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Page: 1/1

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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

COMMUNICATION FROM COSTA RICA

The following communication, dated 27 April 2016, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of <u>Costa Rica</u>.

1. The Government of Costa Rica hereby advises that the State Phytosanitary Service has adopted a new format for phytosanitary certificates, with a view to complying with higher security standards and ensuring authenticity.

2. The "System for the Verification of Export Certificates – Costa Rica" and a sample of the new phytosanitary certificate format can be viewed at: http://www.sfe.go.cr, in the section "Consultas en línea" (Consult online documents), "Consulta de Certificados Fitosanitarios" (Consult Phytosanitary Certificates), "Descargue una muestra" (Download sample).

3. The dates for the implementation of the new phytosanitary certificate are as follows:

- 25 April 2016 at the exit points Peñas Blancas and Paso Canoas;
- 2 May 2016 at the exit point Puerto Caldera;
- 9 May 2016 at the exit point Puerto Limón; and
- 16 May 2016 at the exit points Juan Santamaría International Airport and Daniel Oduber International Airport.

4. For a certain period of time, both the previous and new phytosanitary certificate formats will be in circulation, as some are being processed and are in transit to destination countries.