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GAIN Report
Global Agricultural Information Network

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Mexico

Post: Mexico

2014 Meat Trade Seminars

Report Categories:
CSSF Activity Report
Livestock and Products
Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety
Poultry and Products

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Report Highlights:
The *Consejo Mexicano de la Carne* (COMECARNE) is organizing a series of 2-day workshops in several Mexican cities to improve the awareness and understanding of the process and inspection procedures for meat and poultry products imported into Mexico from the United States and other countries. USDA staff as well as two USDA Cooperator organizations will be speaking at these events along with Mexican and Canadian officials and industry organizations. Interested parties are encouraged to contact Post or Comecarne for more details.

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General Information:
COMECARNE has picked a number of ports-of-entry that see high volumes of meat and poultry product trade for a series of workshops on the process and inspection procedures for products entering Mexico. The workshops have a several year track record and bring in a large number of participants. In 2014, COMECARNE has already held workshops with USDA participation in Tijuana, Baja California Norte and Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua. The next three workshops with planned USDA participation will be in Veracruz, Colombia, NL, and Nuevo Laredo, TAM, Mexico (see dates, below).

August 19-20, 2014: Veracruz, VER, Mexico

September 2-3: Colombia, NL, Mexico

September 4-5: Nuevo Laredo, TAM, Mexico

Seminars scheduled but without confirmed USDA presence yet, are:
August 12-13, 2014: Reynosa, Tamaulipas
October 7-8, 2014: Manzanillo, Colima
November 7, 2014: Mexico City, Distrito Federal, Mexico

The ports-of-entry selected by COMECARNE are the top locations where U.S. red meats (prepared and preserved or fresh/chilled/frozen) and poultry meat enter the country (see trade tables, below). Using USDA's definition of prepared and preserved red meats, Mexico imported 82,845 metric tons (MT) from the world in 2013 with 75,629 MT originating from the United States. This amounted to U.S. $344.7 million and U.S. $305.4 million in imports; respectively. Similarly, using USDA's definition of fresh, chilled, frozen red meats, Mexico imported 994,755 MT from the world in 2013 with 868,789 originating from the United States. This amounted to U.S. $2.6 billion and U.S. $2.3 billion; respectively. Finally, using USDA's definition of poultry meat, Mexico imported 822,515 MT from the world in 2013 with 804,627 MT originating from the United States. This amounted to U.S. $1.22 billion and U.S. $1.17 billion; respectively. The dollar value of U.S. exports of these products increased 12% over 2012 figures.

The Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) and Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) presentation for these workshops is titled "Agencies and Procedures for the Certification of U.S. Meat Products Exported to Mexico". Due to dynamic trade flows and continual refinements to regulations, however, the presentations will be geared towards offering inspectors and commercial interests participating in the seminars an opportunity to receive updated information from USDA. The desired outcome of these seminars is to put all audience members in a better position to apply appropriate criteria when evaluating shipments and documentation so as to facilitate the trade of meat and poultry between the United States and Mexico.

Background
Over the last seven years, USDA/FAS staff in Mexico City and Monterrey have worked in close coordination with USDA's FSIS in Washington, D.C., the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF), the U.S.A. Poultry and Egg Export Council (USAPEEC), as well as Mexican government ministries (SENASICA [1] , SAT [2] , and UPCI [3]), and private institutions (CAAREM [4] and CANACAR [5]

) to explain the process and inspection procedures for meat and poultry products imported into Mexico from the United States. Many of the audience members were official inspectors (e.g., SENASICA and SAT) from the Points of Inspection (POIs) where the seminars were held.

[1] The National Service of Health, Food Safety, and Food Quality [2] The Tributary Administration Service [3] The Unit of International Trade Practices [4] The Confederation of Associations of Customs Agents [5] The National Chamber of Transporters

Author Defined:

For More Information

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

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Other Relevant Reports Submitted by FAS/Mexico:

Report Number	**Subject**	**Date Submitted**
MX4042	Mexico Submits OIE Announcement on PEDv	
MX4036	Mexican Market Opened to U.S. Beef and Beef By-Products of All Ages	4/29/2014
MX4025	Red Meat and Poultry Sector Trends and Developments	3/28/2014
MX4015	Livestock and Products Semi-Annual: Production Forecasts Raised Slightly on Better Genetics, Weather and Feeding	3/1/2014
MX4012	Poultry and Products Semi-Annual: Billion Dollar Market Retains Potential for Increased Sales	2/14/2014
MX4011	SAGARPA to Provide USD 50 Million for Abattoirs and Processors	2/4/2014

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx, equivalent to the U.S. Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.economia.gob.mx and equivalent to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (SALUD) can be found at www.salud.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.