

Sader uses technical and financial resources to fight against regulated pests of citrus in 24 producing states

Through the Senasica, 242 million of pesos will be applied to perform the Campaign against Regulated Pests of Citrus.



The Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development (Sader) assigned more than 242 million of pesos to perform the Campaign against Regulated Pests of Citrus. This, with the purpose of preventing, controlling and reducing the spreading risk of pests and diseases which affect the citrus production of the country.

The Campaign operated by the National Service for Agro-Alimentary Public Health, Safety and Quality (Senasica), considers fighting against pests like Huanglongbing HLB (*Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus*), Leprosis (*Citrus Leprosis Virus*), Tristeza (*Citrus Tristeza Virus*) and Citrus blackfly (*Aleurocathus woglumi*).

Additionally, the Phytosanitary Epidemiological Surveillance Program includes actions for the appropriate detection of Canker (*Xanthomonas citri subspecies citri*), Citrus black spot (*Phyllosticta citricarpa*) and Citrus variegated chlorosis (*Xyllela fastidiosa subspecies pauca*), pests which are not located in the national territory.

Nowadays in Mexico, there are 589 thousand hectares of orange, lime, tangerine and grapefruit, from which 8.2 million tons per year are produced with an estimated value of 23 thousand 924 million of pesos. That is why, it is essential to protect the national citriculture.

The phytosanitary strategy will be applied in 24 states producing citrics, such as Baja California, Baja California Sur, Campeche, Chiapas, Colima, Guerrero, Hidalgo, Jalisco, Michoacán, Morelos, Nayarit, Nuevo León, Oaxaca, Puebla,

Querétaro, Quintana Roo, San Luis Potosí, Sinaloa, Sonora, Tabasco, Tamaulipas, Veracruz, Yucatán and Zacatecas

In this context, the aim of the campaign is to reduce the infestation levels of Asian citrus psyllid (*Diaphorina citri*), because it is the vehicle for the transmission of *Candidatus Liberibacter* bacteria causing the HLB; brown citrus aphid (*Toxoptera citricida*), tristeza vehicle (*Citrus Tristeza Virus - VTC*) and mites (*Brevipalpus spp.*) which spread citrus leprosis disease.

Additionally, we try to sensitize producers so they get involved in activities related to exploring, monitoring, sampling, diagnosis, regional chemical and biological control, training and disclosure, through State Committees and Regional Plant Health Committees in their areas, together with state governments.

Information about the operative strategy and operative manual of the Campaign; data sheets of pests; identification guides of diseases; reports and assessments; and data of technical groups, which analyze the information available and make suggestions to improve the campaign actions. The aforementioned is available at the Senasica website: <https://www.gob.mx/senasica/documentos/plagas-reglamentadas-de-los-citricos-110863>