

Grasshopper (endemic pest)

The grasshopper is a widely distributed pest. The following are most common genus of importance in Mexico: *Melanoplus*, *Sphenarium* and *Brachystola*, which feed from leaves, stems, tender fruits, basic grains, legumes, leafy vegetables, fruit trees, among others.

The damages directly impact the yield and quality of the crops from the main producing areas in the states of Chihuahua, Durango, Zacatecas, San Luis Potosí, Aguascalientes, Hidalgo, Mexico, Michoacán, Puebla, Tlaxcala and Guanajuato.

To address this issue, the National Service for Agro-Alimentary Public Health, Safety and Quality (SENASICA) implemented the campaign against the grasshopper with the aim of timely identifying each of the species of the pest and reduce infestation levels, basing its actions in an integrated management program.

It is worth mentioning that if left unchecked by phytosanitary actions, grasshoppers can cause yield losses of up to 50-60% in basic grain crops, and a drop of 30-40% in fodder production, and increase production costs.

The 2018 federal budget allocated for this phytosanitary program is 8.98 million Pesos, which allows to implement phytosanitary actions in the states of Chihuahua, Guanajuato, Puebla, Queretaro, Tlaxcala and Zacatecas.