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Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE

COMMUNICATION FROM COSTA RICA

Addendum

The following communication, dated 2 September 2016, is being circulated at the request of the delegation of Costa Rica.

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1. The Government of Costa Rica hereby advises that the State Phytosanitary Service has adopted a new phytosanitary certificate with a view to complying with higher security standards and ensuring its authenticity. Clarifications regarding the interpretation of this certificate are provided below.
 2. Box 12 of the phytosanitary certificate contains the word "impresión" ["printing"] after the word "fecha" ["date"]. This means that the box will always show the date of printing of the phytosanitary certificate, as stipulated by International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) No. 12, which states: "*Although sections of the phytosanitary certificate for export may be completed in advance, the date stated should be the date of issuance*".
 3. In addition, in Costa Rica, based on the stipulation in ISPM No. 12 that "*[t]he phytosanitary certificate for export shall be signed only after it is duly completed*", in some cases the date of printing may be later than the date on which the goods exited the country, since the information is compiled by an online system that gathers the data from the different stages in the export process and the phytosanitary certificate is printed when the information has been compiled and confirmed, at a date subsequent to that on which the shipment was exported.
 4. As from 12 September 2016, phytosanitary certificates issued by Costa Rica have no stamp other than the institutional symbol or logo which is already printed on the certificate and which is situated to the right of box 13.
 5. Accordingly, from that date, phytosanitary certificates issued by the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of Costa Rica no longer include the stamp with the name of the inspector or stamps bearing the name or logo of the State Phytosanitary Service. The stamp printed on the phytosanitary certificate is the official mark of Costa Rica's NPPO.
 6. Guidance on the authenticity of phytosanitary certificates may be obtained at: http://app.sfe.go.cr/Certificado/frm_principal.aspx.
 7. A comparative table is attached, showing the previous and new formats of the phytosanitary certificate.

**COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING CHANGES TO THE
PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE OF COSTA RICA**

Current phytosanitary certificate	New phytosanitary certificate	Changes
Top left of the certificate: Costa Rican flag printed on top left of the certificate in the colours red, blue and white.	Top left of the certificate: National emblem of Costa Rica printed on top left of the certificate.	Top left of the certificate: Costa Rican flag, printed in colour, replaced by the national emblem of Costa Rica, printed in black and white.
Top centre of the certificate has the following wording: República de Costa Rica Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería (MAG) Servicio Fitosanitario del Estado Certificado Fitosanitario [Republic of Costa Rica Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG) State Phytosanitary Service Phytosanitary Certificate]	Top centre of the certificate has the following wording: República de Costa Rica Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería Servicio Fitosanitario del Estado Certificado Fitosanitario [Republic of Costa Rica Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock State Phytosanitary Service Phytosanitary Certificate]	Top centre of the certificate has the following wording: The following term is deleted: (MAG). When the certificate is used for re-exportation purposes, the words "Certificado Fitosanitario de Reexportación" ["Phytosanitary Certificate for Re-Export"] are added.
Top right of the certificate: National emblem of Costa Rica printed as a hologram Número de Certificado [Certificate No.] 01.08.F01	Top right of the certificate: Página ____ de ____ Número de Certificado [Page __ of __ Certificate No.]	Top right of the certificate: The hologram of the national emblem of Costa Rica has been removed and the page number is given with the certificate's total pages. The certificate number is provided: currently the certificate numbers are in the region of 2,000,000; the new numbering will start at 6,000,000. In all cases, the certificate number will be preceded by a hyphen and followed by a number, which will make it easier to track issued certificates.
1° Nombre y dirección declarada del exportador [Declared name and address of exporter]	1° Nombre y dirección del exportador [Name and address of exporter]	The word "declarada" ["declared"] is removed.
2° Nombre y dirección declarada del importador o destinatario [Declared name and address of importer or consignee]	2° Nombre y dirección declarada del importador o destinatario [Declared name and address of importer or consignee]	None.
3° A la Organización de Protección Fitosanitaria de [To Plant Protection Organization of]	3° A la Organización de Protección Fitosanitaria de [To Plant Protection Organization of]	None.
4° Lugar de origen [Place of origin]	4° Lugar de origen [Place of origin]	None.
5° Punto de entrada declarado [Declared point of entry]	5° Punto de entrada declarado [Declared point of entry]	None.

Current phytosanitary certificate	New phytosanitary certificate	Changes
<p>6° Medio de transporte, transportista y punto de salida declarado [Declared means of conveyance and declared point of exit]</p>	<p>6° Medio de transporte, transportista y punto de salida declarado [Declared means of conveyance and declared point of exit]</p>	None.
<p>7° Número y descripción de los bultos, cajas, nombre botánico de las plantas o del producto vegetal [Number and description of the packages, boxes, botanical name of the plants or plant products]</p>	<p>7° Nombre botánico, número de bultos, cajas o número de contenedores y peso total del envío en kilogramos de los artículos reglamentados [Botanical name, number of packages, boxes or number of containers and total weight in kilograms of the regulated articles]</p>	Botanical name now comes first, followed by the number of packages or boxes; the number of containers making up the shipment is included and the total weight of the shipment in kilograms. The words "plantas o del producto vegetal" ["plants or plant products"] are deleted and replaced with "artículos reglamentados" ["regulated articles"].
<p>8° Cantidad total declarada de las plantas o del producto vegetal [Total declared quantity of plants or plant products]</p>	8° Deleted	Box 8 is removed since its content is now covered by box 7.
<p>9° Por la presente se certifica que las plantas, productos vegetales u otros artículos reglamentados aquí descritos, se han inspeccionado y/o sometido a ensayo de acuerdo con los procedimientos oficiales adecuados y se considera que están libres de plagas cuarentenarias y cumplen con los requisitos fitosanitarios vigentes especificados por la parte contratante importadora, incluido lo relativo a las plagas no cuarentenarias reglamentadas y se considera que están sustancialmente libres de otras plagas.</p>	<p>8° Por la presente se certifica que las plantas, productos vegetales u otros artículos reglamentados descritos aquí se han inspeccionado y/o sometido a prueba de acuerdo con los procedimientos oficiales adecuados y se considera que están libres de las plagas cuarentenarias especificadas por la parte contratante importadora y que cumplen los requisitos fitosanitarios vigentes de la parte contratante importadora, incluidos los relativos a las plagas no cuarentenarias reglamentadas y se considera que están sustancialmente libres de otras plagas.</p>	Number 9 changed to 8 and some words changed in the Spanish and in the English.

Current phytosanitary certificate	New phytosanitary certificate	Changes
[This is to certify that the plants, plant products or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from quarantine pests and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements specified by the importing contracting party, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests, and they are deemed to be practically free from other pests.]	[This is to certify that the plants, plant products or other regulated articles described herein have been inspected and/or tested according to appropriate official procedures and are considered to be free from the quarantine pests specified by the importing contracting party and to conform with the current phytosanitary requirements of the importing contracting party, including those for regulated non-quarantine pests, and they are deemed to be practically free from other pests.]	
10° Declaración adicional [Additional declaration]	9° Declaración adicional [Additional declaration]	Number 10 changed to 9.
11° Tratamiento de desinfección y/o desinfestación [Disinfestation and/or disinfection treatment]	10° Tratamiento de desinfección y/o desinfestación [Disinfestation and/or disinfection treatment]	Number 11 changed to 10.
Fecha [Date]	Fecha [Date]	
Tratamiento [Treatment]	Tratamiento [Treatment]	
Producto químico (Ingrediente activo) [Chemical (active ingredient)]	Producto químico (Ingrediente activo) [Chemical (active ingredient)]	
Concentración [Concentration]	Concentración [Concentration]	
Duración y temperatura [Duration and temperature]	Duración y temperatura [Duration and temperature]	
Responsable [Officer responsible]	Responsable [Officer responsible]	
12° Lugar de expedición [Place of issue]	11° Lugar de expedición [Place of issue]	Number 12 changed to 11.
13° Fecha de inspección [Date of inspection]	12° Fecha de impresión [Date of printing]	Number 13 changed to 12. The word "inspección" ["inspection"] is deleted and replaced with "impresión" ["printing"].
14° Nombre y firma del funcionario autorizado [Name and signature of authorized officer]	13° Nombre y firma del inspector [Name and signature of inspector]	Number 14 changed to 13 and the words "funcionario autorizado" ["authorized officer"] replaced with "inspector" ["inspector"].

Current phytosanitary certificate	New phytosanitary certificate	Changes
Sello de la Organización [Stamp of Organization]	Sello de la Organización [Stamp of Organization]	Logo of the State Phytosanitary Service printed on the form, in black and grey.
<p>Bottom of the certificate, at the foot of the page: El Servicio Fitosanitario del Estado del MAG de Costa Rica, sus funcionarios y representantes, declinan toda responsabilidad civil, por daños y perjuicios resultantes de al uso que se le dé a este certificado. [No civil liability for damage or injury arising from the use of this certificate shall attach to the State Phytosanitary Service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Costa Rica or to its officers or representatives]</p>	<p>Bottom of the certificate, at the foot of the page: El Servicio Fitosanitario del Estado del Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería de Costa Rica, sus funcionarios y representantes, declinan toda responsabilidad civil, por daños y perjuicios resultantes del mal uso que se le dé a este Certificado. Para consulta sobre la emisión del presente Certificado Fitosanitario, deberá ingresar a la dirección http://www.sfe.go.cr/SitePages/ConsultasenLinea.aspx [No civil liability for damage or injury arising from the misuse of this Certificate shall attach to the State Phytosanitary Service of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock of Costa Rica or to its officers or representatives. Guidance on the issuance of this Phytosanitary Certificate is available at: http://www.sfe.go.cr/SitePages/ConsultasenLinea.aspx]</p>	<p>Bottom of the certificate, at the foot of the page: The letters MAG are deleted, and a web address provided for consultations to verify the authenticity of phytosanitary certificates.</p>
<p>Bottom left corner: Número de Certificado [Certificate No.]</p>	<p>Bottom left corner: Número de Certificado [Certificate No.]</p>	<p>Change in numbering from around 2,000,000, the current range, to 6,000,000, from which the new numbering will start. The number will be followed by a hyphen and another consecutive number.</p>
<p>Following page printed verso with security watermarks Original white, first copy pale blue, third copy pink.</p>	<p>Separate page on white bond paper. Original and copies on separate sheets of bond paper. Certificate printed only in black and white.</p>	<p>Separate page on white bond paper. Original and copies printed on the same paper.</p>
	<p>Following pages printed verso and on separate sheets in accordance with the need for more space; total number of pages indicated with the page number.</p>	

Current phytosanitary certificate	New phytosanitary certificate	Changes
	All pages have the same headers and footers as the first page, the same certificate number and a page number also indicating the total number of pages that make up the Certificate.	
	Certificate boxes expand if more space is needed and will carry over to successive pages.	
