

Mexico closes ranks to prevent the introduction of the Giant African snail

SENASICA organized the training of canine pairings to imprint the aroma of the pest in the dogs that guard the entry points of many countries.



In our country, garden snails are animals that arise curiosity and sympathy in many people, specially children who even adopt them as pets.

But did you know that there are varieties of snails in the world that reach over 30 cm in length and due to their voracious appetite and high reproductive rate pose a strong threat for the agriculture of the world's nations.

We are talking about the Giant African snail, which is catalogued as one of the 100 most invasive species worldwide, since it is capable of adapt to different ecosystems and consume over 500 vegetable species, many of which of economic relevance.

This pest was introduced in South America late in 1980, is present in Brazil and little by little has invaded other regions of the continent, thus, the nations have taken preventive measures to stop their introduction and dissemination.

In Mexico, the Secretariat of Agriculture, through the SENASICA, operates surveillance measures in ports, airports, and borders, which were reinforced after the mollusk was detected on the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica on June of the current year.

Surveillance through canine units is one of the most effective and innovative measures to reduce the dissemination of the Giant African snail, thus, specialists from the Mexican sanitary agency participated in and organized the training of 16 canine pairings to imprint the aroma of the pest in the olfactory memory of the dogs that guard the entry points of Central America and Caribbean countries.

For more information, please visit: [Mexico collaborates with the regional effort to eradicate the Giant African snail from Central America](#)