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THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY.

Report Highlights:

This document provides an overview of major Mexican laws and regulations of agricultural and food products and their import regulations. It is essential to note that some products may be subject to several regulations and standards under different Mexican government agencies. FAS recommends stakeholders to work with experienced and established customs brokers.

Executive Summary

The report, drafted by the Agricultural Trade Office of the Foreign Agricultural Service in Monterrey, Mexico, provides U.S. exporters and agricultural stakeholders a framework of Mexican regulations and standards required to export agricultural and food products into Mexico successfully.

Four Mexican government agencies regulate the importation of agricultural goods and products. The harmonized system (HS) categorization of the goods and products determines the agency responsible for their regulation. In some cases, more than one agency may regulate their importation, which Customs Brokers must include in the required documentation charge.

New changes include the modifications to the General Labeling Specifications for Prepackaged Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages-Commercial and Sanitary Information (<u>NOM-051-SCFI/SSA1-2010</u>) and the updated Specifications and Phytosanitary Requirements for the Importation of Natural Christmas Trees of Species From the Genus *Pinus and Abies*, and the Species *Pseudotsuga menziesii* (<u>NOM-013-SEMARNAT-2020</u>). There are no other changes to other laws. The reader should stay abreast with any last-minute changes by accessing the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service's <u>Gain Reports for</u> Mexico.

Section I. General Food Laws

The General Directorate for Standards (<u>Dirección General de Normas</u>) of the Mexican Secretariat of Economy (<u>ECONOMÍA</u>) is responsible for coordinating the standardization and conformity assessment system. The provisions fall under the <u>Quality Infrastructure Law</u>, formerly known as the <u>Federal</u> <u>Metrology and Standardization Law and its Regulations</u>, promoting industrial competitiveness and commerce at the national and international level. The Law defines the Mexican Secretariats and government agencies required to develop standards or *Normas Oficiales Mexicanas* (NOMs).

NOMs are technical regulations that contain information on the requirements, specifications, procedures, and methodologies to protect the welfare of its residents, animals, plants, and environment. Government agencies must revise NOMs at least every five years. If the NOMs undergo changes or withdrawn, these subsequently published in the *Diario Oficial de la Federación* (DOF), equivalent to the U.S. Federal Register. Electronic versions of current NOMs are available in Mexico's Comprehensive Standards and Conformity Assessment System (<u>SINEC)</u>.

Import laws applicable to agricultural and food products the General Health Law, the Federal Animal Health Law, and the Federal Law for Plant Health. The General Law on Sustainable Forestry Development dictates the requirements for importing forest products and by-products into Mexico.

<u>General Health Law</u> – Under the Law, the Secretariat of Health (<u>SALUD</u>), through its operating arm, the Federal Commission for Protection against Sanitary Risks (<u>COFEPRIS</u>), implements and enforces sanitary regulations to protect the population against health risks. Based on health risks, COFEPRIS determines if imported food and food products require an import permit, which the importer must apply for in advance. COFEPRIS randomly inspects food products at the point of sale, verifying compliance with food labeling regulations and taking product samples to guarantee wholesomeness for human consumption. Foods subjected to import permits include dairy and dairy products, seafood and seafood products, and some dietary products— the link below consists of the list of all products requiring import-permits: <u>Products Subjected to Sanitary Compliance by SALUD</u>.

On October 1, 2019, Mexico's Lower Chamber amended the General Health Law, including modifications to <u>NOM-051-SCFI/SSA1-2010</u> (please read Section II. General Specifications for Labeling of Prepackaged Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages). Stakeholders should regularly check <u>FAS Mexico's</u> <u>updates</u> for changes in labeling regulations.

The Law falls under the authority of Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development (<u>SADER</u>). The purpose of the Law is to establish the necessary animal health measures to safeguard Mexico's livestock assets/heritage. These measures include applying best management practices for livestock production, regulations for the national and international transit of animals and animal products for import and export purposes, and the operation of privately owned verification and inspection points (VIPs) for animals and animal products. This Law also covers good manufacturing practices (GMP) applicable for establishments dedicated to producing chemical, pharmaceutical, or biological compounds for use in animals or feed; and GMPs for establishments that process animal and animal products for human consumption. To access SADER's National Service for Health, Food Safety, and Food Quality (SENASICA) manuals, <u>click this link</u>.

Regulations for imports, international transit, and exports fall under Title Three, Chapter II of the Law. <u>SENASICA</u> is responsible for implementing and enforcing the regulations. SENASICA's specific import requirements for live animals, animal products and by-products, and seafood are known as zoosanitary requirement sheets or <u>Hoja de Requisitos Zoosanitarios (HRZ)</u>. To find available, applicable, and other requirements, click the link: <u>SENASICA's Módulo de Consulta de Requisitos para la Importación de</u> <u>Mercancías Zoosanitarias</u>.

The Law gives SADER the authority to oversee pet food and animal feed and regulate products such as feed additives and pharmaceuticals used in livestock production and determine their maximum residue levels.

<u>The Federal Law for Plant Health – This</u> Law also falls under the purview of SADER. Topics covered under the Law include pest identification and measures to prevent pests' introduction that could harm plant health and their by-products. Phytosanitary requirements for importing regulated goods and the provisions covering inspection and certification of imported goods fall under Title Four, Chapter III, and Chapter IV. SENASICA is responsible for implementing and enforcing regulations of the Law. The specific import requirements for plant and plant products are found online in SENASICA's <u>Módulo de</u> <u>Consulta de Requisitos Fitosanitarios para la Importación de Mercancía de Origen Vegetal.</u>

<u>The General Law on Sustainable Forestry Development –</u> This Law falls under the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (<u>SEMARNAT</u>). The Law regulates and promotes conservation, restoration, organization, development, management, and exploitation of its forestry ecosystems and resources. It also safeguards forest products and by-products, including wood packaging material used for transporting goods. The regulations fall under Chapter III, Articles 129 through 139. Specific import requirements for wood packaging materials, Christmas trees, wood by-products used as raw material in basketry, and sawn wood under SEMARNAT's purview:

Christmas trees: On November 12, 2020, SEMARNAT published modifications to NOM-013; edits appear in NOM-013-SEMARNAT-2020. The significant changes include the incorporation of four quarantine insects: *Pissodes fasciatus, Polistes dominula, Sciopithes obscurus,* and *Steremnius carinatus*; and a statement in the phytosanitary certificate, issued by APHIS or state departments of agriculture, "trees have been inspected, chemically treated, mechanically agitated, and are free of quarantine pests per NOM -013-SEMARNAT-2020."

Wood by-products used as raw material: NOM-029-SEMARNAT-2003

Sawn Wood: NOM-016-SEMARNAT-2013

Wood Packaging Materials: NOM-144-SEMARNAT-2017

The Federal Prosecutor for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA) is SEMARNAT's operating arm and is responsible for enforcing the regulations at ports of entry (POE).

For additional information on Christmas trees and lumber regulations, please visit USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service database and GAIN Reports MX7003 "Mexico to Revise Christmas Tree Requirements as 2016 Imports Fall", MX3020 "Phytosanitary Regulations for Lumber Importations," and MX4086 "Change to Certificates Required to Export Lumber to Mexico."

<u>Law on Biosecurity of Genetically Modified Organisms</u> – The application of the Law's regulations falls under the Inter-secretarial Commission of Biosafety of Genetically Modified Organisms (<u>CIBIOGEM</u>). The commission includes <u>SADER</u>, <u>SEMARNAT</u>, <u>SALUD</u>, the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit (<u>HACIENDA</u>), Ministry of Public Education (<u>EDUCACION</u>), Ministry of Economy (<u>ECONOMIA</u>), and by the National Council for Science and Technology (<u>CONACYT</u>), each with their respective fields of competence. The Law on Biosecurity of Genetically Modified Organisms regulates the import, export, commercialization, research, and release of genetically modified organisms to the environment. The Law's objective is to prevent, avoid, or reduce the risks that the activities may cause to human health, the environment, biological diversity, or plants and animals' health—additional second-tier regulations under the Law at <u>Regulations for Law on Biosecurity of Genetically Modified Organisms</u>.

Section II. Labeling Requirements

To access labeling requirements for pre-packed foods, non-alcoholic beverages, consumer-ready products, raw materials not destined for the final consumer, and bulk merchandise for sale, visit <u>Beverages – Commercial and Sanitary Information or NOM-051</u> for short. NOM-051 became effective on January 1, 2011 and last amended on March 27, 2020. The enforcement of NOM-051 is done jointly by the Federal Consumer Protection Agency (<u>PROFECO</u>), part of the Ministry of Economy, and by COFEPRIS. The Mexican importer and the Mexican customs broker responsible for clearing the product must ensure that they follow the NOM. U.S. exporters should keep abreast of applicable labeling requirements by maintaining close communication with the Mexican importer.

General Labeling Requirements

The original label in English may remain on the package if an additional one in Spanish is affixed. Besides, if the labels contain more than one language, Spanish content must be in a font size equal to or larger than those used for other languages. Adhesive tags/stickers are permitted if they remain adhered to the package until it reaches the final user.

When a U.S. nutrition panel appears on the package, a second panel must be in Spanish, affixed over the U.S. nutrition panel.

Mandatory labeling requirements under NOM-051-SCFI-2010 include:

- Product Name/Product Description
- Brand Name
- Exporter's name and address
- Country of origin (*Producto de EE.UU.*)
- Importer's name, address, and RFC number (taxation number)
- List of Ingredients
- Net Content/Drained Mass
- Manufacturer and Importer's Information
- Batch Number
- Expiration Date: According to Codex International Regulations, approved dating systems DD/MM/YY or MM/DD/YY
- Nutritional Information

 Products Sold in Multiple Packages: The information in NOM-051 indicates that the data's location on the outer package, except for the batch number and the expiration date, displaying it on each package. The individual package must include the statement "Not Labeled for Individual Sale."

General Labeling Specifications for Prepackaged Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages – Commercial and Sanitary Information

On October 1, 2019, Mexico's Lower Chamber approved the proposal to amend the General Health Law on overweight, obesity, and labeling of food and non-alcoholic related issues, including modifications to NOM-051-SCFI-/Salud1-2010.

On October 1, 2020, modifications to NOM-051 came into effect for domestic and imported products; on October 26, 2020, Economia released three documents containing updated NOM's application criteria. The documents' regulatory framework determines the products exempted from the NOM. Economia established exemptions for raw materials, inputs not destined to the final consumer, and bulk merchandise. For detailed information and non-official translation of the three documents, please read GAIN Report <u>MX2020-0067</u>, "Mexico Releases Clarifications to NOM-051 Labeling Requirements."

For background information on NOM-051, please visit USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service <u>database</u> and review <u>GAIN Report MX 4305</u>, "Mexico's New Front-of-Pack Labeling Regulations."

Biotechnology Labeling

The Biosafety Law does not require the labeling of packaged foods or feeds, equivalent to the conventionally produced commodities, but compulsory for planting seeds. Labeling information should include a statement that the planting seeds derive from genetically engineered organisms, the genetic characteristics, implications concerning special conditions and requirements, and changes in reproductive and productive features.

Organic Labeling

The U.S. and Mexican governments continue working on organic equivalency between the two countries. However, in the interim, Mexico accepts U.S. organic products labeled with the USDA organic seal. The use of terms like "organic," "ecologic," or "biological," and names with prefixes "bio" and "eco" must comply with the Law for Organic Products and other applicable NOMs.

For additional information, visit USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service <u>database and</u> review the following GAIN reports: GAIN Report MX5020 Mexico Officially Extends Deadline to Comply with Organic Regulation and GAIN Report MX3313 New Organic Certification and Product Labeling Program in Mexico.

Labeling Procedures for Border Areas

On March 23, 2011, the Secretariat of Economy published a labeling assessment for food and agricultural products shipped and commercialized in the 20-kilometer border area, verifying compliance with NOM-051-2010. U.S. exporters may find this <u>assessment beneficial</u> when shipping products to those areas.

For additional information, visit USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service <u>database and</u> review GAIN Report MX2501 Simplified Procedures in Mexico's Border Areas.

Labeling of Bulk Shipments

Bulk shipments requiring labeling apply to products where work plans were developed through a pest risk analysis and agreed between APHIS and SENASICA. A clear example includes stone fruit transported in large containers (e.g., 1-ton combo bins). Labels for these products must contain the following information: product's name, country of origin, exporter name, name and address of the facility where it originates from, and the net weight or number of units (e.g., individual pieces of fruit) in the full shipment. This quantity should correspond to the amount listed on the APHIS phytosanitary export certificate.

Agricultural and Food Samples

Mexico requires that imported samples meet the same regulations as those of commercial shipments. We encourage the reader to contact his Mexican counterpart for additional information.

Imports of product samples for animal use or consumption fall under the importing establishment's responsibility or distributors approved by SENASICA. Please refer to the <u>guidelines established for</u> <u>products for animal use or animal consumption</u>.

Food, food supplements, and non-alcoholic beverages not approved for commercialization in Mexico can be imported as samples or for personal consumption through the issuance of an import license and following current sanitary legislation and other applicable import requirements. Please follow the guidelines defined for products for <u>human consumption</u>.

Section III. Packaging and Container Requirements:

The General Health Law grants SALUD the authority to regulate the packaging of food, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, and tobacco. Manufacturers and distributors who manufacture or use metal containers for food and beverages must comply with <u>NOM-002-Salud1-1993</u>. This regulation prohibits the sale or import of foods or beverages in metal containers with lead solders and specifies the type of seams permitted for hermetically sealed containers.

<u>NOM-130-Salud1-1995 lays</u> out basic sanitary requirements for hermetically sealed products with thermal treatment, including limits on microorganisms, heavy metals, and additives.

Section IV. Food Additives Regulations

SALUD, through COFEPRIS, regulates the use of additives in the preparation of food for human consumption. On July 16, 2012, SALUD published a guideline that determines additives and other substances (colorants, enzymes, synthetic flavors) used in food, beverages, and food supplements; their uses; and sanitary guidelines to reinforce the food safety of edible products and the health of the consumers. The document references permitted and prohibited additives and the maximum and minimum levels of additives in food, beverages, and food supplements.

The guidelines authorize COFEPRIS to maintain and update the listings on its official website. To find the original publication <u>and its</u> modifications, click on DOF <u>2013 and 2016</u>. The current changes, valid but unannounced, may be accessed on the COFEPRIS <u>website</u>.

<u>NOM-130-Salud1-1995 establishes</u> the regulation and sanitary specifications for foods in hermetically sealed containers subject to heat-treatment and includes the list of authorized food additives for canned foods and admissible amounts.

<u>NOM-213-Salud1-2002 addresses</u> the sanitary specifications for processed meat products. It includes a list of permitted additives subject to best manufacturing practices and a list of additives and their established maximum levels.

Section V. Pesticide and Other Contaminants

The Inter-Secretariat Commission for the Control Process and Use of Pesticides, Fertilizers, and Toxic Substances (<u>CICOPLAFEST</u>) govern pesticide use in Mexico. Although it is not a regulatory body, the "Commission" coordinates the Mexican government's actions on pesticides through the secretariats of SALUD, SADER, and SEMARNAT, each with a defined regulatory function for evaluating the pesticide, including imports and exports. Information on the agencies' role in the process Article 3 of the Federal Regulation on Registration, Import and Export Authorization, and Export Certificates for Pesticides, Fertilizers, and Toxic Materials (<u>DOF 28-12-2004</u>).

The regulation lays out the procedures for pesticide registrations. Through COFEPRIS, SALUD authorizes registrations and issues certificates of free for certain pesticides and grants import permits. For detailed information, visit the COFEPRIS <u>website</u>. SEMARNAT provides technical opinions regarding the protection of the environment. In contrast, SADER provides technical support regarding pesticides and fertilizers' biological effects and on phytosanitary aspects of maximum residue levels.

The federal regulation on registration, import and export authorization, and export certificates for pesticides, fertilizers, and toxic materials lays out the procedures for pesticide registrations. Through

COFEPRIS, SALUD is responsible for authorizing registrations, issuing free sale certificates for pesticides, and granting import permits. For detailed information, visit the COFEPRIS <u>website</u>.

On February 4, 2020, ECONOMIA updated the "Agreement that Modifies the Classification and Codification of Merchandise Whose Import and Export" subject to Regulation by the Inter-Secretariat Commission for the Control Process and Use of Pesticides, Fertilizers and Toxic Substances." For details, visit <u>DOF: 04/02/2020</u>.

On August 11, 2015, SADER published in the DOF <u>modifications</u> to the official standard NOM-032-FITO-1995, which establishes requirements and specifications to prepare studies on agricultural pesticides' efficacy, including preparing a Biological Effectiveness Report. The pesticides must undergo an evaluation process to determine their effectiveness and performance under Mexico's field conditions. the information analyzed in the report must be grounded in science and good laboratory practices. For more information, please visit USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service <u>database and</u> read GAIN Report MX 5032 Final Modifications to Pesticide Registration NOM-032.

On October 9, 2014, SADER consolidated its regulation of maximum residue levels for animal and fishery products by canceling the existing NOMs and publishing in DOF a new Regulation outlining the establishment of MRLs monitoring of residues in animal products. For additional information, please visit SENASICA's <u>website</u>.

Section VI. Other Regulations and Requirements

For products requiring import permits from COFEPRIS, these need to arrive along with a Certificate of Analysis (COA). The COA must include physical, chemical, and microbiological analysis per lot of product in the consignment. An accredited laboratory can do it.

To access the list of products requiring import permits, go to <u>DOF's publication</u>. Classification of Products subject to SALUD's health regulation has been modified several times: in <u>2015</u>, <u>2016</u>, <u>and</u> <u>2018</u>. Stakeholders should check FAS Mexico GAIN reports for the latest version of new or modified regulations.

Section VII. Other Specific Standards

Imports of agricultural and food products exported to Mexico are subject to documentary and physical inspection at a port of entry to ensure the proper implementation of import requirements

Import Requirements for Animals and Plants (SADER)

As noted above, imports of live animals (including aquatic) and plants, animal and plant products, and by-products must comply with SADER's requirements and implemented through its regulatory agency, SENASICA. SENASICA inspectors at the port of entry ensure that agricultural and food products imported into Mexico comply with applicable requirements. Current import regulations for animal, animal by-products, and plants through SENASICA's online system:

- <u>Animal and animal by-products</u>
- Plant and plant products

Genetically Modified Organisms

The GMO Biosafety Law (Ley de Bioseguridad de Organismos Genéticamente Modificados) regulates the commerce, release to the environment, marketing, and import of GMOs, accounting for the impact on human health, environment, biological diversity, and plant, animal, and aquatic health.

SALUD approves GMOs for both animal and human consumption. Requests for approval must include an assessment by SALUD for potential risks to human health. The guidelines, requirements, and procedures for GMOs' approvals, or GMO-containing products, for human consumption fall under the Genetically Modified Organisms Biosafety Law <u>published on March 19, 2008</u>. Approvals usually take six months once the submission takes place. COFEPRIS maintains a <u>list of</u> GMOs approved for import and sale in Mexico.

Under the Law, authorizing imports of GMOs and products containing GMOs befalls the Ministry of Finance (<u>HACIENDA</u>), ensuring the products' integrity and required paperwork in place. The Law prohibits importing GMOs or products containing GMOs when their countries of origin ban such organisms.

In September 2019, the Mexican Congress approved the <u>Law for Protection and Promotion of Native</u> <u>Corn</u>, which prohibits the use of GMO seeds; the law has not come into force yet.

Organic Products

In October 2013, SADER, via its regulatory agency SENASICA, issued revised organic production guidelines. These are Mexico's equivalent of the USDA National Organic Program, including production certification requirements and processes, lists of approved pesticides and fertilizers, and marketing and labeling regulations. The guidelines found in <u>DOF General Rules using the Organic Seal on Certified</u> <u>Organic Products</u>.

Section VIII. Copyright and Trademark Laws

Trademarks, patents, and industrial designs are considered "Industrial Property" in Mexico. The safeguards fall under Mexico's Law of Industrial Property (*Ley de la Propiedad Industrial*); its regulations were last updated on May 18, 2018.

Trademarks are protected for ten years and can undergo a renewal process for an unlimited number of ten-year periods. Trademark applications in Mexico are not subject to legal challenges. Once trademark registrations are issued, these cancel out post-registration. On average, it takes two and a half years to cancel a trademark registration, and the registrant can use the mark for a year following cancellation.

Companies interested in registering a trademark must contact the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI), an independent agency under the Secretariat of Economy. U.S. exporters of food and agricultural products may contact the Office of Agricultural Affairs or the Agricultural Trade Office with intellectual property concerns.

Section IX. Import Procedures

Mexican customs brokers are responsible for clearing imported products through Mexico's customs processes. Mexican importers are encouraged to work with a customs broker experienced in clearing agricultural products to avoid problems during the export-import process. The Mexican Internal Tax Registry (*Servicio de Administración Tributaria*) authorizes brokers to handle customs clearance operations. Mexican importers must also register with the Mexican Customs Authority; registered companies appear in its Importers' Database (*Padrón de Importadores*).

The documentation that a Mexican customs broker needs to clear shipments include:

- Commercial Invoice or Bill of Sale
- Required Sanitary and Phytosanitary Certificates (issued either by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service [APHIS] or the Food Safety and Inspection Service [FSIS]), or any other relevant U.S. government regulatory authorities
- Certificate of Origin
- Technical information on product classification (tariff code, which complies with the uniform customs identification system under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade)
- Commercial information regarding lot (batch) number, brand, and product appearance in addition to weight and volume certificate (for bulk products)
- Air or land freight shipping guide
- Duty payments (please check this with your importer)

Finally, customs brokers will process an Import Declaration (<u>Pedimento de Importación</u>) based on the provided information. Other documentation required in the export process could include:

- Electronic filing Electronic Export Information (<u>EEI</u>) (Required by U.S. Customs for all shipments over USD 2,500.00)
- USDA Export Certificate accompanied by corresponding Letterhead Certificate

- Free Sale Certificate
- Export Packing List
- Bill of Lading

As previously noted, certain products require an import permit from COFEPRIS and must include a certificate of analysis. See Section VII for more details.

The Mexican importer is responsible for notifying the U.S. exporter about sanitary and other requirements before shipment. The notification enables the U.S. exporter to meet all requirements (e.g., AMS, APHIS, and FSIS certification). For information on certificates issued by U.S. government agencies, visit USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service <u>database</u> and read the most recent GAIN Report - Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards – Certification.

The documents mentioned are subject to specific regulations, so please look for specific product requirements by tariff code before exporting the products into Mexico. Additionally, it is essential to know your product's tariff code to check if tariffs apply or under commodity-specific tariff rate quotas. If tariffs apply, knowledge will reduce delivery time, storage fees, and food decay, resulting in increased margins.

Section X. Trade Facilitation

USDA-SADER Workplans: USDA and SADER/SENASICA collaborate to facilitate trade; work plans and agreements between APHIS and SENASICA enable U.S. exports of apples, stone fruits, cherries, grapevine, and berries propagative material; to review a specific work plan for these products, visit SENASICA's <u>website</u>.

SENASICA Inspection Process and Inspection Infrastructure: In addition to joint efforts between USDA and SADER, SENASICA continues to modernize and standardize its inspection import procedures at POE, improving trade facilitation, thus reducing costs. The inspection system known as the Comprehensive System of Inspection Service (SISI) is a coordinated action between SENASICA, customs (SAT), and intermodal rail transport. To access the complete list of products eligible for inspection under SISI, visit SENASICA's <u>website</u>. For background information on SISI, visit USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service <u>database</u> and read GAIN report-MX6007, "Mexico's SISI Program Offers Expedited Entry for Low-Risk Products."

To facilitate importation at ports of entry, SENASICA officials carry out inspection, verification, and certification functions for animal, plant, aquaculture, and fisheries products in Mexican territory at SENASICA approved privately owned verification and inspection points (VIPs). However, inspection of livestock, plant, and plant products may occur at SENASICA approved VIPs located on the border's U.S.

side. The private VIPs establish their fees for product handling and maneuvers, which the importer pays. Visit SENASICA's <u>website</u> for more information on the inspection infrastructure.

Foreign Trade Single Window and E-certification:

Mexico's Foreign Trade Single Window (<u>VUCEM</u>), a one-stop-shop that facilitates online document submission and revision of imports, VUCEM has a module to manage E-certification. In this respect, USDA and SADER continue working towards E-certification. Currently, SENASICA accepts APHIS/PPQ's "Phytosanitary Certificate Issuance & Tracking System (<u>PCIT</u>)." SENASICA receives the certificates electronically, ensuring these comply with import requirements of particular plant and plant products; SENASICA may use APHIS VS "Veterinary Export Health Certification System (<u>VEHCS</u>)" to revise export certificates exclusively for cattle and horses.

Appendix I. Government Regulatory Agencies Contact:

SENASICA,

SEMARNAT

PROFEPA

<u>COFEPRIS</u>

ECONOMIA

Appendix II. Other Import Specialist Contacts:

For further information, and to learn more about services provided by FAS Mexico, please contact us: Office of Agricultural Affairs, U.S. Embassy in Mexico City T: +52 (55) 5080-2868

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FAS ATO Monterrey has expert advice for exporters, customs agents, freight forwarders, and Mexican importers about correct documentation procedures and logistics to successfully export to Mexico through the US-Mexico border by truck or rail; and by vessel through Mexico's major seaports. ATO Monterrey monitors trade flow along the US-Mexican border and works with the Office of Agricultural Affairs in Mexico City to facilitate trade into Mexico. ATO Monterrey can be reached at <u>ato.monterrey@fas.usda.gov</u>

Attachments:

No Attachments