

National meat industry: a strategic pillar to strengthen food security, Secretariat of Agriculture

The National Agro-alimentary Health, Safety, and Quality Service (Senasica) considered it necessary for meat producers and processors to have safe inputs to produce quality animal protein



Participating in the Meat and Dairy Expo 2023, the chief director of Senasica, Javier Calderón Elizalde, said that the work of meat producers and processors is strategic for strengthening national food security

The National Agro-alimentary Health, Safety, and Quality Service (Senasica) called on producers and companies dedicated to the generation and processing of meat to join the Mexican Government's effort to offer Mexican consumers sufficient healthy and safe animal protein.

Participating in the Meat and Dairy Expo, 2023, in Monterrey, Nuevo León, the chief director of Senasica, Javier Calderón Elizalde, said that the work of meat producers and processors is strategic to contribute to the strengthening of national food security.

Before the membership of the Mexican Meat Council (Comecarne), Calderón Elizalde emphasized that Senasica fulfills its mission of facilitating the commercial exchange of agrifood products to guarantee the inputs required by the meat industry and it is "your responsibility to transmit the benefits of these actions to the consumer through the supply of animal products at accessible prices".

In this way, added the official of the Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development, they are helping to strengthen the Mexican government's policy against inflation and the high cost of basic foodstuffs for the benefit of Mexican society.

After swearing in the 2023-2024 Steering Committee of Comecarne, which is chaired by Ernesto Hermosillo Seyffert, the

federal official indicated that the Council is an organization of great importance for the country, since it brings together close to one hundred of the most important Mexican industries dedicated to the production and processing of meat products.

He stressed that, in order to cover the national meat supply, it is necessary for the industry to have the inputs it requires to produce quality animal protein, so Senasica will maintain and strengthen its work to protect the countryside from pests and diseases and thus ensure that there are enough grains to feed livestock and have healthy animals for the production process.

Likewise, he said, Senasica endeavor is facilitating the commercial exchange of food, for which it imposes requirements that our experts decide based on scientific criteria and risk analysis. Based on this, they indicate the application of the necessary mitigation measures to safeguard national production.

He recalled that Mexico recently opened the Mexican market to beef from Argentina, as well as the entry of pork products from the State of Santa Catarina, Brazil, in addition to the poultry meat already imported from these countries, along with beef from Uruguay. He announced that negotiations are about to be concluded to open the Brazilian beef market from regions free of foot-and-mouth disease, which have proven to comply with the sanitary quality required by our country to protect national livestock production and consumer health.

Calderón Elizalde explained that the Agriculture Agency is an ally of producers because it also conducts negotiations with the world's sanitary agencies to open new markets for Mexican meat products.

The privileged sanitary status of our country, the high safety standards met by Mexican producers and industry, as well as the high quality of our agrifood products, have positioned Mexico as an important food supplier to the world, he said.

He assured that these results reflect the commitment of Mexican producers and industry's stakeholders, who have invested in being certified by Senasica in terms of Contamination Risk Reduction Systems (SRRC), organic products and the Federal Inspection Type System (TIF), which is the only one eligible for exporting meat products to more than 60 international destinations.

The president of Comecarne, Ernesto Hermosillo Seyffert, pointed out that Mexico's agro-alimentary production sector has made important efforts to contain the inflationary effect of foodstuffs, in order not to affect Mexican families, especially the least favored.

He acknowledged the work of the Agriculture Agency to ensure that sanitary controls prevail in the importation of food and raw materials, thus facilitating and speeding up access to healthy

and safe products that contribute to the national supply.

The leader called on Comecarne members to join efforts to advance in the diversification of import and export markets, innovate in science and technology, and strengthen the inclusion of small and medium-sized producers as suppliers of processing companies.

The president of Expo Carnes, Héctor Elizondo Ruiz, pointed out that as a result of the coordinated work of producers and processors, this exhibition has positioned itself as the largest in the meat sector in Latin America and in its 2023 edition, and it has more than 400 exhibitors, 20 speakers and more than 10,000 visitors from 20 countries.