#### **Organic certification organizations**

Frequently asked questions about organic certification under the Mexican Organic Produce Law (LPO)

#### How can an organic certification organization be approved by the SENASICA in accordance with the LPO?

In Mexico, the certification organizations interested in being authorized under the LPO must have the ISO 17605 certification (by a national or international certifier) with the scope to certify organic products according to the LPO and its applicable legal provisions; subsequently, they must submit their application to the SENASICA.

## What requirements must the authorization application of an organic certification organization cover?

The requirements that the organic certification organizations must cover in their application can be found in the CALL to obtain the authorization as an organic products certification organization in force to date, which will be available in the Federal Official Gazette. Check the call in force.

# What are the obligations of the organic certification organizations authorized by the Secretariat?

An organic certification organization authorized by the Secretariat must:

- Issue the organic certificate or the rejection opinion in accordance with the LPO.
- Submit to the SENASICA the annual report, in accordance with article 25 of the Regulations of the Organic Produce Law, and monthly activities reports in accordance with article 23 of the AGREEMENT that establishes the requirements and specifications for the approval of

supporting organizations for conformity assessment of the legal provisions responsibility of the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock Breeding, Rural Development, Fishery and Food, through the National Service for Agro-Alimentary Public Health, Safety and Quality.

- Assess conformity with the applicable legal provisions.
- Make sure that the organic operator keeps complying with the requirements to obtain the certification, among others.

## What is the validity period of the authorization for organic certification organizations?

The authorization of organic certification organizations is valid for 5 years.