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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

**AREAS UNDER PHYTOSANITARY CONTROL DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF
PIERCE'S DISEASE (*XYLELLA FASTIDIOSA* SUBSP. *FASTIDIOSA*)**

COMMUNICATION FROM MEXICO

The following communication, dated 5 March 2015, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Mexico.

1. Pursuant to Article 7 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and paragraph 3(b) of Annex B thereto, Mexico hereby advises WTO Members that the notice listing the areas under phytosanitary control due to the presence of Pierce's disease (*Xylella fastidiosa* subsp. *fastidiosa*), i.e. the viticultural area of Valle de Guadalupe, Baja California, and the municipalities of Parras de la Fuente, Coahuila de Zaragoza, and Ezequiel Montes, Querétaro, was published in the Mexican Official Journal (*Diario Oficial de la Federación*) on 23 February 2015.

2. The notice declares the viticultural area of Valle de Guadalupe, Baja California, and the municipalities of Parras de la Fuente, Coahuila de Zaragoza, and Ezequiel Montes, Querétaro, to be areas under phytosanitary control due to the presence of Pierce's disease (*Xylella fastidiosa* subsp. *fastidiosa*), in accordance with the information provided by the National Phytosanitary Reference Centre and the studies carried out by testing laboratories approved by the Ministry.

3. The notice was published to notify the names of the above-mentioned municipalities under phytosanitary control, with a view to preventing the spread of the disease to other municipalities. It states that the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food, through the National Agriculture and Food Health, Safety and Quality Service, is responsible for establishing any phytosanitary measures deemed necessary to prevent and control regulated pests that may affect plants and plant products or byproducts imported into, transported within, and exported from Mexico, and for declaring areas to be under control, or free from or with a low prevalence of pests that affect plants and plant products or byproducts.

4. The notice is available in Spanish at: <http://www.dof.gob.mx>, http://www.dof.gob.mx/nota_detalle.php?codigo=5382978&fecha=23/02/2015 and from the National Enquiry Point (normasomc@economia.gob.mx).

5. Lastly, Mexico wishes to state that this communication is being made for the purposes of transparency, without prejudice to Mexico's rights and obligations under the SPS Agreement.
