

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/MEX/173

11 September 2001

(01-4275)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

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, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food
3.	Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable). Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: Citrus
4.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Emergency Mexican Official Standard NOM-EM-036-FITO-2000, Phytosanitary Specifications and Requirements for the Production and Transportation of Propagative Material Free from Citrus Quick Decline (Tristeza) Disease and Other Viruses Affecting Citrus (14 pages).
5.	Description of content: This Emergency Mexican Official Standard establishes phytosanitary regulations for the production and transportation of propagative material free from this and other viruses affecting citrus. The provisions of the Standard apply to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Citrus propagative material: plants, root stocks or stocks, seeds, twigs, shoots and <i>in vitro</i> material;(b) sites of citrus production: orchards, nurseries, germplasm banks, biotechnology laboratories, foundation-seed sites, seed-producing orchards, sites producing virus-free shoots and laboratories for tissue cultivation;(c) means of transport: containers and vehicles;(d) commercial facilities: stores selling ornamental and garden plants and travelling vendors;(e) other, as determined by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food.
6.	Objective and rationale: <input type="checkbox"/> food safety, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> plant protection, <input type="checkbox"/> protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, <input type="checkbox"/> protect territory from other damage from pests

- 7. Nature of the urgent problem(s):** Citrus farming is an extremely important activity within the national fruit farming sector, through the support it provides for the Mexican economy as a source of foreign exchange and employment for a large proportion of the population in growing, picking, packing, marketing and processing activities.

Among the phytosanitary problems which affect citrus, viral diseases constitute a serious threat to Mexican citrus farming, because of their capacity to gradually lower the quality and yield of fruit and cause the death of trees within a short space of time. The presence of this type of phytosanitary problem usually leads to trade restrictions on propagative material.

The introduction, establishment and spread of diseases caused by viruses in the various citrus-producing areas of the country would lead to considerable losses in citrus fruit production.

The phytosanitary quality of citrus propagative material plays a decisive role in the health of crops during the various phenological stages. Consequently, the implementation of a registration and certification programme for citrus is required with a view to supporting and encouraging the production and use of virus-free propagative material.

Only through a joint effort involving the participation of producers, nursery owners, carriers, traders, the federal, State and municipal authorities and the general population, can the effective phytosanitary control of viral diseases be carried out, thereby preventing the spread and establishment of such diseases in citrus-growing areas throughout the national territory.

- 8. An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist [X].**
If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give its appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:

- 9. Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:** Diario Oficial de la Federación (Official Journal), 17 August 2001 (available in Spanish).

- 10. Date of entry into force/period of application (as applicable):** On the day following publication in the Official Journal (18 August 2001), valid for six months.

- 11. Texts available from/and agency or authority designated to handle comments:**
 [X] National notification authority, [] National enquiry point or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:

Website: www.economia.gob.mx/normas (Standards catalogue)