

SECRETARIAT OF AGRICULTURE'S SANITARY IMPORT AUTHORIZATION

Products requiring prior sanitary authorization by the *Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería y Desarrollo Rural (SAGAR)*, Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock and Rural Development, include a variety of unprocessed plant or animal products. SAGAR uses separate application forms for import authorizations for live animals and animal products. In addition to product descriptions, the forms require a specification of the intended use of the product. The authorization received from SAGAR will specify requirements for health and sanitation certificates as well as any restrictions.

The SAGAR sanitary import authorizations for animal products do not restrict quantities, and the application can cover any number of shipments on different dates, but they are valid for only one port of entry. The original of the permit is sent to the Mexican customs broker. Each time a shipment enters Mexico, the broker produces the authorization and the amount is deducted from the total on the permit. If shipments are to travel by different routes, each customs house involved must be provided with a separate authorization.

LABELLING

Mexican food labelling laws are presently in the process of change. There is one regulation covering all products and another which imposes additional requirements on food and beverage products. Both regulations are expected to be strengthened in 1995, according to draft regulations that were published for "public consultation" in June of 1994.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR SPANISH LABELS (ALL CONSUMER PRODUCTS)

Name of the product or good (including a product description, if not described in the name of the product or good).

Name or trade name and address of the importer (this information may be displayed on a separate label and may be added after importation).

Country of origin of the product.

Net contents in accordance with *Normas Oficiales Mexicanas (NOMs)*, official Mexican standards, NOM 030-SCFI-1993.

Warnings or precautions in the case of dangerous products.

Instructions for use, handling and/or preservation of the product.

Source: Government of Canada translation of Article Five of the March 7, 1994 Decree, as amended by letters of clarification from the *Secretaría de Comercio y Fomento Industrial (SECOFI)*, Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development.