



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Marketing and  
Regulatory  
Programs

Washington, DC  
20250

Dr. Juan Gay Gutiérrez  
General Director of Animal Health  
Boulevard Adolfo Ruiz Cortines No. 5010, piso 5  
Col. Insurgentes Cuicuilco, Delegación Coyoacán  
Cd. de México, C.P. 04530  
MEXICO

February 11, 2021

Dear Dr. Gay:

Thank you for your letter dated February 1, 2021 and our conversation today. I received your presentation and look forward to receiving more information on your plans to strengthen your tuberculosis program.

As Dr. Sarah Tomlinson indicated in her opening remarks at the virtual Fed-Fed in September 2020, this was not an easy decision. APHIS made the decision after careful review of our joint efforts over the past 25 years to control and eradicate bovine tuberculosis (TB) in Mexico and prevent transmission via cattle trade. Mexico has not taken the basic and agreed upon actions critical to support these efforts, many of which were highlighted in U.S.-Mexico Joint Strategic Plans since 2013. The following actions are in consideration of the implementation of our new TB and brucellosis import regulations; and our need to ensure that the eight regions, which collectively contribute more than 90 percent of the exported cattle, comply with APHIS requirements for cattle export.

**Effective February 15, 2021**, APHIS will classify the eight regions proposed by SENASICA, including two multi-State regions—the Yucatán Peninsula and Huasteca regions—which completed the regionalization process prior to publication of the new regulations. The remaining regions,<sup>1</sup> which have not met the agreed regionalization goals, will no longer be eligible to export cattle to the United States effective February 15, 2021. However, we will allow export of cattle from these regions which are already in process until February 26, 2021.

We look forward to our virtual Fed-Fed meeting scheduled for March 2, 2021, to allow for further discussion with you and your technical experts.

Sincerely,

Burke L. Healey, DVM  
Chief Veterinary Officer  
Deputy Administrator  
Veterinary Services  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

---

<sup>1</sup> Baja California MA Zone, Chiapas AP Zone, Guanajuato AP Zone, Guerrero AP Zone, Mexico AP Zone, Michoacán AP Zone, Nayarit MA Zone, San Luis Potosí AP Zone (A3), Tabasco AP Zone, and the Zacatecas-Jalisco AP Zone