

## Sanitary and Phytosanitary Certificates

The Mexican *Secretaría de Agricultura Ganadería y Desarrollo Rural* (SAGAR), Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development, requires sanitary or phytosanitary certificates for a wide variety of unprocessed animal and plant products. This includes virtually all edible products, including milk and eggs. Exporters will need assistance from the importer and/or a customs broker to determine the specific requirements for each product. Arrangements should be made at least three months in advance of shipping.

New certificates must be obtained for each lot. They must demonstrate that the product has been approved for human consumption and complies with all health regulations. Usually it is sufficient to demonstrate that the product is approved for human consumption in Canada, and many of the certificates are available through Canadian government agencies. They do not normally have to be legalized.

Canadian Health Certificates Acceptable in Mexico			
Product	Department	Description	Form #
Meat	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	certificate of inspection covering meat products	AGR 1454 (80/01)
Fish	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	certificate of origin and hygiene	FP-1404 (11/91)
		certificate of inspection (for fish from contaminated waters)	FP-1408 (04/80)
Agricultural Products	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada	health certificate	various
Processed Foods	Health Canada	manufacturer's certificate for export of food and drug products	1002 (2/72)

## Emergency Regulations for Meat and Christmas Trees

Meat products and Christmas trees are both subject to emergency *NOMs* that were issued in late 1994. These were temporary six-month regulations, that expired in 1995, and were extended until such time as more formal regulations could be put in place. Exporters should assume that these regulations are in effect unless the importer advises otherwise.

Meat products are subject to NOM-EM-003-ZOO-1994. Under this regulation, all imported meats are subjected to an inspection at the border. Samples will be taken for lab tests, but the shipment will be allowed to enter the country without waiting for test results. Meat products can enter Mexico only through ten designated ports of entry.

Christmas trees are covered by NOM-EM-012-SARH3-1994, which was issued January 4, 1995. They must have a phytosanitary certificate issued by Canadian agriculture authorities. The certificate must indicate their place of origin including province and country, the plantation's