in the *Diario Oficial* (Federal Register). The publication of this GAIN report does not imply USDA/APHIS concurrence with the referenced Mexican *Diario Oficial* announcement of declaring Mexico free of Mediterranean fruit fly.

The agreement was issued due to the implementation of phytosanitary surveillance measures for 35 years, which have demonstrated the absence of the pest through the Mediterranean Fly Program, a multinational project managed by the National Service of Health, Food Safety, and Food Quality (SENASICA) in the state of Chiapas.

The application of quarantine measures against this pest has kept Mexico free of Mediterranean fruit fly since 1977 through the release of millions of sterile flies at the border of Mexico with Guatemala. These sterile flies have prevented the pest from entering and establishing itself in Mexico. The Mediterranean fruit fly is not native to Mexico.

This announcement will positively impact more than 1.8 million hectares of the main horticultural crops like tomato, mango and avocado, among others, with an annual production of 17.6 million metric tons and a commercial value of approximately US\$6.4 billion in Mexico.

The agreement follows global guidelines such as the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) 17; Regional Standard for Phytosanitary Measures of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO); Guidelines for the establishment, maintenance, and verification of pest free areas of fruit flies in North America; the ISPM 26; Establishment of free areas of pests for fruit flies (Tephritidae) and ISPM 29; and recognition of free areas of pests and areas of low pest prevalence of pests.

The agreement indicates that phytosanitary measures should be applied to prevent and maintain the free

zone as established in NOM-076-FITO-1999 -Preventive system and national emergency device against exotic fruit flies.

Trade shall continue as always and products should be following the requirements available at the [SENASICA](#) web page: Module of Phytosanitary Requirements.

Important Dates

- 1. Publication Date:** October 30, 2014
- 2. Effective Date:** October 31, 2014

Additional Information

On the effective date of enforcement of this announcement the following instruments were invalidated:

"Agreement establishing the National Emergency Device under the terms of Article 46 of the Federal Law of Plant Health, in order to eradicate outbreaks of the Mediterranean fly in some municipalities of the State of Chiapas," published in the *Diario Oficial* on October 26, 2000;

"Agreement that modifies information of the National Emergency Device under the terms of Article 46 of the Federal Law of Plant Health, in order to eradicate outbreaks of the Mediterranean fly in some municipalities of the State of Chiapas," published in the *Diario Oficial* on July 29, 2002, and

"Agreement that modifies, to include, in the National Emergency Device under the terms of Article 46 of the Federal Law of Plant Health, in order to eradicate outbreaks of the Mediterranean fly in the municipalities of Ocosingo, State of Chiapas and Tenosique, State of Tabasco," published in the *Diario Oficial* on September 26, 2002

For More Information

FAS/Mexico Web Site: We are available at <http://www.mexico-usda.com.mx> or visit the FAS headquarters' home page at www.fas.usda.gov for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reporting.

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx, the equivalent of the U.S. Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.economia.gob.mx, and the equivalent of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (SALUD) can be found at www.salud.gob.mx. These web sites are mentioned for the reader's convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with, the information contained on the mentioned sites.