

Mexico participates in the FAO's study about the impact of climate change on pest plants

Representing our country, the National Service for Agri-food Health, Safety and Quality (SENASICA), contributed to the international discussion for the preparation of the scientific document, aimed at the authorities responsible for making sanitary public policies.



As informed by the Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development, Mexico participated in the study of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) about the impact of climate change on pest plants, which will be a guide for carrying out phytosanitary actions in the most effective manner and advance towards achieving food safety.

The document presented by the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) contains recommendations for its 184 member countries and is the result from the cooperation between the FAO and the regional and national organizations of plant health protection during the 2020 International Year of Plant Health.

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The federal agency emphasized that this scientific review is one of the most valuable gifts to the world product of the 2020 International Year of Plant Health festivities, which were extended to the first semester of 2021.

Assessing and managing the impact of climate change on plant health and international trade of plants and vegetable products is one of the items in the development agenda established in the 2020-2030 strategic framework of the IPPC.

The Scientific Review on the Impact of Climate Change on Plant Pests: A global challenge to prevent and mitigate plant pest risks in agriculture, forestry and ecosystems, shows that globalization of the agri-food markets, coupled with the raise of the Earth's temperature, has caused the migration and settling of pests to places where they were not present.

According to the FAO, pests of plant species cause global annual losses of 220 billion US dollars that have a negative impact for food safety, agricultural trade

and the most vulnerable populations, which are the most affected by this phenomenon.

Thus, the Convention is working through international phytosanitary standards, prepared by communities through multilateral participation processes, to eliminate the dispersal of pests that move through trade.

To move forward in the implementation of the recommendations of this scientific review, the IPPC established a new discussion group about the consequences of climate change on plant health.

This team will coordinate the development and support the implementation of the action plan to raise awareness about the impact of climate change on plant health, and to promote the appropriate recognition of phytosanitary matters in the international debate about climate change.

The scientific review about the impact of climate change on plant health contributes to the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations.

The International Plant Protection Convention is a multilateral treaty signed in 1951 and is part of the FAO. The Phytosanitary Measures Commission, presided by Mexico from 2018 to 2021, is the steering body of the Convention.