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Mexico

Poultry and Products

Draft Publication on AI Regulation NOM-044

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Report Highlights:

The Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA) published on August 26, 2003, a draft to modify NOM-044-ZOO-1995 –National Campaign Against Avian Influenza. SAGARPA is modifying and updating the old requirements of NOM-044 to be able to diagnose, prevent, control and eradicate the avian influenza (AI) virus in domestic poultry by applying different zoosanitary measures. However, the regulation still calls for the hemagglutination inhibition test (HI) for poultry imports. Comments are due in calendar 60 days.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Mexico [MX1]
[MX]

Introduction: This report summarizes an announcement published in Mexico's "*Diario Oficial*" (Federal Register) on August 26, 2003, by the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food on the Avian Influenza Campaign.

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.

FAS/Mexico's Executive Summary: The Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fisheries and Food (SAGARPA) published on August 26, 2003, in the *Diario Oficial* (Federal Register), a proposed rule to modify NOM-044-ZOO-1995–National Campaign Against Avian Influenza. The proposed rule would implement many of the requirements that were specified in Emergency NOM-EM-016-ZOO-2002, which established new import requirements for poultry and poultry products. Most importantly, for imports of U.S. poultry, the proposed rule would require two tests for Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI), the agar gel immunodifusion (AGID) procedure and hemagglutination inhibition test (HI). The domestic industry would also be required to have both tests to obtain certificates declaring certain areas free of Avian Influenza.

Title: Draft to modify NOM-044-ZOO-1995 –National Campaign Against Avian Influenza and its appendixes A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M and N.

Important Dates

1. Publication Date: August 26, 2003

2. Public Comment Period: 60 days following publication date (October 25). Comments must be sent in Spanish to the Comité Consultivo Nacional de Normalización de Protección Zoosanitaria

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An English machine translation is available from the Office of Agricultural Affairs by e-mailing AgMexico@usda.gov

Additional Information: To import poultry and poultry products, there must be an official certificate stating the products are free from Avian Influenza. Exporters must also comply with the zoosanitary requirement sheet (Hoja de Requisitos Zoosanitarios) issued by SAGARPA and the following official norms:

- NOM-005-ZOO-1993, National Campaign against Avian Salmonellosis, and
- NOM-013-ZOO-1995, National Campaign against Velogenic Newcastle Disease

Comment: The Government of Mexico eliminated that HI testing requirement as part of the compensation under the recently signed safeguard agreement (See Report MX 3099). At this stage, it's not clear why the test is again proposed as part of the revised NOM 044. Interested parties should take the opportunity to comment on this proposed NOM. Restrictions continue on imports from the eight states affected by LPAI: Maine, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, Texas and California. These restrictions should be lifted shortly in accordance with the terms of the safeguard agreement.

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Internet Connections

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

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx and Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.se.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.