

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/USA/277

17 May 2000

(00-2015)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: English

## NOTIFICATION

1.	<b>Member to Agreement notifying:</b> <u>UNITED STATES</u> <b>If applicable, name of local government involved:</b>
2.	<b>Agency responsible:</b> Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - APHIS
3.	<b>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:</b> Avocado
4.	<b>Title and number of pages of the notified document:</b> Mexican Hass Avocado Import Programme (2 pages)
5.	<b>Description of content:</b> The Government of Mexico has requested that the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service consider amending its regulations regarding the importation of Hass avocado fruit from Mexico to expand the number of States in which the fruit may be distributed and to increase the length of the shipping season during which Hass avocados may be imported into the United States. In this notice, we are asking the public for its comments and recommendations regarding the scope of our review and are soliciting any additional data or information that may have a bearing on our review of the Mexican Government's request. We will use any information gathered through this notice as we consider the Mexican Government's request that we expand the length of the shipping season during which, and the number of approved States into which, Mexican Hass avocados may be imported into the United States.
6.	<b>Objective and rationale:</b> <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.	<b>An international standard, guideline or recommendation does not exist</b> <input type="checkbox"/> . <b>If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:</b> APHIS is considering taking this action in accordance with Article 6, Paragraph 1 of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).
8.	<b>Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available:</b> 65 FR 30365, 11 May 2000 (Available in English)
9.	<b>Proposed date of adoption:</b> To be determined.
10.	<b>Proposed date of entry into force:</b> To be determined.

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| <p><b>11. Final date for comments:</b> 9 August 2000</p> <p><b>Agency or authority designated to handle comments:</b> Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service [ ] <b>National notification authority,</b> [ ] <b>National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</b> Detailed instruction on where and how to send comments is in the body of the full text - which will be sent upon request to the address in paragraph 12.</p>                                       |
| <p><b>12. Texts available from:</b> [ X ] <b>National notification authority,</b> [ X ] <b>National enquiry point or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:</b></p> <p>United States SPS Enquiry Point/Notification Authority<br/>USDA/FAS/FSTSD<br/>Attn: Carolyn F. Wilson<br/>Room 5545 South Agriculture Building<br/>Stop 1027<br/>1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.<br/>Washington, D.C. 20250<br/>Phone (202) 720-2239<br/>Fax (202) 690-0677<br/>E-mail Address: ofsts@fas.usda.gov</p> |