

The Secretariat of Agriculture approves the 2020 National Standardization Program to fortify agriculture, livestock and fishery sanitation

The program includes: 8 phytosanitary protection subjects; 10 zoosanitary protection subjects; 18 responsible fishery subjects; 1 livestock breeding subject, and 4 competitive subjects.



The *Comité Consultivo Nacional de Normalización Agroalimentaria* [National Advisory Board of Agro-Alimentary Standardization or CCNNA, in Spanish] of the Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development approved the 2020 National Standardization Program to fortify the regulatory framework and streamline official processes, regulations and agreements.

The program includes 8 subjects from the Phytosanitary Protection Subcommittee, 10 subjects from the Zoosanitary Protection Subcommittee, 18 subjects from the Responsible Fishery Subcommittee, 1 subject from the Livestock Breeding Subcommittee, and 4 subjects from the Competitiveness Subcommittee.

On phytosanitary matters, the National Service for Agro-Alimentary Public Health, Safety and Quality (SENASICA) proposed the creation of a new standard to simplify the requirements and specifications for establishments associated with the manufacturing, preparation through contract manufacturing, import, distribution and commercialization of agricultural pesticides.

The SENASICA proposed amendments to the Mexican Official Standard (NOM) 079 concerning phytosanitary requirements for the production and movement of propagation materials free of the citrus tristeza virus and other citrus pathogens; to the NOM 052 concerning procedures to submit the start of operations notices of individuals dedicated to the aerial application of agricultural pesticides, and to the NOM 077 concerning the performance of biological effectiveness studies to vegetable nutrition materials.

On zoosanitary matters, the SENASICA proposed amendments to the following standards: NOM 008 and 009, both of which regulate the Federal Inspection Type (TIF) establishments, and NOM 045, concerning the zoosanitary

characteristics for the operation of establishments that gather animals for fairs, expos, auctions, street markets and similar events.

Amendments to the following standards were submitted for consideration: NOM 012 standard, concerning the regulation of chemical, pharmaceutical, biological and food products for animal use or consumption; NOM 060, which includes the zoosanitary specifications for the transformation of animal parts not for human consumption, and NOM 062 concerning the technical specifications for the production, care and use of laboratory animals.

The National Commission of Aquaculture and Fishery (CONAPESCA) proposed rescheduling for analysis the following standards: NOM 018, concerning octopus; NOM 019, concerning bivalve mollusks; NOM 020, concerning hakes; 021, concerning bluefin tuna; NOM 029, concerning sharks and rays; NOM 038, concerning traceability; NOM 039, concerning crabs; NOM 049; concerning fishing refuge areas; NOM 063, concerning Gulf corvina; NOM 064, concerning forbidden fishing arts and methods, and NOM 074, concerning aquatic fauna exclusion systems.

The Commission requests amendments to the NOM 003; concerning small pelagic fishes; NOM 006, concerning lobsters; NOM 014, concerning geoduck clams; NOM 062, concerning the Satellite Monitoring System of Fishing Ships, and the NOM 065, concerning sea basses.

The Competitiveness Subcommittee proposed the creation of the NOM project for Melipona bees honey and specifications for its production, and the NOM project for Cooking herbs and species, and the NOM project for Artisanal sea salt, agro-alimentary quality minimum specifications.

Likewise, the Subcommittee seeks amendments to the NOM 001 concerning commercial practices and specifications about storage, safekeeping, conservation, handling and control of assets and goods, including agricultural and livestock products, kept at general deposit warehouses.

The Advisory Committee proposed the derogation of many standards subordinate to the standards intended to be created or amended during this year, the operation of which would contradict the new provisions.

The CCNNA works to reduce the preparation, discussion and issuance times for Mexican Official Standards concerning agro-alimentary matters in order to fortify the regulatory framework for the sector and provide more assurances concerning health, quality and safety issues for the benefit of Mexican consumers.