



Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Number: MX2021-0072

Report Name: Reminder - New Organic Product Requirements to Take Effect in January 2022

Country: Mexico

Post: Mexico City

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

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Report Highlights:

Mexico's new certification requirements for bulk/raw organic product imports will enter into force on January 1, 2022. The affected products are listed by harmonized system (HS) tariff code in the Measure published in December 2020 (see FAS GAIN MX2021-0023). Processed products are also subject to Mexican organics law (LPO) requirements in order to be marketed/sold as organic in Mexico. This report serves as a reminder of the approaching implementation date for the new certification requirements. The report also provides a link to the list of approved Mexican organic certifiers.

General Information:

January 1, 2022 is the deadline for certification of bulk/raw organic product imports into Mexico under the national organic products law (LPO). The affected products are listed by harmonized system (HS) tariff code in the *Acuerdo* (Measure) that was published in December 2020 (see FAS GAIN MX2021-0023). Processed products are also subject to LPO requirements to be marketed as organic in Mexico.

Mexico's organics regulator, the National Service for Animal and Plant Health, Food Safety and Quality (SENASICA), is fully responsible for certification under the LPO, and shares responsibility for enforcement with the Secretariat of Economy. Inquiries about certification under the LPO should be directed to SENASICA. The list of <u>LPO Certifiers approved</u> is available on the SENASICA website.

U.S. organic certifiers and organic exporters to Mexico are reminded that they must work with SENASICA to become certified to the LPO standards by January 1, 2022. Organic products, including both raw material and processed products, that are not certified under the LPO may be subject to adverse action by the competent authority.

Background:

- In 2006, the Government of Mexico (GOM) published its first national organic law and corresponding standards under the *Ley de Productos Orgánicos* (LPO). See <u>GAIN</u> <u>Report No. MX6501</u>.
- In 2015, the GOM announced a grace period (May 2015 October 2016) for compliance with the LPO, related regulatory updates established in <u>2010</u>, and guidelines on <u>labeling</u> and <u>production</u> established in 2013. See <u>GAIN report no. MX2015-2073</u>.
- On June 8, 2020, the GOM published the Modifications to the Guidelines for the Organic Operations in its federal gazette, finalizing a multi-year process of revising the LPO organic standards. Official GOM information about the guidelines can be found here.
- In December 2020, Mexico <u>announced it was ready to enforce the LPO</u> for raw material and processed products to be commercialized in Mexico as organic. After consultations with industry and trading partners, Mexico offered two extensions before finalizing January 1, 2022 as the deadline for LPO compliance.

Disclaimer: SENASICA is solely responsible for the implementation of <u>the Measure</u> and the <u>LPO</u>. For questions regarding Mexico's requirements for organic certification and marketing of products as organic, contact SADER staff by email at <u>info.organicos@senasica.gob.mx</u> or by telephone at (+52) 55 5905 1000, ext. 51509, 51523, or 51532. Presentations and other resources on Mexico's organics program are available on the <u>SENASICA's website</u>.

Attachments:

No Attachments.