

Mediterranean fly

The Mediterranean fly has an important worldwide economic impact, since it damages more than 200 fruit and vegetable species and directly affect their production and trade and is classified as a quarantine pest.

The Moscamed program was created to prevent this pest from settling in Mexico, stop it from advancing inside the country and towards the northern continent, an objective that has achieved satisfactory results every year thanks to the integrated pest management carried out by Mexico, Guatemala and the United States.

In the late 70's a plant to breed and sterilize Mediterranean flies that produces an average of 500 million pupae per week was built in the municipality of Metapa de Dominguez, Chiapas. The release of these sterilized flies has prevented the pest from settling in the country.

The AGREEMENT declaring the United Mexican States as a zone free of the Mediterranean fly (*Ceratitis capitata*, Wiedemann) was published in the Federal Official Gazette on October 30, 2014. This has benefited producers by allowing exports of fruit and vegetable products to other countries.

In 2009, the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture was commissioned by the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food to carry out the "Economic Assessment of the Mexican Moscamed program

(1978-2008)", which reported cost-benefit positive results for the operation of the program.