

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/MEX/134

4 August 1998

(98-3066)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>MEXICO</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development
3.	Products covered (tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Sorghum
4.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Mexican (Emergency) Official Standard NOM-EM-030-FITO-1998, Establishing Phytosanitary Certification of Sorghum Seed to Prevent Dissemination (5 pages)
5.	Description of content: This Mexican Emergency Official Standard is designed to prevent the spread of sclerosis and spores of sorghum ergot by establishing phytosanitary measures and regulations for the production, marketing, inspection and phytosanitary certification of sorghum seed and it is applicable to seed used for sowing. Following the issue of the "Agreement activating the National Emergency Mechanism under the terms of Article 46 of the Federal Plant Health Law, for the purpose of diagnosing, preventing, controlling and eradicating sorghum ergot", published in the Official Journal of the Federation of 7 April 1997, urgent regulation is required of national movement of sorghum seed and imports thereof.
6.	Objective and rationale: Plant protection
7.	Nature of the urgent problem(s): Sorghum ergot caused by the <i>Sphacelia sorghi</i> fungus, the asexual phase of <i>Claviceps sp.</i> , is a pest of financial concern to our country and was detected on 4 February 1997 in an isolated case in the Municipality of San Fernando and in the El Mante and Altamira estates, Tamaulipas; Ebano San Luis Potosí and Pánuco, Veracruz. Since the disease has been detected and has spread to certain areas of our country, it is appropriate to regulate movement of sorghum seed to reduce risks of the disease spreading and becoming endemic, particularly in the asexual phase of the fungus causing sorghum ergot.
8.	An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist []. If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, whenever possible, identify deviations:

9.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: Official Journal of the Federation, 20 July 1998 (Spanish)
10.	Date of entry into force/period of application (as applicable): On the day following publication (21 July 1998), in force for six months from publication.
11.	Texts available from/and agency or authority designated to handle comments: National enquiry point [X] or address, telefax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: