



Foreign Agricultural Service

**GAIN Report**

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## **Mexico**

### **Agricultural Situation**

# **Mexico Announces New Labeling Requirements for Avocados 1998**

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#### **Report Highlights:**

**The Government of Mexico has announced new labeling requirements for avocados, both imported and Mexican grown. Given that Mexico is a significant avocado producer, it imports very few avocados from the United States and therefore these new requirements will not significantly impact U.S. trade.**

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Includes PSD changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Mexico [MX1], MX

This report summarizes a Final Rule (*Norma*) published in Mexico's "*Diario Oficial*" (Federal Register)" on August 31, 1998.

**Disclaimer:** This summary is based on a *preliminary* review of the subject Agreement 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.

**FAS/Mexico's Executive Summary:** This final rule states the labeling requirements for avocados, both imported and Mexican-grown. Because Mexico is a major avocado producer/exporter and therefore imports few avocados from the United States, FAS Mexico believes this regulation's impact on overall U.S. exports will be minimal.

**Title:** NOM-128-SCFI-1998, Labeling required for Agricultural Products- Avocados

**Type of Regulation:** Final

**Important Dates:**

1. **Publication Date:** August 31, 1998
2. **Effective Date:** October 30, 1998 (60 days after the publication date).
3. **Start of Public Comment Period:** N/A — Final Rule
4. **End of Comment Period:** N/A — Final Rule

**Products Affected:** Avocados ( *Persea americana* Mills) of "Fuerte" and "Hass" varieties.

**Agency in Charge::** The Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development (SECOFI).

**Related Mexican Noms Considered or Impacted:**

- 1) NOM-008-SCFI
- 2) NMX-FF-006
- 3) NMX-FF-016

**Specific Label Requirements:**

- 1) The label on the packing boxes should be in Spanish and must at least state the following:
  - Name and address of producer, packer or importer.
  - Generic Name: AGUACATE
  - Variety of the product
  - Grade (NMX-FF-016)
  - Total weight in kilograms
  - Country and region of origin
- 2) Labeling must be printed on packing box or on a glued label in the front face of the box.

3) If original product label is not in Spanish, the new label in Spanish with the complete information stated in this Norm has to be similar to the original label (size and typesetting).

4) Avocados graded "Extra" or "First" must have:<sup>1</sup>

- Name and address of producer, packer or importer
- Grade of the product.

**For More Information:**

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**Internet Connections**

*FAS Mexico Web Site:* We are available at <http://www.atomexico.gob.mx> or visit our headquarter's home page at <http://www.fas.usda.gov> for a complete selection of FAS' worldwide agricultural reporting.

*Useful Mexican Web Sites:* Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Agriculture (SAGAR) can be found at [www.sagar.gob.mx](http://www.sagar.gob.mx) and Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Commerce (SECOFI) can be found at [www.secofi.gob.mx](http://www.secofi.gob.mx). These web sites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained on the mentioned sites.

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<sup>1</sup>FAS Note: The proposed NOM did not contain this requirement. Conversely, the proposed NOM contained the requirement for a packing date, but that was dropped from this Final Rule.