

NOTIFICATION

<p>1. Member of the Agreement giving notification: <u>MEXICO</u> Name of local government, if appropriate:</p>
<p>2. Organization responsible: Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources <i>(acronym in Spanish SEMARNAT)</i></p>
<p>3. Products included (tariff item number as specified in the national lists deposited with the WTO; the ICS number should be indicated as well, when appropriate); fresh Christmas trees of the species of the genus <i>Pinus and Abies</i> and the species <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>.</p>
<p>4. Regions or countries that may be affected as far as may be pertinent or feasible: Any person or company in the business of importation, whether for commercial purposes or not, of fresh Christmas trees of the species of the genus <i>Pinus and Abies</i> and the species <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>.</p>
<p>5. Title, language and number of pages of the notifying document: Project for modifying the Official Mexican Standards NOM-013-RECNAT-1997, "That regulates the health of fresh imported Christmas trees of the species <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>, <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> and the genus <i>Abies</i>," published in the Official Gazette of September 28, 1998, now NOM-013-SEMARNAT-2004, reading as follows: "That regulates the health of fresh imported Christmas trees of the species of the genus <i>Pinus and Abies</i>, and the species <i>pseudotsuga menziesii</i>" (23 pages, available in Spanish).</p>
<p>6. Description of content: The Official Mexican Standard dealt with here will be modified to incorporate the procedure for sampling and the decisive rules for the <i>Cylindrocopturus frunci</i> blight and the <i>Phytophthora ramorum</i> pathogen; also the modification alluded to will broaden the application of the Standard to include all the species of the genus <i>Pinus</i> and fresh Christmas trees in pots as well, which will diminish the risk of the introduction of pests or blights new to the area, taking into consideration that:</p> <p>a) A high risk of the introduction of such pests or blights and illnesses to the national territory is implicit in the importation of Christmas trees of the mentioned species, due to their natural foliage.</p> <p>b) The <i>Lymantria dispar</i> and <i>Tomicus piniperda</i> blights exist in the US and Canada.</p> <p>c) On an average, each year approximately 800,000 fresh Christmas trees are imported of the species of the genus <i>Pinus</i> and <i>Abies</i> and the species <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>.</p>
<p>7. Objective and rationale: <input type="checkbox"/> food born illness, <input type="checkbox"/> animal health, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> plant preservation, <input type="checkbox"/> protection of human health against animal or plant borne illnesses, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> protection against damage caused by the entry or spread of pests or blights.</p>
<p>8. International standard, guideline or recommendation:</p>

of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, of the World Animal Health Organization (*Spanish acronym OIE*), of the International Convention for Phytosanitary Protection, None

If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and describe briefly how it deviates from the international standard, guideline or recommendation:

9.Pertinent documents and the languages they are available in: The Official Gazette of June 21, 2004, (available in Spanish)

10.Proposed date of adoption: To be determined

11.Proposed effective date: The present modification will take effect the day following its publication in final form in the Official Gazette.

12.Deadline for the presentation of observations: August 20, 2004

Agency or authority in charge of handling the observations: National agency charged with notification, National information service or address, fax number and e-mail address (if there is one) of another institution:

13.Text available from: National agency charged with notification, National information service or address, fax number and e-mail address (if there is one) of another institution:

WEB: www.economia.gob.mx?P=85 (Catalog of Standards)

E-mail: cidgn@economia.gob.mx