

# Legal Basis: National Phytosanitary Reference Center

## Reference Information

Between 1977 and 1979, a network of Plant Health laboratories throughout 20 States in Mexico was created with the purpose of contributing to the sanitary surveillance designated by the Mexican Plant and Animal Health Act (DOF Dec/13/1974) and its Regulations (DOF Jan/18/1980). The foregoing is pursuant to Article 15 of the Mexican Plant and Animal Health Act, which states that the Secretariat of Agriculture shall establish any laboratories deemed necessary in any relevant locations.

In 1991, the General Directorate of Plant Health (DGSV) underwent through structural changes, by restructuring and transferring these 72 laboratories, 11 of which merged and became the National Phytosanitary Reference Center (CNRF). Its original purpose was to provide continuity and coherence to modernization programs of the then-called Secretariat of Agriculture and Hydraulic Resources, generating specific information on pests, diseases, and weeds, through basic studies of technological development and training courses, as well as providing on-going updates on diagnosis and identification of pests of economic and quarantine importance.

Currently, the activities carried out by these laboratories have their legal basis, in articles 7° A fraction XVIII of the Federal Law on Plant Health (DOF Jan/05/94) which establishes that Sagarpa is authorized to prevent the introduction of any pests into Mexico which affect plants, their products or by-products, as well as in article 104 of its Regulations (DOF 07/15/2016), which sets out that the identification of regulated pests is an activity entrusted to Senasica in terms of phytosanitary diagnosis.