



Voluntary Report - Voluntary - Public Distribution

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## **Report Number:** MX2021-0084

## Report Name: Quick-reference Guide to Mexico's LPO Enforcement in 2022

Country: Mexico

**Post:** Mexico City

**Report Category:** Special Certification - Organic/Kosher/Halal, SP2 - Prevent or Resolve Barriers to Trade that Hinder U.S. Food and Agricultural Exports, Agricultural Situation

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## **Report Highlights:**

This report provides a quick-reference guide to Mexico's Organic Products Law (LPO) enforcement in 2022. The National Service for Food and Agricultural Health, Safety, and Quality (SENASICA) and the Consumer Protection Office (PROFECO) share enforcement responsibilities at points of entry and points of sale, respectively. Contact information and resources for both entities is provided.

THIS REPORT CONTAINS ASSESSMENTS OF COMMODITY AND TRADE ISSUES MADE BY USDA STAFF AND NOT NECESSARILY STATEMENTS OF OFFICIAL U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY **Background:** On January 1, 2022, Mexico will begin enforcement of its Organic Products Law (LPO). LPO enforcement will differ by organic product category and by competent authority – the National Service for Food and Agricultural Health, Safety, and Quality (SENASICA) or the Consumer Protection Office (PROFECO). See GAIN report <u>MX2021-0023</u> for comprehensive information about the LPO.

**Purpose:** The following table (Table 1) is intended to serve as a quick-reference guide, categorizing products by enforcement point and competent authority. Table 1 does not represent an exhaustive or definitive list. Where discrepancies lie with the relevant Mexican legislation, regulations, and communications, the original in Spanish shall prevail.

| SENASICA – Point of Entry                      | PROFECO – Point of Sale                           |
|--|---|
| Imports  | Imported and Domestic                             |
| Bulk Product/Material Imported for Retail Sale | Processed Product (e.g., bottle of vinegar) and   |
| in Mexico                                      | Bulk Product/Material for Retail Sale in Mexico   |
| Listed in <u>Annex b-f by HS code</u>          | All Products Marketed as Organic                  |
| Each shipment verified at time of import (at   | Spot check verifications conducted as response to |
| point of entry)                                | specific complaints                               |
| The products must be accompanied by the        | If imported before January 1, 2022 without LPO    |
| following documents: copy of the organic       | certification: Import Manifest Documentation      |
| certificate or equivalent and International    | Documents, or Store Inventory Catalog, or other   |
| Transaction or Control Document (Form O-SQ-    | fiscal documentation for retailer to demonstrate  |
| <u>F-03</u> ).                                 | import date. Whether imported or domestic, as of  |
|  | January 1, 2022, all products marketed as organic |
|  | should be certified to the LPO.                   |

Table 1. LPO Enforcement by Product and Secretariat (as of January 1, 2022)

**Note Mexico's Regulatory Roles are as Follows:** SENASICA is responsible for the implementation of the <u>LPO</u> and <u>the Measure (December 2020) affecting imports</u>. The SENASICA office for organics can be contacted by 1) email at <u>info.organicos@senasica.gob.mx</u> or 2) telephone to (+52) 55 5905 1000, ext. 51509, 51523, or 51532. For information about Mexico's organic program, please visit <u>SENASICA's website</u>.

PROFECO is responsible for verification and enforcement of organic products at the retail level, based on lodged complaints. PROFECO may be contacted with questions at (+52) 55 5625 6700, ext. 16968. PROFECO also <u>offers advisory services (*asesoría* FF-PROFECO-010)</u> to entities unsure of their product's compliance with existing legislation and regulations. For information about the verification and enforcement program, please visit <u>PROFECO's website</u>.

The USDA FAS office has summarized roles and responsibilities above based on input from SENASICA and PROFECO as of December 2021. Questions on specific products should be directed to the point of contact for Mexico's regulatory offices.

## Attachments:

No Attachments.