

## **The Secretariat of Agriculture opens the market to South Korea for table grapes of Sonora**

The Asian country issued an export protocol by which producers from Sonora are able to start shipping this fruit.



The Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development informed that the export protocol for table grapes with South Korea came into force, so producers from Sonora are able to start shipping this fruit.

The National Service for Agro-Alimentary Public Health, Safety and Quality (Senasica) received an electronic notification by the Deputy Director of the Export Management Department of the Korean Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency (APQA), Mi Chi-yea, through which notifies that the protocol was issued in its Official Journal with an immediate enforcement.

Both governments planned to sign the export protocol over the coming months, during a visit of the Mexican agricultural authorities to the Asian country, however, with the publication of the agreement, the procedure was exempted.

In May of this year, technical staff of the APQA visited producing and packing areas in Sonora, paying special attention to surveillance systems for fruit flies.

This meeting produced a quarantine requirements' draft for the export of table grapes from Mexico to Korea, which was subject to consideration of the National Plant Protection Organization of Korea.

During a meeting in the headquarters of the Secretariat of Agriculture, Secretary Víctor Villalobos Arámbula said to Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock, Hydraulic Resources, Fishing and Aquaculture of Sonora, Jorge Guzmán Nieves, that this latest business exchange will be turned into incomes for the entity and into a direct benefit for producers and their families.

In 2018, Mexico produced 375 thousand tons of table grape, 85% came from Sonora, with a value of 6,101 million pesos. Mexico exports this fruit to 13 countries, United States, Australia and Japan among them.