

# Regulated weeds

Weeds are plant species usually competing with commercial crops for water, light, space and nutrients, which are essential factors for plant development. Competition between weeds and cultivation is variable and depends on the ability of the weed to be invasive, to dominate and to persist in an area.

Weeds of quarantine importance have been determined as those that are not present in Mexico or that, if they are, can be located in a localized area and are officially regulated.

According to NOM-043-FITO-1999, "Specifications to prevent the introduction of quarantine weeds into Mexico", 65 species of harmful weeds subject to regulation are quoted.

In Mexico, infestations of 11 regulated weeds have been detected, which are distributed in the States of Aguascalientes, Baja California, Mexico City, Chiapas, Chihuahua, State of Mexico, Guanajuato, Hidalgo, Jalisco, Morelos, Nuevo León, Puebla, Querétaro, Sinaloa, Sonora, Tabasco, Tlaxcala, Veracruz, Yucatán and Zacatecas.

Regulated weeds present in Mexico, named according to the amount of infested surface in agricultural areas or near such areas, are: *Rottboellia cochinchinensis*, *Cuscuta indecora*, *Polygonum convolvulus*, *Cuscuta* spp. L, *Silybum marianum*, *Urochloa panicoides*, *Themeda quadrivalvis*, *Digitaria velutinia*, *Aegilops cilíndrica*, *Cuscuta campestris*, and *Emex australis*.

Through the campaign, the protection of agricultural crops such as garlic, alfalfa, amaranth, oats, broccoli, peanuts, coffee, squash, sugar cane, onions, barley, pepper, coriander, cabbage, cauliflower, asparagus, beans, fruits, strawberry, lemon, apple, corn, orange, grass, palm, cucumber, banana, sorghum, wheat and vine, among others, is sought.