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Voluntary Public

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Mexico

Post: Monterrey ATO

Holiday Hours of Mexican Agricultural Inspection Offices

Report Categories:

Exporter Guide

FAIRS Subject Report

Trade Policy Monitoring

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Report Highlights:

U.S. exporters should take in consideration that during the Christmas and New Year holidays (December 24, 25, 31, 2010 and January 1, 2011) the Mexican Agricultural Animal & Plant Inspection Offices (Spanish: *Oficinas de Inspección de Sanidad Agropecuaria*, or OISAs) will modify their working hours. Operations will remain normal for the rest of the office days between Christmas and New Year.

General Information:

Disclaimer: This report was prepared by the Agricultural Trade Office of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Monterrey, Mexico for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While every possible care was taken in the preparation of this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. It is highly recommended that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers, who are normally best equipped to research such matters with local authorities, before any goods are shipped. Final import approval of any product is subject to the importing country's rules and regulations as interpreted by border officials at the time of product entry.

General Information:

U.S. exporters should take in consideration that during the Christmas and New Year holidays (December 24, 25, 31, 2010 and January 1, 2011) the Mexican Agricultural Animal & Plant Inspection Offices (Spanish: *Oficinas de Inspección de Sanidad Agropecuaria*, or OISAs) will modify their working hours. Operations will remain normal for the rest of the office days between Christmas and New Year.

According to our contacts in the National Service of Agri-Food Health, Safety & Quality (Spanish: *Servicio Nacional de Sanidad, Inocuidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria*, or SENASICA), the OISA's schedule is defined by the Mexican Customs Authority at the port of entry that the OISA serves; therefore, there is no synchronized schedule for OISAs throughout the country and OISA officials must wait until the Customs Authority issues the operating hours for any given holiday, which could happen days or even hours before the holiday.

In order to avoid bottlenecks, delays or more serious trade disruptions, we contacted the border OISAs to request their holiday schedules. Although the information was provided directly by the OISA staff, we strongly suggest that exporters intending to cross product during the Christmas-New Year holidays contact local Mexican customs brokers and clients to confirm operating hours at the border.

Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas

Office and inspection hours:

December 24	09:00 to 14:00
December 25	Closed
December 31	09:00 to 14:00
January 1, 2011	Closed

Rail inspection – (Estacion Sanchez)

December 24	Operations end at 14:00
December 25	Closed
December 31	Operations end at 14:00
January 1, 2011	Closed

Reynosa, Tamaulipas

Office and inspection hours:

December 24	09:00 to 14:00
December 25	Closed
December 31	09:00 to 14:00
January 1, 2011	Closed

Matamoros, Tamaulipas

Office and inspection hours:

December 24	09:00 to 14:00
December 25	Closed
December 31	09:00 to 14:00
January 1, 2011	Closed

Rail inspection – Matamoros

December 24	Closed
December 25	Closed
December 31	Closed
January 1, 2011	Closed

Colombia, Nuevo Leon

Office and inspection hours:

December 24	09:00 to 14:00
December 25	Closed
December 31	09:00 to 14:00
January 1, 2011	Closed

Piedras Negras, Coahuila

Office and inspection hours:

December 24	09:00 to 14:00
December 25	Closed
December 31	09:00 to 14:00
January 1, 2011	Closed

Rail inspection – Piedras Negras

December 24	Operations end at 16:00
December 25	Closed
December 31	Operations end at 16:00
January 1, 2011	Closed

Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua

Office and inspection hours:

December 24	09:00 to 14:00
December 25	Closed
December 31	09:00 to 14:00
January 1, 2011	Closed

Rail inspection – Ciudad Juarez (not available)

Nogales, Sonora

Mexican Customs Office advised that its operating hours, for imports, on December 24 and 31 will be from 10:00 to 14:00 and will be closed on December 25 and January 1, 2011; therefore, the OISA is expected to provide services under that time frame.

Tijuana, Baja California

Office and inspection hours:

Mexican Customs Office will be closed December 24, 25, 31 and January 1, 2011; therefore, the OISA in Tijuana will not provide service during those days.

For more information:

FAS/Mexico Web Site: We are available at: <http://www.mexico-usda.com> or visit the FAS headquarters' home page at: <http://www.fas.usda.gov> for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reporting.

FAS/Mexico YouTube Channel: Catch the latest videos of FAS Mexico at work:
<http://www.youtube.com/user/ATOMexicoCity>

Other Relevant Reports Submitted by FAS/Mexico:

Report Number	Subject	Date Submitted
MX0514	FAIRS Export Certificate Report	12/10/2010
MX0320	FAIRS Country Report 2010	12/16/2010

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at <http://www.sagarpa.gob.mx> and Mexico's equivalent to the U.S. Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at <http://www.economia.gob.mx> These web sites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with, the information contained on the mentioned sites.

