

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

Voluntary Public

Date: 2/4/2016

GAIN Report Number: MX6007

Mexico

Post: Mexico

Mexico's SISI Program Offers Expedited Entry for Low-Risk Products

Report Categories:

Trade Policy Monitoring

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Approved By:

Lloyd Harbert

Prepared By:

Tim Harrison

Report Highlights:

Mexico's Comprehensive System of Inspection Service (SISI) pilot project allows for inspection of 22 high-volume, low-risk, containerized agricultural products at internal customs points. Mexico plans to continue expanding the program in the future.

General Information:

Background

In summer 2015, the National Service of Health, Food Safety, and Food Quality (SENASICA) launched a pilot program for its new Comprehensive System of Inspection Service (SISI), which allows high-volume, low-risk agricultural products to be inspected at internal customs points for expedited entry.

The initial pilot program included four products (peat moss, processed pet food, soy flour, and non-dairy creamer) and four interior intermodal customs points (Pantaco in Mexico City, Puerta Mexico in Toluca, Silao in Guanajuato, and Hidalgo). Products from the United States and Canada qualify for the program. Shipments must be full containers of approved products entering Mexico via rail in order to participate.

Inspection at interior points permits shipments to avoid congestion at the border, allowing for faster entry of low-risk products. SENASICA expects that this will lead to significant cost savings for traders.

In conversations with FAS Mexico, SENASICA has expressed a commitment to trade facilitation, both due to obligations under the World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement, and to the agency's own desire to provide inspection services more efficiently and with fewer resources.

Expansion of Pilot Project

As of January 2016, SENASICA has expanded the SISI pilot to a total of 22 products. These include:

1. Peat moss (HS 2703.00.01)
2. Soy flour (HS 1208.10.01)
3. Pet food (HS 2309.10.01)
4. Cream substitute/non-dairy creamer (HS 2106.90.99)
5. Corn flour (HS 1102.20.01)
6. Rice flour (HS 1102.90.01)
7. Rye flour (HS 1102.90.02)
8. Wheat flour (HS 1101.00.01)
9. Ground cinnamon (HS 0906.20.01)
10. Dehydrated potato flour (HS 1105.10.01)
11. Whole milk powder (HS 0402.21.01)
12. Cream powder (HS 0402.21.01)
13. Butterfat (HS 0405.90.01)
14. Casein (HS 3501.10.01)
15. Caseinates (HS 3501.90.02)
16. Soybean meal (HS 2304.00.01)
17. Broken corn (HS 1104.23.01)
18. Wheat bran (HS 2302.30.01)
19. Distiller's dried grains (HS 2303.30.01)

- 20. Soy hulls (HS 2304.00.01)
- 21. Nonfat dry milk (HS 0402.10.01)
- 22. Whey powder (HS 0404.10.01)

SENASICA encourages U.S. agricultural exporters to participate in the pilot program. SENASICA officials have indicated that interested exporters should coordinate with SENASICA in advance to ensure that their shipments are directed to the pilot program. The Mexico City Office of Agricultural Affairs (OAA) can facilitate communication with SENASICA.

Future Expansion

SENASICA plans to continue the expansion of SISI to cover additional agri-food products and to include more interior inspection points. The expansion will be phased as SENASICA identifies additional high-volume, low-risk products. A draft regulation to formalize the SISI program is expected to be published later in 2016.