

Beef cattle export from Mexico to the United States grows 17.6%

Producers of 20 entities complying with the sanitary status for bovine tuberculosis, performed exportations.



Mexican cattlemen exported 1,313,131 live cattle heads to the United States during the export term 2018-2019, which concluded on May 31st. This represents a growth of 17.6% in connection with the previous period.

Mexican producers exceeded almost 200 thousand cattle heads the export reached in term 2017-2018, which finished with the commercialization of 1,115,860 live animals, informed the Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The report of bovine cattle export of the National Service for Agro-Alimentary Public Health, Safety and Quality (Senasica) describes in detail that 1,013,715 of the total exported animals are live male calves and 299,416 are heifers.

It emphasizes that the cattle, which met the sanitary status of bovine tuberculosis required by the US health authorities in order to export to this Country, came from 20 entities of the Mexican Republic: Baja California, Campeche, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Colima, Durango, Guanajuato, Guerrero, Jalisco, Nayarit, Nuevo León, Puebla, Sinaloa, Sonora, Tabasco, Tamaulipas, Veracruz, Yucatán and Zacatecas.

This is possible due to the effort made by producers to carry out the National Campaign against Bovine Tuberculosis operated by the Senasica, through which 63.74% of the national territory is now in the disease eradication phase, with a prevalence less than 0.5%.

Chihuahua leads the list of exporting states, with 483,580 cattle heads, followed by Sonora, which commercialized 313,641; Durango with 176,561; Tamaulipas with 159,013; Coahuila with 71,874, and Nuevo León, whose cattlemen exported 31,174 male calves.

Most of the cattle came from five customs offices: San Jerónimo, Chihuahua, where the Senasica officers inspected a total of 552,421 cattle heads; Nogales, Sonora, that handled 185,481; Agua Prieta, Sonora, from which 124,659 animals left; Colombia, Nuevo León, which allowed an exportation of 115,915, and Ojinaga, Chihuahua, with 96,775 animals.

It is important to remember that in 1993 the U.S.-Mexico Binational Committee for the Bovine Tuberculosis Eradication, was created. Subsequently, the brucellosis issue was added to this Committee.

Inspection visits to Mexican states were then performed in order to evaluate their tuberculosis eradication programs and, when applicable, to allow or not the male calves export. For this purpose, different classifications granted by the USDA to regions according to a disease prevalence or level of presence in a geographical area, were established.

The USDA APHIS has acknowledged 28 regions of low bovine tuberculosis prevalence in Mexico.

Of these areas, 13 hold the Modified Accredited status, so they are allowed to perform exports only with one tuberculin test of the male calves' batch, which are to be commercialized. Fifteen more areas hold the Accreditation Preparatory status, so in order to commercialize cattle to USA, they must submit the origin herd and batch testing.

Sonora conforms the only area acknowledged with the Advanced Modified Accredited status, so it does not require tuberculin tests with the purpose of exporting neutered cattle to USA.