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Potato Risk Mitigation Measures Announced

Report Categories:

Potatoes and Potato Products

Agriculture in the News

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Agriculture in the Economy

Trade Policy Monitoring

National Plan

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Report Highlights:

The Secretariat of Agriculture (SAGARPA) published in the *Diario Oficial* (Federal Register), on November 20, 2012, an announcement containing the “Project of Agreement that establishes the mitigation measures for reducing the risk for importing potato tuber into Mexico.” This Project of Agreement is open for public comments for 60 calendar days. This report provides some general information on how high-risk pests shall be treated (i.e., originate from pest-free areas or be irradiated).

General Information:

Introduction: This report summarizes a SAGARPA announcement published in Mexico's Federal Register on November 20, 2012, containing the "Project of Agreement that establishes the mitigation measures for reducing the risk for importing potato tuber into Mexico." This Project is open for public comments for 60 calendar days.

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

Title: Announcement that contains the Project of Agreement that establishes the mitigation measures for reducing the risk for importing potato tuber into Mexico.

Executive Summary:

On November 20, 2012, SAGARPA published an announcement in the Federal Register containing the [Project](#) of Agreement that establishes the mitigation measures for reducing the alleged risk of importing potatoes into Mexico. While the draft was in [COFEMER](#) (the Mexican equivalent of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget), the Mexican government received 64 comments as well as technical arguments that were taken into consideration in order to formulate the current Project. The Pest Risk Analysis mentioned in this Project may be consulted at the SAGARPA/SENASICA's web page www.senasica.gob.mx.

The purpose of the Project is to establish a list of quarantine pests that affect potatoes and the phytosanitary mitigation measures to be taken to reduce the risk of importing potatoes from any part of the world into Mexico.

Once this Project is official, in order to import any quantity of potato tubers into Mexico from any part of the world, the plant health risk mitigation regulations established in this Project should be followed. These mitigation measures and their specifications by type of product and by country of origin shall be available at the "Plant Health Requirements for Imports Service" website at www.senasica.gob.mx.

The following are some of the phytosanitary measures that apply to import potatoes from any country, including the United States:

ARTICLE 8.-

I. High-risk quarantine pests

a) Tubers must be produced in pest-free areas recognized by Mexico according to the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) established by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (UN); or,

tubers must be submitted to irradiation with treatment at a dose of 6,000 Gy (Grey degrees).

b) For the specific cases of *Globodera rostochiensis*, *Meloidogyne chitwoodi* and PVYⁿ, which are regulated by Mexico, the plant health measures established in current legislation that apply to Mexican-origin potato tubers shall apply.

c) Potato tubers must be produced using certified seeds. Exporters must submit a written statement to Mexican Plant Protection officials in charge of certifying the shipment, which indicates that potato tubers contained in the shipment, were produced from certified seed potatoes.

The specifications for meeting these phytosanitary measures shall be established in a Work Plan signed by SAGARPA through National Service of Health, Food Safety, and Food Quality (SENASICA) and the Plant Protection Office of the country of origin.

This Project is open for public comments. Comments must be submitted in Spanish and must be of a scientific and technical basis. Comments can be submitted to the following address:

Dirección General de Sanidad Vegetal
Servicio Nacional de Sanidad, Inocuidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria,
Guillermo Pérez Valenzuela número 127,
Colonia Del Carmen Coyoacán, código postal 04100,
México, D.F.

Or to the following E-mail: trujillo@senasica.gob.mx

Important Dates

- 1. Publication Date:** November 20, 2012
- 2. Effective Date:** Sixty calendar days after publication

Additional Information.

Based on the PRA mentioned in the Project, the following is a list of quarantine pests categorized by level of risk and taxonomic group.

High-risk pests

VIRUS (24):

Andean potato latent virus (APLV)
Andean potato mottle virus (APMoV)
Arracacha virus B strain oca (AVB-O)
Beet curly top virus (BCTV)
Potato aucuba mosaic virus (PAMV)
Potato black ringspot virus (PBRSV)
Potato deforming mosaic virus (PDMV)
Potato latent virus (PotLV)
Potato mop-top virus (PMTV)
Potato rough dwarf virus (PRDV)
Potato virus T (PVT)
Potato virus U (PVU)

Potato virus V (PVV)
Potato virus Y^c (PVYc)
Potato potyvirus Y^N (PVY^N)
Potato potyvirus Y^{NTN} (PVY^{NTN})
Potato yellow dwarf virus (PYDV)
Potato yellowing virus (PYV)
Potato yellow vein virus (PVV)
Solanum apical leaf curl virus (SALCV)
Southern potato latent virus (SoPLV)
Tobacco necrosis virus (TNV)
Tomato black ring virus (TBRV)
Tomato yellow mosaic virus (ToYMV)

PHYTOPLASMS (5):

Potato marginal flavescence (PMF)
Potato phyllody (PP)
Potato purple-top roll phytoplasma (PTR)
Potato witches broom phytoplasma (PWB)
Potato stolbur (PS)

BACTERIA (3):

Clavibacter michiganensis subsp. *sepedonicus*
Erwinia carotovora subsp. *betavascularum*
Ralstonia solanacearum raza 3 biovar 2

FUNGI (7)

Fusarium coeruleum
Fusarium oxysporum f.sp. *tuberosi*
Phoma exigua var. *foveata*
Phytophthora erythroseptica
Polyscytalum pustulans
Rhizoctonia crocorum
Synchytrium endobioticum

NEMATODES (9)

Ditylenchus destructor
Globodera pallida
Globodera rostochiensis
Meloidogyne chitwoodi
Meloidogyne fallax
Meloidogyne minor
Nacobbus bolivianus
Xiphinema brasiliense
Zygotylenchus guevarai

INSECTS (15)

Agriotes lineatus
Agriotes obscurus
Agriotes sputator
Epitrix tuberis
Melanotus communis
Naupactus leucoloma
Ostrinia nubilalis
Premnotypes latithorax
Premnotypes sanfordi
Premnotypes solani
Premnotypes suturicallus
Premnotypes vorax
Rhigopsidius tucumanus
Symmetrischema tangolias
Tecia solanivora

Medium-risk pests

FUNGI(1)

Phoma andigena

Nematodes (8)

Helicotylenchus pseudorobustus

Heterodera trifolii

Longidorus elongatus

Paratrichodorus minor

Paratrichodorus porosus

Paratrichodorus pachydermus

Trichodorus viruliferus

Xiphinema rivesi

Insects (9)

Agrotis segetum

Agrotis tokionis

Conoderus falli

Ctenicera pruinina

Delia florilega

Limonius californicus

Listroderes costirostris

Phlyctinus callosus

Tipula paludosa

Low-risk pests**Mollusks (2)**

Arion hortensis

Deroceras reticulatum

Author Defined:**For More Information**

FAS/Mexico Web Site: We are available at www.mexico-usda.com or visit the FAS headquarters' home page at www.fas.usda.gov for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reporting.

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx, the equivalent of the U.S. Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.economia.gob.mx, and the equivalent of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (SALUD) can be found at www.salud.gob.mx. These web sites are mentioned for the reader's convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with, the information contained on the mentioned sites.