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Mexico Repeals 2 Coconut Palm NOMs in an Effort to Streamline Regs

Report Categories:

National Plan
Oilseeds and Products
Pest/Disease Occurrences
Policy and Program Announcements
Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety
Tree Nuts

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Report Highlights:

On, October 28, and November 1, 2010, the Secretariat of Agriculture (SAGARPA) published announcements in the Diario Oficial (Federal Register) repealing two separate Official Mexican Regulations (NOMs). The first announcement repealed Official Mexican Regulation NOM-003-FITO-1995, which established the campaign against the Lethal Yellowing (LY) disease of coconut palms. The second announcement repealed Official Mexican Regulation NOM-067-FITO-1999, which established the procedures for phytosanitary certification and production of hybrid coconut palm seed resistant to LY. These cancellations are part of Mexico's efforts to streamline regulatory procedures and eliminate unnecessary measures.

General Information:

Introduction: This report summarizes two announcements issued by SAGARPA in Mexico's *Diario Oficial* on October 28, and November 1, 2010, to repeal Official Mexican Regulations NOM-003-FITO-1995, which established the campaign against the LY disease of coconut palms; and NOM-067-FITO-1999, which establishes the procedures for phytosanitary certification and production of hybrid coconut palm seed resistant to LY.

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a cursory review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete regulation or announcement as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

Titles: Notice of Repeal of Official Mexican Regulation NOM-003-FITO-1995, which establishes the campaign against the Lethal Yellowing disease of coconut palms.

Notice of Repeal of Official Mexican Regulation NOM-067-FITO-1999, which establishes the procedures for phytosanitary certification and production of hybrid coconut palm seed resistant to LY.

Executive Summary: SAGARPA published in the *Diario Oficial*, two announcements repealing Official Mexican Regulations NOM-003-FITO-1995, which established the campaign against the LY disease of coconut palms and NOM-067-FITO-1999, which establishes the procedures for phytosanitary certification and production of hybrid coconut palm seed resistant to LY. As previously reported (See GAIN Report [MX0045](#)), the Government of Mexico announced on April 9, 2010, its plans to increase its legislative efficiency by eliminating a wide variety of standards and streamlining others. Two of the regulations scheduled for repeal were NOM-003 and NOM-067.

The LY disease of coconut palms, as well as the insect vector (*Myndus crudus*), occur throughout Mexico's coconut-producing areas. The disease and pest cause the gradual death of coconut palms. The control method for this disease is to use tolerant hybrid plant materials.

The October 28 announcement indicates that coconut production areas in the states of Chiapas, Oaxaca, Guerrero, Jalisco, Michoacán and Nayarit are characterized as being tolerant to the LY disease of coconut palms. The disease has spread to all coconut producing areas and the production situation no longer justifies enforcing the measure. As such, it is possible to eliminate NOM-003-FITO-1995. Additionally, SAGARPA reports that it is no longer necessary to regulate detection and outbreak eradication, the movement of coconut products and by-products, pathogenic hosts, and the disease vector. The November 1 announcement similarly indicates that it is not necessary to regulate phytosanitary certification and production of hybrid coconut palm seed resistant to LY since the disease has spread to all coconut producing areas. Therefore, NOM-067-FITO-1999 is cancelled.

Detection and outbreak eradication and the use of selected lines of hybrids tolerant to LY are activities generally performed by owners and technical staff in order to avoid losses caused by the LY disease of coconut palms. Producers in each state are implementing cultivation control measures in order to

eradicate positive cases.

Important Dates

- 1. **Publication Date:** October 28, 2010 (NOM-003)
- 2. **Effective Date:** October 29, 2010

- 1. **Publication Date:** November 1, 2010 (NOM-067)
- 2. **Effective Date:** November 2, 2010

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