

Mexico will start exporting blueberries to China in land-sea mode

They signed a new procedure that will allow Mexican producers to increase agro-alimentary exports; Strawberries are currently sent by air.



Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development and General Customs Administration of People's Republic of China (AGA) signed the Procedure for export of blueberry from Mexico to this Asian country in land-sea mode, so that Mexican producers of this fruit may expand its processes for shipments.

The agreement was signed at the headquarters of Secretariat of Agriculture by Secretary Víctor Villalobos Arámbula; vice minister of AGA, Hu Wei, chief director of National Service for Agro-Alimentary Public Health, Safety and Quality (SENASICA), Francisco Javier Trujillo Arriaga, and deputy general director of Office for the Import and Export of Safe Foods of China, Tang Guangjiang.

Villalobos Arámbula said that the relations of the agricultural sector of both countries have been strengthened in the last year, as it is the instruction of President Andrés Manuel López Obrador to maintain direct communication and share with China our vision on food and sustainable alternatives.

He stressed that the commercial relationship between the two nations is at its best, derived from the prestige and confidence that Mexican foods have internationally, which allowed the Chinese market to open to agro-alimentary products such as pork and beef, tequila, strawberries, white corn, leaf tobacco, milk and its derivatives, as well as Michoacán avocado, blueberry—by air—and grapes.

He recalled that, last May, both governments signed the sanitary protocol for export of Mexican bananas to China and next year—during a scheduled visit to the Asian country—both governments plan to conclude the sorghum protocol negotiations and beef with bone.

The deputy minister of AGA, Hu Wei, said that Mexico and China are economies with a high potential for agro-alimentary exports, so his government will maintain a close relationship to bring more Mexican products to the Asian market.

He said that the General Customs Administration of his country and Office for the Import and Export of Safe Foods have completed the revision of the sorghum protocol, so it is ready to be signed next year.

He said that China is very interested in making negotiations to import Jalisco avocados, and limes, among other vegetable products, and pork offal, as soon as possible.

Mexico is the fourth largest producer of blackberries. During 2018, more than 40 thousand tons of the fruit were grown. Mexican producers export it to 32 countries, including: United States, Japan, Canada, Hong Kong, Italy, Singapore, Belgium and United Kingdom.

Among the main products that during 2018 Mexico exported to China, the following stand out: beer, avocado, nuts, cotton, hard-shell fruits, fish, shrimp, prawns and fishmeal.

In the same year, Mexico imported from China: dried chili peppers, soybeans, pumpkin and tomato seeds and yellowfin tuna fillets.

The event was attended by chair of National Agricultural Council (CNA), Bosco de la Vega Valladolid, director of International Affairs of Secretariat of Agriculture, Fernando Valderrábano Pesquera, and director of Foreign Trade of ANC, Norberto Valencia Ugalde.

For the Chinese delegation, the director of the Office Against Smuggling, Sun Zhijie, deputy general director of Department of Animal and Plant Quarantine, Wang Yiyu, director of the Division of American and African Affairs of the Department of International Cooperation, Fan Leilei, and deputy director of the Office of General Affairs, Kan Hao.