

Official and private regional laboratories

National Reference Center for Biological Control

National Service of Agri-Food Health, Safety and Quality | February 10, 2020

The National Service of Health, Safety and Agrifood Quality through the National Reference Center for Biological Control (CNRCB, by its Spanish acronym) coordinates the mass reproduction of entomophagous insects useful for the management of agricultural pests of regulated importance for the country, which is why it has two official laboratories. One is located in Bahía de Banderas, Nayarit (Laboratorio Regional de Reproducción de agentes de Control Biológico) where the parasitoid *Anagyrus kamali* and the predator *Cryptolaemus montrozieri* are produced and released in the states where the pink hibiscus mealybug (*Maconellicoccus hirsutus*) is present.

In Mérida, Yucatán there is another laboratory specialized in the mass rearing of the parasitoid *Tamarixia radiata*, (Laboratory of reproduction of *Tamarixia radiata* del Sureste) this wasp is reared and released as a strategy in the biological control of *Diaphorina citri*, vector of the citrus HLB. With a monthly production of half a million parasitoids, the regional laboratory sends these beneficial insects to 24 citrus-producing states that are threatened by this problem.

The integration of these entomophagous insects has had an impact on the reduction of pests in commercial orchards, adjacent to urban areas, abandoned, organic and backyard orchards, in addition to reducing the use of chemically synthesized insecticides and directly benefiting the environment and growers.

On the other hand, in Mexico there is a network of Biological Control Agent Reproduction Laboratories that commercialize their products to be integrated into integrated agricultural pest management schemes; this is why the CNRCB updates the directory of these Laboratories every year to have the contact of interest available to the interested producer.

[Senasica's Official Biological Control Agent Reproduction Laboratories](#)

[Directory of Reproduction Laboratories and Marketers of Biological Control Agents](#)