

Our Greatest Alliance Is with Science

Scientific work is the pillar of Mexico's phytosanitary reputation



Plant health work in Mexico to protect agri-food production formally began 122 years ago with the creation of the Parasitology Commission, which was made up of renowned experts headed by biologist Alfonso L. Herrera.

The first actions were aimed at fighting pests such as the Mexican fruit fly, the leaf cutting ant, the corn and cotton boll weevil, the Mexican bean beetle, the cane fly, and the grapevine phylloxera, among others.

To control these pests, scientists discovered the usefulness of some plants to produce insecticides and the possibility of using natural enemies, such as the *Cratospilas rudibunda* enemy wasp.

Also, as a result of the work of phytopathologists, the fight against plant diseases caused by bacteria, phytoplasmas, fungi, nematodes, pathogens, viruses, among others, began.

The work of Dr. Daniel Téliz Ortiz, an expert in avocado sunspot, is proof of this. His technical and scientific advice was paramount during the dispute that Mexico brought before the World Trade Organization (WTO) to demonstrate that Mexican avocados did not represent any risk to the health of avocados in Costa Rica, for which the Secretariat of Agriculture honored him with a certificate of recognition.

For more information, please visit: [Scientific Work Backs up Sanitary Reputation of Mexican Exports](#)