

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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**Date:** 01/06/2017

**GAIN Report Number:** MX6051

## Mexico

**Post:** Mexico

### **Project Establishes Requirements for Experimental GE Seeds Release**

**Report Categories:**

Biotechnology - GE Plants and Animals

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**Report Highlights:**

On January 3, 2017, the Mexican Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishery and Food (SAGARPA) published an Official Norm Project to establish characteristics and requirements for evaluation studies on the possible risks of experimental release of “genetically modified organisms” to the environment, biodiversity, and animal, plant and fisheries health.

**General Information:**

**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 resolution in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of discrepancies between this summary and the complete resolution or announcement as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

**Title of Notice:** Official Mexican Norm Project that establishes the characteristics and requirements for evaluation studies on the possible risks of experimental release of "genetically modified organisms" to the environment, biodiversity, and animal, plant and fisheries health.

**Type of Resolution:** Project of Norm, receiving public comments.

**Publication Date:** January 3, 2017

**Products Affected:** Corn, Soybean, Cotton and any other Genetically Engineered (GE) crops or animals.

**Agency in Charge:** Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishery and Food (SAGARPA).

**Background:** On January 3, 2017, the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishery and Food (SAGARPA) published in Mexico's Federal Register an Official Mexican Norm (NOM) Project (PROY-NOM-000-SAGARPA/SEMARNAT-2015). This project establishes the characteristics and requirements for evaluation studies on the possible risks of experimental release of "genetically modified organisms" to the environment, biodiversity, and animal, plant and fisheries health.

According to Provision 65 of the Biosafety Law on "Genetically Modified Organisms" it is necessary to determine in a NOM the characteristics and requirements for evaluation studies on the possible risks of experimental release of "genetically modified organisms" to the environment, biodiversity, and animal, plants and fisheries health. This Project NOM establishes the process for risk assessment outlined by SAGARPA, and in collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), details the five stages that must be followed when making studies in regions where the release of GE crops (experimental phase) is sought. This protocol seeks to suppress any possible effects to other crops and wild flora and fauna that are located near the areas where GE crops will be planted.

Public consultation is over the next 60 calendar days. Comments are to be submitted to the Consultative National Committee of Agrofood Normalization, Boulevard Adolfo Ruiz Cortines 5010, Insurgentes Cuicuilco, Coyoacán, 04530, Mexico City; [consultapublica.ogm@senasica.gob.mx](mailto:consultapublica.ogm@senasica.gob.mx).