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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures Original: Spanish

REGIONALIZATION

INFORMATION FOR THE RECOGNITION OF FRUIT FLY-FREE AREAS

Communication by Mexico

Revision

The following communication, received on 19 January 2006, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Mexico.

I. BACKGROUND

1. Certain species of fruit fly are considered the main fruit-tree pest due to their destructiveness, which has led to the imposition of phytosanitary restrictions on the marketing of the fruit that hosts the pest, for domestic consumption and for export.

2. Accordingly, the Mexican Government has taken various steps to control fruit flies. The establishment of the applicable legal framework began in May 1934 with "Internal Quarantine Order No. 4 against fruit flies in the North-West Defence Area", to be followed by other legislation such as the "Decree declaring the prevention and combating of the pests known as fruit flies of the genera *Anastrepha, Rhagoletis* and *Toxotrypana* to be in the public interest", promulgated on 13 December 1985. This latter decree authorized the Ministry of Agriculture to coordinate the efforts of the Federal Government, the State governments and the organized producers in order comprehensively to combat the pest.

3. Later, starting in 1992, the control of fruit flies of economic and quarantine importance was strengthened and extended through Cooperation Agreements between the Federal Government, the State governments and the Auxiliary Plant Health Bodies; at the same time, in Metapa, Chiapas, the Ministry set up a production plant for sterile flies and parasitoids in order to apply highly selective and ecological methods of pest eradication in those regions of the country where the ecological conditions allowed and to reduce population densities in others.

4. The establishment of phytosanitary requirements and specifications for the operation of the National Anti-Fruit Fly Campaign, with the publication of Official Mexican Standard NOM-023-FITO-1995, led to the standardization and strengthening of the phytosanitary measures against fruit flies, making it possible to reduce the population levels until they were of little economic significance and, where appropriate, recognize free orchards, low-prevalence areas and pest-free areas.

II. REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

5. The regulatory framework for the recognition of fruit fly-free areas consists of the following:

(A) INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL STANDARDS (IMPORTING COUNTRY)

(i) **ISPM No. 4. Requirements for the establishment of pest-free areas.** Issued by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), it describes the requirements for the establishment and use of pest-free areas (PFAs) as a risk management option for phytosanitary certification of plants and plant products and other regulated articles exported from the PFA or to support the scientific justification for phytosanitary measures taken by an importing country for protection of an endangered PFA;

(ii) **ISPM No. 10. Requirements for the establishment of pest-free places of production and pest-free production sites.** Issued by the FAO, it describes the requirements for the establishment and use of pest-free places of production as a risk management option, for meeting phytosanitary requirements for the import of plants, plant products and other regulated articles; and

(iii) **RSPM No. 1. Pest-free areas.** Issued by the North American Plant Protection Organization, for the purpose of providing a basis for the phytosanitary certification and post-harvest movement of plants, plant products and other regulated articles from an area without the need for the application of additional phytosanitary measures.

(B) OFFICIAL MEXICAN STANDARDS

6. As part of its regulatory framework, Mexico has established an Official Mexican Standard for the determination, establishment and recognition of pest-free areas and three others governing measures to prevent, combat, control, suppress and eradicate fruit flies, as well as one on the movement of fruit fly host fruit. These Official Mexican Standards are:

(i) **NOM-069-FITO-1995,** "For the Establishment and Recognition of Pest-Free Areas", which lays down the requirements for the determination, establishment and recognition of pest-free areas, issued in order that plants and plant products and by-products produced in free areas can be moved without the need to apply additional phytosanitary measures;

(ii) **NOM-023-FITO-1995,** "Establishing the National Anti-Fruit Fly Campaign", the purpose of which is to establish the requirements and phytosanitary specifications for the operation of the National Anti-Fruit Fly Campaign in the registered production areas, with a view to recognizing orchards temporarily free of fruit flies of the species: *Anastrepha ludens* (Loew), *A. obliqua* (Macq.), *A. serpentina* (Wied.) and *A. striata* (Schiner), areas of low prevalence and free areas, as well as to lay down guidelines for the protection of low-prevalence and pest-free areas;

(iii) **NOM-075-FITO-1997,** "Establishing the Requirements and Phytosanitary Specifications for the Movement of Fruit Fly Host Fruit", whose main purpose is to establish the requirements and phytosanitary specifications for the movement of fresh fruit fly host fruit in order to prevent the spread of the pest to free and low-prevalence areas; and

(iv) **NOM-076-FITO-1999,** "National Emergency and Prevention System Against Exotic Fruit Fly", establishing a preventive system for the purpose of preventing the introduction and establishment on Mexican territory of exotic fruit fly of the genera *Ceratitis, Dacus* and *Bactrocera* and some species of *Anastrepha spp* and *Rhagoletis spp*; and establishing procedures for activating the national emergency system.

(C) TECHNICAL APPENDICES ISSUED IN SUPPORT OF THESE OFFICIAL MEXICAN STANDARDS

7. Various Technical Appendices have been issued in support of the Official Mexican Standards, the following being the most relevant:

(i) **Technical Appendix for implementing the emergency plan in areas free of fruit fly of the genus *Anastrepha.*** This lays down the procedures for the application of the emergency plan in areas free of fruit fly of the species *Anastrepha ludens* (Loew), *A. obliqua* (Macq.), *A. serpentina* (Wied.) and *A. striata* (Schiner), for the purpose of preserving their phytosanitary status. It sets out the requirements relating to organization, participants and responsibilities, identification of suspicious specimens detected in the free area, notification of the initiation of the emergency plan, phytosanitary activities to be carried out and the eradication certificate; and

(ii) **Technical Appendix on trapping quality control for fruit fly of the genus *Anastrepha*.** This lays down, for officials and the private sector (Auxiliary Plant Health Bodies and Verification Units approved by SAGARPA as part of the National Anti-Fruit Fly Campaign), the supervision procedures which the former must apply and the latter follow, where appropriate, and hence facilitates the supervision of activities at orchard and geographical region level, as well as those covered by the phytosanitary specifications for establishing orchards temporarily free of fruit flies, areas of low prevalence and free areas.

(D) RESOLUTIONS DECLARING FREE AREAS

(i) On 26 February 1998, the "Resolution declaring all the territories of the municipalities of the States of Baja California Sur, Chihuahua and Sonora free of fruit flies" was published in the Official Journal (*Diario Oficial de la Federación de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos*);

(ii) on 17 April 2001, the "Resolution declaring the municipalities of Ahome, Choix, El Fuerte, Guasave and Sinaloa de Leyva in the State of Sinaloa free of fruit flies" was published in the Official Journal;

(iii) on 25 June 2003, the United States Department of Agriculture published in the *Federal Register* (7 CFR sections 300 and 319), its recognition of the following Mexican municipalities as being free of *Ceratitis capitata*, *Anastrepha ludens, A. serpentina, A. obliqua* and *A. fraterculus*: Ahome, Choix, El Fuerte, Guasave and Sinaloa de Leyva in the State of Sinaloa, while confirming the status of Comundú, La Paz, Loreto, Los Cabos and Mulejé in the State of Baja California Sur; Bachiniva, Casas Grandes, Cuahutemoc, Guerrero, Namiquipa and Nuevo Casas Grandes in the State of Chihuahua; Altar, Atil, Bacum, Benito Juárez, Caborca, Cajeme, Carbo, Empalme, Etchojoa, Guaymas, Hermosillo, Huatabampo, Navojoa, Pitiquito, Plutarco Elias Calles, Puerto Peñasco, San Luis Río Colorado, San Miguel and San Ignacio Río Muerto in the State of Sonora;

(iv) on 4 May 2001, the "Resolution declaring all the municipalities of the State of Coahuila de Zaragoza free of fruit flies" was published in the Official Journal;

(v) on 26 January 2004, the "Resolution declaring the municipalities of Canatlán, Coneto de Comonfort, Cuencamé, Durango, General Simón Bolívar, Gómez Palacio, Guadalupe Victoria, Guanaceví, Hidalgo, Indé, Lerdo, Mapimí, Nazas, Nombre de Dios, Ocampo, El Oro, Pánuco de Coronado, Peñón Blanco, Poanas, Rodeo, San Bernardo, San Juan de Guadalupe, San Juan del Río, San Luis del Cordero, San Pedro del Gallo, Santa Clara, Santiago Papasquiaro, Súchil, Tepehuanes, Tlahualilo, Vicente Guerrero and Nuevo Ideal in the State of Durango free of fruit flies" was published in the Official Journal; and

(vi) on 24 August 2005, the "Resolution declaring the municipalities of Angostura, Badiraguato, Culiacán, Elota, Mocorito, Navolato and Salvador Alvarado in the State of Sinaloa free of fruit flies" was published in the Official Journal.

III. PROCEDURE FOR THE RECOGNITION OF FREE AREAS

8. On the basis of the regulatory framework, a technical file for the recognition of the free area is compiled and a form for verifying the basic data in the field in accordance with paragraph 4.13.1 of Official Mexican Standard NOM-023-FITO-1995 is completed. This includes general data on the region, fruit fly trapping and sterile fly release, registration of orchards, area and location, host fruit currently grown in the area, anti-fruit fly campaign activities in the last three years and climatological information.

IV. PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES FOR MAINTAINING FREE AREAS (INTRA-ENTITY INSPECTION)

9. The phytosanitary measures designed to maintain and protect a fruit fly-free area are established within an annual work programme, approved by SAGARPA and based on the regulatory framework described above. The phytosanitary measures applied to maintain free areas are as follows:

(A) SURVEILLANCE

10. A trapping network is maintained in urban and suburban areas at densities of one trap per 10 hectares; in commercial and fringe areas located less than 5 km. from urban and suburban areas there is one trap every 25 hectares, and in commercial and fringe areas more than 5 km. from urban and suburban areas one trap every 50 hectares, with weekly checks, throughout the year. Where appropriate, the trapping densities established in inter-agency agreements with importing countries are applied.

11. SAGARPA, through the General Plant Health Directorate, establishes a trap quality control programme, in accordance with the provisions of the Technical Appendix on trap quality control for fruit flies of the genus *Anastrepha*.

12. The preventive trap network for exotic fruit flies is maintained in the entities, the trap quality control programme also being applied.

(B) PHYTOSANITARY CONTROLS

13. The quarantine system protects the free areas through the application of phytosanitary procedures and requirements to shipments of fruit-fly host fruit, for the purpose of controlling its

movement into free areas. In addition, these areas are protected by quarantine control points (Internal Check Points) set up on land routes, where the phytosanitary certificates issued are verified and, where appropriate, the plants and their products and by-products are checked and inspected and quarantine treatment applied. The Internal Check Points are manned by trained technical personnel and have at their disposal fumigation chambers, samples and effective treatments for reducing the risk of the pest being introduced into free areas.

14. At the same time, in supply centres, markets and stores located in free areas, the phytosanitary documentation is again checked and the fruit inspected. These activities serve to control the quality of quarantine application on entry into the free areas.

(C) APPLICATION OF THE EMERGENCY PLAN

15. The Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food has an emergency plan for eradicating as quickly as possible any fruit fly outbreaks in free areas. Prior to the detection of the pest by means of the surveillance system, this plan made it possible to maintain the free areas of Baja California Sur, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Durango and Sonora and 12 municipalities of North and Central Sinaloa, which demonstrated its operational feasibility.

16. The technical appendix for the free area emergency plan, which forms part of NOM-023-FITO-1995, is available for plan implementation purposes.

V. MEASURES WHICH MADE IT POSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH THE MEXICAN STATE OF SONORA AS A FRUIT FLY-FREE AREA

(A) GENERAL

17. Sonora lies in the far North-West of Mexico between longitudes 108° 27’ and 115° 03’ West and latitudes 26° 14’ and 32° 29’ North.

18. In the North, it shares a 588 km. long border with the United States; in the East, it adjoins the State of Chihuahua, in the South-East the State of Sinaloa, and in the West the Gulf of California, on which it has a 816 km. long shoreline.

19. A large part of Sonora consists of the Sonoran Desert, which includes most of the coastal plain, with dry prevailing winds from the North Pole. These characteristics determine the rainfall and the very wide daily variations of temperature, throughout the year.

20. The State is divided into three physiographical provinces. The first of these, from East to West, is located in the extreme east of the State and occupies 10 per cent of its territory; it is represented by a strip of the mountain system of the Sierra Madre Occidental which runs along the border with the State of Chihuahua, from just short of the United States frontier to the border with the State of Sinaloa. The vegetation of this region is needle-leaf forest. In the high part of the Sierra it is characterized by an upper growth of conifers 12 to 20 m tall of the genus *Pinus* and an undergrowth of tussock grasses. At lower altitudes a transitional forest of *Quercus, Pinus* and arbutus (*Arbustus arizonica)*, etc. prevails.

21. The second physiographical province, called the "Sierras and Parallel Valleys" region, occupies 40 per cent of the area of the State, forms a strip running north-south through the middle of the State from the international frontier with the United States to the border with the State of Sinaloa, and is represented by the mountain chains that form the Sierras of Cananea, La Púrica, Nacozari, Aconchi, Sahuaripa and Moctezuma. These mountain chains are separated by broad parallel valleys

through which the rivers Bavispe, Nacozari, Moctezuma, Sonora, San Miguel, Yaqui and Mayo run before flowing out into the Gulf of California.

22. In this region, the vegetation is thorn scrub consisting of shrubs and low trees 3 to 5 m tall and, at ground level, sparse grasses.

23. The third region, the coastal strip along the Gulf of California, occupies 50 per cent of the total area of the State, borders on the North with the United States, on the South with the State of Sinaloa, on the East with the Sierras and Parallel Valleys region and on the West with the Sea of Cortés, and forms part of the coast of the Gulf of California. The characteristic flora consist of shrubs up to 2 m. tall and cacti up to 6 m. tall, with one predominating over the other in varying degrees.

24. The cultivated area lies in the coastal strip of the Gulf of California, which has a desert ecology. It depends on the availability of water sources and arable soil and is therefore good only for irrigated farming in compact areas such as San Luis Río Colorado, Sonoyta, Caborca, Costa de Hermosillo, Guaymas-Empalme, Valle del Yaqui and Valle del Mayo.

25. Approximately 48 per cent of the irrigated area is reserved for growing fruit, most importantly, grapes, sweet oranges and peaches.

(B) BACKGROUND AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

26. From 1984 to 1987, negotiations were conducted with the United States with a view to obtaining the recognition of the free areas. On 8 January 1987, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) published in the Federal Register a change in the Act enabling the United States to apply this concept in any quarantined country.

27. The State of Sonora has had a fruit fly-free area since 30 March 1988, when it was recognized by the United States. This area covers 12 of its municipalities.

28. Since 1992, the Anti-Fruit Fly Campaign has been operating under a tripartite agreement between the federal and state governments and the producers on the State Plant Health Committee (CESV). By mutual consent, the three parties agree economic resources for its implementation. The Federation and the State are responsible for regulating, supervising, supporting and advising the CESV, which in its turn is responsible for running the Campaign, subject to the authorization of an annual programme, covering all the activities to be carried out, by the federal and state governments.

29. As a result of progress with the implementation of the Anti-Fruit Fly Campaign, in 1994 the pest was eradicated in 55 municipalities, which were added to the 12 already internationally recognized as fruit fly-free areas. Accordingly, on 26 July 1995 the Mexican Government granted recognition to 69 of the State's 70 municipalities, with publication of the resolution in the Official Journal.

30. Later, on 26 February 1998 the recognition of all the State's municipalities as free of fruit fly was published in the Official Journal. This status was recognized by the United States on 20 January 1999.

(C) PREVENTIVE MEASURES

31. In the State's 72 municipalities, a preventive trapping network for the detection of any fruit flies of the genera *Anastrepha, Ceratitis* and *Bactrocera* has been set up. Trapping is carried out throughout the year in urban and in fringe and commercial areas.

32. Quarantine control is based on various pieces of legislation subsidiary to the Federal Plant Health Law, published on 5 January 1994, which regulates the movement of fruit fly host fruit, as laid down in the official standards.

33. On this basis and for the purpose of protecting the fruit fly-free area, Internal Check Points (ICPs) have been established at three points of entry into the State, namely: Estación Don, on the border with Sinaloa; Agua Prieta and Yécora, located in the municipalities of the same name bordering on Chihuahua. At these points, quarantine controls involving the inspection of every private vehicle and public and federal means of transport are applied for the purpose of intercepting fruit in luggage, car boots and packages; in addition, the phytosanitary documentation for agricultural goods is checked, partial quarantine fruit is sampled, seizures are made and, where necessary, commercial shipments are fumigated.

34. In 1996, state quarantine controls were strengthened with the establishment of ICPs at Álamos to control the movement of products from the Sierra Sur region, together with in-transit inspection of the railway on the Sufragio, Sinaloa-Estación Don, Sonora line, at the airports of Ciudad de Hermosillo, Guaymas and Ciudad Obregón and at the seaport of Guaymas. Moreover, the State has Agricultural Health Inspection Offices (OISAs) at the frontier points of San Luis Río Colorado, Sonoyta, Nogales, Naco and Agua Prieta.

(D) FACTORS FAVOURING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FRUIT FLY-FREE AREA IN THE MEXICAN STATE OF SONORA

35. On the North Sonora borders on the US State of Arizona; on the West it adjoins the Gulf of California, on the East the free area of Chihuahua State, and on the South the free area of Sinaloa State and a narrow strip between the Sea of Cortés and the Western Sierra Madre. The State's climate is very dry and the temperatures are extreme; these conditions determine the State's desert-type vegetation.

36. The vegetation presents an obstacle to the spread of any fruit flies of the genus *Anastrepha* which may appear in Mexico, these flies having a typical tropical distribution pattern.

37. Sonora's native plant species are not considered to be fruit fly hosts. The vegetation is predominantly of the scrub and cactus type or pine woods at higher altitudes. The presence of fruit fly hosts such as citrus fruit trees and white sapota depends on the availability of irrigation. Thus, these host plants are to be found distributed among the farming valleys in the form of "ecological islands", and in inhabited areas, where there are isolated sweet orange, guava and white sapota trees.

38. The main highway is the Los Mochis – Hermosillo motorway and there is only one railway line, which enters the State at "Estación Don". These unique circumstances favour the application of quarantine controls for maintaining "Free Area" status.

VI. MEASURES WHICH MADE IT POSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH THE MEXICAN STATE OF BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR AS A FRUIT FLY-FREE AREA

(A) GENERAL

39. The State of Baja California Sur is situated on the Peninsula of Baja California, in the North-West of the Mexican Republic. It lies between 22° 52’ and 28° North and 109° 24’ and 115° 04’ West. It is bordered on the North by the State of Baja California, on the East by the Gulf of California, and on the South and West by the Pacific Ocean.

40. Some 85 per cent of the area of the State is flat, with few hills. The other 15 per cent includes a mountain chain almost parallel to the coast of the Gulf of California, covered by a series of forests. In the North of the State lies the Sierra de Santa Lucía, in the centre the Sierra de La Giganta, in the South-East the Sierra de La Laguna and the Sierra de La Trinidad, and in the South the Sierra de San Lázaro.

41. The territory of Baja California Sur is 82.8 per cent covered with vegetation, the remaining 17.2 per cent having no plant cover at all. In the South, low thorn woods and pine and ilex forests occupy 6.9 per cent of the area of the State. Moreover, in the North and centre there are areas with an arid zone ecosystem that account for 58.6 per cent of the State's territory. Finally, 6.5 per cent of the territory is covered by halophytic vegetation and 10.8 per cent is used for farming, livestock raising or human habitation.

(B) BACKGROUND AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

42. In 1992, following the signature of a Cooperation Agreement between the State Government, the State Plant Health Committee (CESVBCS), which represents the producers, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development (SAGAR), activities intended to show that there were no fruit flies in the State of Baja California Sur, or to eradicate them where necessary, were initiated.

43. On 26 July 1995, on the basis of action taken in the field and the continued corroboration of the absence of fruit flies through the operation of a trapping network, the Federal Government published in the Official Journal a resolution declaring the municipalities of Mulegé, Comundú and Loreto in the State of Baja California Sur free of fruit flies.

44. Accordingly, in July 1995 the Mexican Government asked the United States to recognize this area as fruit-fly free, but not until 20 January 1999, four years later, did the United States finally grant recognition of this status and publish it in the *Federal Register*.

45. On 26 February 1998, the Mexican Government published in the Official Journal a "Resolution declaring the municipalities of La Paz and Los Cabos free of fruit flies". The request for recognition was addressed to the United States Government on 26 February 1998, and recognition was obtained on 25 June 2003.

(C) PREVENTIVE MEASURES

46. Since 1976 a State trapping network has existed as a preventive measure against exotic fruit flies of the species *Ceratitis capitata, Bactrocera dorsalis* and *B. cucurbitae.* The aim of trapping is to detect in good time the possible presence of these species of fruit fly in the State.

47. The Baja California Sur fruit fly-free area is protected from possible reinfestation by means of internal check points, one in Guerrero Negro, in the North of the State and very near the border with Baja California, and others at the seaport of Pichilingue and the airports of La Paz and San José del Cabo.

(D) FACTORS FAVOURING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FRUIT FLY-FREE AREA IN THE MEXICAN STATE OF BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR

48. Baja California Sur has a dry and very extreme climate, with temperatures ranging from an annual minimum of -2.5°C to an annual maximum of 46.3°C and an average annual rainfall of 150 mm.

49. The prevailing environmental conditions make it difficult for fruit flies to become established and, moreover, most of the State is a natural desert. These characteristics also determine the type of vegetation, predominantly scrub and cactus. The plant species typical of Baja California Sur are not considered to be hosts to fruit flies.

50. Moreover, the distribution of introduced hosts such as citrus trees and mango is restricted to specific areas resembling "ecological islands", as well as by the availability of irrigation. Isolated sweet orange, mango, guava and white sapota trees are to be found in populated areas.

51. The State of Baja California Sur exists in natural geographical isolation. It is a peninsula surrounded by the Gulf of California and the Pacific Ocean. This makes fruit fly migration very difficult and facilitates the application of quarantine controls.

VII. MEASURES WHICH MADE IT POSSIBLE TO ESTABLISH THE MEXICAN STATE OF CHIHUAHUA AS A FRUIT FLY-FREE AREA

(A) GENERAL

52. The State of Chihuahua lies in the northern Mexican Republic between 25°34' and 31°47' North and 103°11' and 109°07' West; it has borders with the United States to the North, the Mexican States of Durango and Sinaloa to the South, the State of Sonora to the West, and the State of Coahuila to the East.

53. The State has mountains that rise for the most part to heights of 1,000 or 2,500 m above sea level. There are three natural regions: "Altiplano", "Western Sierra Madre" and "Desert Zone". The Altiplano (high plateau) is located in the centre of the State at altitudes that vary between 1,000 and 1,500 m. above sea level. This region is bordered on the West and South-West by the Western Sierra Madre and on the East by the Desert Zone. Its climate is generally classified as semi-arid with maximum temperatures of 41°C, minimum temperatures of 4°C and an annual average of 10°C. Annual rainfall averages 400 mm. The native vegetation of the region consists of xerophilous plants and shrubs of various sizes.

54. The Western Sierra Madre flanks almost the entire far west of the State along the border with Sonora, from North Sinaloa. The climate of this region is temperate sub-humid to semi-cold sub-humid, with an annual rainfall of more than 700 mm. The native vegetation prevailing in the high part of the Sierra is needle-leaf forest, with *Pinus, Cupressus, Juglans* and *Pseudotsuga,* together with tussock grasses at lower altitudes.

55. The Desert Zone extends across the North and East of the State, from the frontier with the United States all along the border with the State of Coahuila. The climate is very dry semi-hot and very dry temperate, with maximum temperatures of 44°C, minimum temperatures of –18°C and an annual average of 15°C. Annual rainfall averages 300 mm. The native plant species representative of this region are: cactus (*Pachycereus pringlei*), Creole palm (*Yuca macrocarpa*), lechuguilla (*Agave bovicornuta*), barrel cactus (*Ferocactus spp*), creosote bush (*Larrea tridentata*), prickly chaparral (*Condalia ovobata*) and peyote (*Astrophyton asterias*).

56. Most of the fruit-growing area lies in the foothills of the Western Sierra Madre and to a lesser extent in the Altiplano, at altitudes of from 1500 to 2000 m above sea level, with annual average maximum temperatures of 20°C in November and 25°C in April and annual average minimum temperatures of 3°C and 8°C in the same months, respectively. Apple and peach orchards produce cash crops, while apricots, quinces, plums and pears are grown on a semi-commercial or family basis.

(B) BACKGROUND AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

57. In 1991, the State's fruit growers, organized in a State Plant Health Committee (CESV), took steps to monitor fruit flies of the genus *Anastrepha*. That same year, with the establishment of the Anti-Fruit Fly Campaign by the Mexican Federal Government, the action was intensified and the producers received advice on how to achieve their objectives.

58. On the basis of the results obtained by the Campaign in Chihuahua, on 26 July 1995 the Mexican Government published in the Official Journal a "Resolution declaring the entire State a fruit fly-free area".

59. On 15 January 1996, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) was asked to recognize the State of Chihuahua as free of fruit fly (*Anastrepha ludens, A. obliqua, A. serpentina, A. fraterculus* and *Cerstitis capitata*). Recognition was granted by publication in the United States *Federal Register* on 20 January 1999.

(C) PREVENTIVE MEASURES

60. Since 1991, the State's commercial fruit tree areas have been carrying out seasonal (spring-summer) trapping, and since 1992 there has been winter trapping in the urban areas they include. In 1993, trapping was extended to two urban areas located outside the zones included in the commercial production areas: Chihuahua and Cd. Juárez. Later, in 1994, the remaining urban and fringe areas (semi-commercial and/or family orchards) were added.

61. Since 1993 there has been systematic sampling of host fruit in the State's markets and supply centres, and in 1994 internal check points were established in Cd. Jiménez and Villamatamoros.

(D) FACTORS FAVOURING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FRUIT FLY-FREE AREA IN THE MEXICAN STATE OF CHIHUAHUA

62. Thanks to the climatic and geographical conditions, the probability of fruit fly populations establishing themselves in the State of Chihuahua is very low. The native vegetation does not act as host to the pest, the only likely hosts being deciduous fruit trees grown commercially or semi-commercially and isolated fruit trees growing in back gardens.

VIII. BENEFITS FOR MEXICO FROM THE RECOGNITION OF FRUIT FLY-FREE AREAS

63. The benefits obtained from the recognition of fruit fly-free areas are reflected in exports of the products that host the pest, such as apples, apricots, grapefruit, oranges, peaches, plums, persimmons, pomegranates and mandarins from the free areas. Moreover, recognition has made it possible, in the Mexican States of Sonora and Baja California Sur, for the origin inspection programmes of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA-APHIS) to be transferred to the General Plant Health Directorate of the Mexican Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food.

Recognition of Fruit Fly-Free Areas by SAGARPA and USDA
(United States Department of Agriculture)

STATE	MUNICIPALITY	DATES				
		PUBLICATION IN OJ	**REQUEST TO UNITED STATES**	**DISPATCH OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**	**TECHNICAL INSPECTION APHIS-USDA**	**RECOGNITION BY UNITED STATES**
BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR	MULEGÉ COMUNDÚ AND LORETO	26 JULY 1995	25 JULY 1995 19 FEB. 1996	23 JUNE 1997	SEPTEMBER 1997	20 JANUARY 1999
	LA PAZ AND LOS CABOS	26 FEBRUARY	9 FEB. 1999	---	---	25 JUNE 2003
CHIHUAHUA	ENTIRE STATE	26 JULY 1995 26 FEB. 1998	15 JANUARY 1996	---	JULY 1994 APRIL 1996	20 JANUARY 1999
SONORA	ALTAR, ATIL, CABORCA, CARBO, EMPALME, GUAYMAS, HERMOSILLO, PITIQUITO, PLUTARCO ELÍAS CALLES, PUERTO PEÑASCO, SAN LUIS RÍO COLORADO AND SAN MIGUEL DE HORCASITAS	26 JULY 1995	FROM 1984 TO 1987, NEGOTIATIONS WERE CONDUCTED TO OBTAIN USDA RECOGNITION OF FREE AREAS. ON 8 JANUARY 1987, USDA PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER THE CHANGE IN THE ACT ENABLING THE UNITED STATES TO APPLY THIS CONCEPT IN ANY QUARANTINED COUNTRY.			30 MARCH 1988
	BACUM, BENITO JUÁREZ, CAJEME, ETCHOJOA, HUATABAMPO AND NAVOJOA	26 FEB. 1998	10 OCT. 1995	2 AUGUST 1996 8 NOV. 1996 16 APRIL 1997 16 APRIL 1998	---	20 JANUARY 1999
SINALOA	AHOME, CHOIX, EL FUERTE, GUASAVE AND SINALOA DE LEYVA	17 APRIL 2001	6 NOV. 2001	4 DEC. 2001	---	25 JUNE 2003

Recognition of Fruit Fly-Free Areas by SAGARPA

STATE	MUNICIPALITY	PUBLICATION IN OJ
BAJA CALIFORNIA	ENTIRE STATE	26 FEBRUARY 1998
COAHUILA	ENTIRE STATE	26 FEBRUARY 1998
DURANGO	CANATLÁN, CONETO DE COMONFORT, CUENCAMÉ, DURANGO, GENERAL SIMÓN BOLÍVAR, GÓMEZ PALACIO, GUADALUPE VICTORIA, GUANACEVÍ, HIDALGO, INDÉ, LERDO, MAPIMÍ, NAZAS, NOMBRE DE DIOS, OCAMPO, EL ORO, PÁNUCO DE CORONADO, PEÑÓN BLANCO, POANAS, RODEO, SAN BERNARDO, SAN JUAN DE GUADALUPE, SAN JUAN DEL RÍO, SAN LUIS DEL CORDERO, SAN PEDRO DEL GALLO, SANTA CLARA, SANTIAGO PAPASQUIARO, SÚCHIL, TEPEHUANES, TLAHUALILO, VICENTE GUERRERO AND NUEVO IDEAL	26 JANUARY 2004
SINALOA	ANGOSTURA, BADIRAGUATO, CULIACÁN, ELOTA, MOCORITO, NAVOLATO AND SALVADOR ALVARADO	24 AUGUST 2005

AREAS

RECOGNIZED FREE BY SAGARPA

RECOGNIZED FREE BY USDA

IN PROCESS OF ERADICATION

Recognition of Fruit Fly-Free Areas by MAF
(New Zealand Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry)

STATE	MUNICIPALITY	DATE			
		PUBLICATION IN OJ	REQUEST TO NEW ZEALAND	MAF TECHNICAL INSPECTION	RECOGNITION BY NEW ZEALAND
BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR	MULEGÉ COMUNDÚ AND LORETO	26 JULY 1995	18 SEPTEMBER 1996		
CHIHUAHUA	CUAUHTEMOC, GUERRERO, NAMIQUIPA AND NUEVO CASAS GRANDES	26 JULY 1995 26 FEBRUARY 1998	18 SEPTEMBER 1996		
SINALOA	AHOME, CHOIX, EL FUERTE, GUASAVE AND SINALOA DE LEYVA	17 APRIL 2001		14-15 JULY 2005	24 AUGUST 2005
SONORA	ALTAR, CABORCA, EMPALME, GUAYMAS, HERMOSILLO, PITIQUITO, PUERTO PEÑASCO, SAN LUIS RÍO COLORADO	26 JULY 1995	18 SEPTEMBER 1996		


AREAS
RECOGNIZED FREE BY SAGARPA
RECOGNIZED FREE BY MAF
IN PROCESS OF ERADICATION

Recognition of Fruit Fly-Free Areas by SAGARPA and DAFF
(Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry)

STATE	MUNICIPALITY	DATES			
		PUBLICATION IN OJ	REQUEST TO AUSTRALIA	DAFF TECHNICAL INSPECTION	RECOGNITION BY AUSTRALIA
BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR	ENTIRE STATE	26 JULY1995	9 DECEMBER 2003	24 JUNE 2004	20 OCTOBER 2004
CHIHUAHUA	ENTIRE STATE	26 JULY 1995 26 FEBRUARY 1998	1999	---	04 JULY 2003
SINALOA	AHOME, CHOIX, EL FUERTE, GUASAVE AND SINALOA DE LEYVA	17 APRIL 2001	9 DECEMBER 2003	23 JUNE 2004	20 OCTOBER 2004
SONORA	ENTIRE STATE	26 JULY 1995	1999	---	04 JULY 2003

AREAS

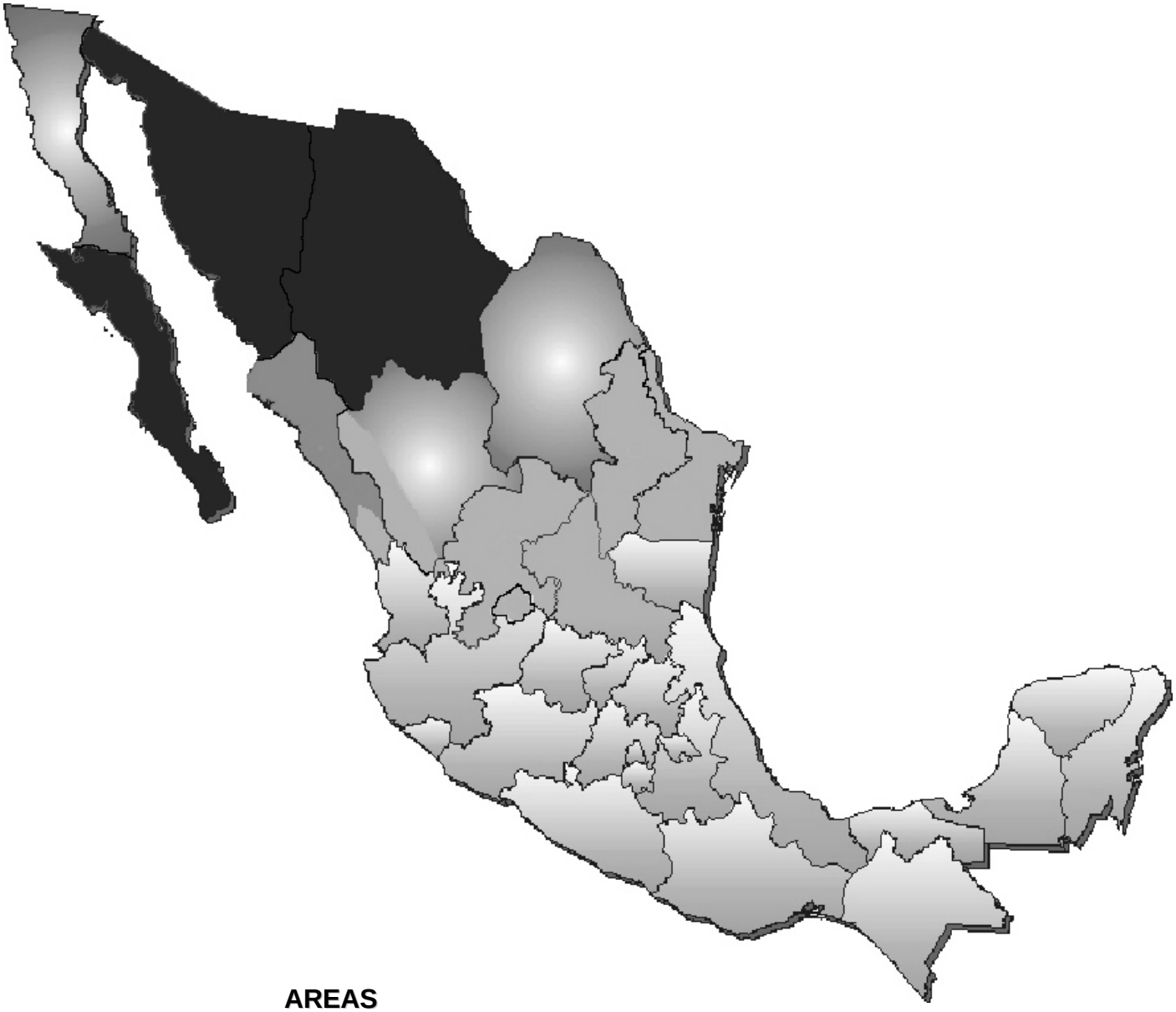
RECOGNIZED FREE BY SAGARPA

RECOGNIZED FREE BY DAFF

IN PROCESS OF ERADICATION

Recognition of Fruit Fly-Free Areas by SAGARPA and the Directorate General for Health and Consumer Protection of the European Economic Community

STATE	MUNICIPALITY	DATES	
		PUBLICATION IN OJ	RECOGNITION BY EEC
BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR	ENTIRE STATE	26 JULY 1995	28 JANUARY 2002
CHIHUAHUA	ENTIRE STATE	26 JULY 1995 26 FEBRUARY 1998	28 JANUARY 2002
SONORA	ENTIRE STATE	26 JULY 1995	28 JANUARY 2002



AREAS

RECOGNIZED FREE BY SAGARPA

RECOGNIZED FREE BY THE EEC

IN PROCESS OF ERADICATION