

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** December 28,2020

**Report Number:** MX2020-0079

**Report Name:** Organic Exports to Mexico Must be Certified to Mexican Organic Standards by June 2021

**Country:** Mexico

**Post:** Mexico City

**Report Category:** Special Certification - Organic/Kosher/Halal, Trade Policy Monitoring, WTO Notifications, Policy and Program Announcements

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**Report Highlights:**

Mexico published the “Measure Establishing Merchandise whose Importation is Subject to Regulation by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER), as well as the Issuance of Certificate of Origin for the Export of Coffee” dated December 26, 2020 with an implementation date of December 28, 2020. Notably, the measure affects organic agricultural imports entering Mexico, which must be certified by SADER to Mexico’s organic standards under the Organic Products Law (LPO) starting on June 26, 2021.

Mexico [published in its Federal Gazette \(Diario Oficial de la Federación\) the “Measure Establishing Merchandise whose Importation is Subject to Regulation by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development \(SADER\), as well as the Issuance of Certificate of Origin for the Export of Coffee”](#) (“Acuerdo que establece las mercancías cuya importación está sujeta a regulación por parte de la Secretaría de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural, así como la emisión del certificado de origen para la exportación de café”), which transfers import/export regulatory authority for certain agricultural products to SADER. This GAIN report includes a copy of the measure, as published. Notably, the measure affects organic agricultural imports entering Mexico, which must be certified by SADER to Mexico’s organic standards starting 180-days from December 28, 2020 (effective June 26, 2021), per Article 7 and Transitory Paragraph 4:

**SÉPTIMO.-** Para el caso de las mercancías listadas en los incisos b) al f) del Anexo I del presente Acuerdo, que pretendan ingresar al país bajo las denominaciones o etiquetadas como "orgánico", "biológico", "ecológico" o con los prefijos "bio" y "eco" de conformidad con lo establecido en los artículos 33 y 35 de la Ley de Productos Orgánicos, y 45 de su Reglamento, el importador debe presentar al personal de la DGIF, en el punto de entrada al país, copia simple del certificado orgánico vigente que ampare la calidad orgánica de cada una de las mercancías a importar, así como el documento de control para cotejo, emitidos por un organismo de certificación orgánica aprobado por el SENASICA o por un organismo de certificación orgánica bajo el sistema de control de un país con el que México tenga equivalencia en materia de productos orgánicos. Lo anterior, sin perjuicio de que la Importación de la mercancía denominada o etiquetada como "orgánico", "biológico", "ecológico" o con los prefijos "bio" y "eco" que se trate, cumpla con los requisitos fitosanitarios, zoonosanitarios o de sanidad acuícola establecidos en la legislación de la materia que corresponda.

[Unofficial English Translation] **ARTICLE SEVEN.-** *In the case of merchandise listed in sections b) to f) of Annex I of this Measure, which intend to enter the country under the names or labeled as "organic", "biological", "ecological" or with the prefixes "bio" and "eco" in accordance with the provisions of articles 33 and 35 of the Organic Products Law (LPO), and 45 of its Regulations, the importer must present to the DGIF staff, at the point of entry into the country, a simple copy of the current organic certificate that guarantees the organic quality of each of the goods to be imported, as well as the control document for collation, issued by an organic certification body approved by SENASICA or by an organic certification body under the system of control of a country with which Mexico has an equivalency arrangement for organic products. The aforementioned, must meet standards for merchandise called or labeled "organic", "biological", "ecological" or with the prefixes "bio" and "eco" in question and will comply with the phytosanitary, zoonosanitary or aquaculture requirements established in the legislation of the corresponding product.*

**CUARTO.-** Lo dispuesto en el Artículo Séptimo entrará en vigor a los 180 días naturales a partir de la entrada en vigor del presente Acuerdo.

[Unofficial English Translation] **FOURTH (TRANSITORY PARAGRAPH).-** *The provisions of Article Seven shall enter into force 180 calendar days from the entry into force of this Measure (December 28, 2020).*

On December 21, 2020, Mexico notified [the measure to the World Trade Organization \(WTO\)](#). Trading partners and stakeholders may comment on the measure through February 18, 2021. This GAIN report includes a copy of the WTO notification in Spanish.

U.S. exporters of organic agricultural products to Mexico may consult the following SADER National Service for Agricultural and Food Health, Safety, and Quality (SENASICA) websites for information on certifying to the Mexican organic standards:

- Organic Certification under LPO, May 25, 2020, <https://www.gob.mx/senasica/acciones-y-programas/preguntas-frecuentes-243746>
- Frequently Asked Questions regarding Organic Certifying Entities, May 25, 2020, <https://www.gob.mx/senasica/documentos/organismos-de-certificacion-organica-222?state=published>
- Capacity Building Workshop “Organic Operations and the Certification Process”, March 26, 2015, <http://publico.senasica.gob.mx/?doc=28776>

For further information, please contact the USDA Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA) at U.S. Embassy Mexico City via email at [AgMexicoGroup@fas.usda.gov](mailto:AgMexicoGroup@fas.usda.gov).

#### **Attachments:**

[1. DOF - “Measure Establishing Merchandise whose Importation is Subject to Regulation by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development \(SADER\)” Spanish Dec. 26, 2020.pdf](#)

[2. WTO - “Measure Establishing Merchandise whose Importation is Subject to Regulation by the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development \(SADER\)” Spanish Dec. 21, 2020.pdf](#)