

The Secretariat of Agriculture ratifies regions of 17 national states as zones free of two species of fruit flies

This recognition allows producers to trade their fruits in more and better markets, said the Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development



Mexico ranks eleventh worldwide in the production of agricultural crops, including fruit and vegetable foods susceptible to fruit flies, such as mango, coffee, papaya and strawberries, among others

The Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development declared the municipalities of 17 different national states as zones free of two species of fruit flies. Thanks to this declaration local producers continue with competitive advantages to supply the domestic market with fruit and vegetable products.

According to the results of the epidemiological surveillance and the sampling carried out by the technicians of the National Service for Agro-alimentary Public Health, Safety and Quality Service (SENASICA), the absence of the *rhagoletis pomonella* fly was confirmed in the municipality of San Juan Atenco, Puebla.

Moreover, the absence of *anastrepha* fruit fly (a genus of quarantine importance) was also confirmed in all municipalities of Baja California, Baja California Sur, Chihuahua, Coahuila and Sonora, as well as in nine municipalities of Aguascalientes, 33 municipalities of Durango, 24 of Nuevo Leon, 27 of San Luis Potosí, 12 of Sinaloa, eight municipalities of Tamaulipas, 37 of Zacatecas, two of Guerrero, and one municipality of Morelos, Puebla and Tlaxcala, and finally, in the territorial limit of six municipalities of the State of Mexico.

Producers can consult the complete list of municipalities confirmed as a free zone at https://www.dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5677228&fecha=17/01/2023#gsc.tab=0

The Free Zone Declaration, published in the Federal Official Gazette (DOF), represents a positive impact for producers. These producers, hand in hand with the federal and state governments, operate the National Campaign against Fruit Flies, providing them with competitive advantages in multiple markets.

This Free Zone recognition is valid for 24 months, period in which SENASICA's technicians will maintain the surveillance of the Free Zone. Therefore, producers must apply the phytosanitary measures specified in Article 107 of the Federal Plant Health Law Regulation and in the Official Mexican Standards NOM-023-FITO-1995 (which establishes the National Campaign against Fruit Flies) and NOM-075-FITO-1997, as well as the phytosanitary requirements and specifications for the movement of fruit fly host fruits.

Mexico ranks eleventh worldwide in the production of agricultural crops. Therefore, it is an important producer of fruit and vegetable products susceptible to fruit flies, namely, mango, coffee, papaya and strawberries, among others.