



IPPC Webinar: Mexico Case Study

Challenges, experiences and best practices in the authorization process for entities to undertake phytosanitary actions in Mexico

(Submitted by Mexican NPPO in 2020 to be presented at the CPM Side session)

- **Successes and / or challenges**

Mexico has regulations for the authorization and approval of coadjuvant bodies to assist the NPPO to verify and certify that products of agricultural origin comply with the phytosanitary and safety requirements and specifications in the applicable legal provisions, which is carried out through of conformity assessment,

The applicable regulations for the authorization of coadjuvant bodies are indicated, as follows:

- Federal Law on Plant Health.
- Regulation of the Federal Law on Plant Health
- Metrology and standardization law.
- Internal regulations of Senasica
- AGREEMENT that establishes the requirements and specifications for the approval of coadjuvant bodies in the evaluation of the conformity of the legal provisions that are the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food through the National Health Service , Food Safety and Quality.

As a case of success, there are general criteria and requirements for the authorization process.

There is a computer system that manages the authorization, follow-up and supervision process of these coadjuvant bodies.

Through computer systems, the activities they carry out are monitored in real time.

Among the challenges, we identify that these bodies conduct themselves with principles of competence, reliability, and impartiality.

- **Solutions**

Constantly evaluate the risks that could make the system weak, implement actions and systems to strengthen the authorization scheme, systematization of information delivery processes and supervision.

- **Expected results**

I. Competence: being able to have the knowledge, technical capacity and tools to carry out the activities for which approval has been granted.

II. Reliability: That the activities carried out, such as certification and issuance of estimations and reports of results, guarantee the verification and due compliance with the legal provisions applicable to the conformity assessment scheme for which it has been approved

III. Confidentiality: That the information collected as part of its conformity assessment activities, be handled only for the provision of the requested services and surveillance activities.

IV. Efficiency in the service: That the services provided meet the criteria of objectivity and rationality and guarantee the correct application of the legal provisions applicable to the conformity assessment scheme for which it has been approved;

V. Impartiality: The conformity assessment must be carried out objectively, without being influenced by prejudices or interests of any kind;

VI. Policy regarding conformity assessment: That the acts carried out in the verification, certification, tests or verification, as appropriate, are in accordance with the guidelines, strategies, guidelines and other provisions issued by SENASICA;

VII. Professionalism and Training: It is required to have knowledge of the provisions governing the evaluation of conformity and adhering to them without their compliance being subject to criteria or opinions of any kind or that their ignorance is justification for their non-compliance, Therefore, the existence of a high degree of professionalism and permanent training is essential;

VIII. Of transparency and consistency. That the conformity assessment is documented and recorded in the formats established based on its quality management system, including the endorsements and supporting documents for each service, its non-compliance will be considered as a fraudulent act. All personnel responsible for the performance of the conformity assessment services must immediately notify any failure or non-compliance with this provision, otherwise it constitutes an act of concealment;

IX. Ethics, Honesty and Legality. The operations, acts and contracts carried out must be executed in accordance with the applicable legal provisions and procedures, which ensure the correct organization, integration, efficiency and transparency, generating an image of trust and quality in the provision of the service. Managers and personnel assigned to the coadjuvant body must refrain from carrying out by themselves or inducing third parties to carry out any action or omission that prevents

them from efficiently complying with the conformity assessment or that may harm their peers or the public's trust in general.