

SEED MULTIPLICATION AND PRODUCTION PROJECT IN PERU

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The objective of this project was to perform an evaluation of phytosanitary regulations in Peru, knowing the interests of companies, to propose improvements in the seed movement in technical and administrative aspects.

The project will be carried out in two phases; during Phase 1 the interests and possible limitations of American companies for the development of vegetable and flower seed production in Peru were identified. This was done through a survey and individual interviews, as well as gathering information and improving knowledge of the regulatory frameworks of the agencies involved. This diagnosis process allowed us to define the most important challenges to be addressed in Phase 2 in order to improve seed trade (imports and exports).

PHASE 1

Surveys: Six surveys were received from five companies that are already installed in Peru producing vegetable seeds.

Interviews: Ten interviews were performed, five during the SAA Congress and five in Lima, with different American and Peruvian companies.

Phytosanitary regulation: A detailed study of the organization and regulations of SENASA was carried out, especially about the import and export processes and the Units in charge of them.

Seed regulation: The current situation of the Seed Authority and its regulations were analyzed

Peru Mission:

One of the most important benefits of this mission was to help to clarify comments received during the previous surveys and interviews. Also, in each interview with the American and Peruvian companies that are producing seeds in Peru, it was possible to know the opportunity that this country offers from an ecological point of view and which are the limitations and benefits that current phytosanitary regulations present.

With regard the seed associations, we have found that the companies are joining different types of associations.

Two meetings were held with SENASA, the first one with the presence of the new National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) Director, Mrs. Vilma Gutarra. During this meeting the contents of the project was explained and opinions were exchanged with the technicians of the different areas present at the meeting. The benefits for SENASA in terms of training issues that the project could provide were also reported. The second meeting was more related to the areas of Quarantine, Pest Risk Analysis (PRA), Surveillance and Laboratories, therefore more substantial technical discussion happened

and it was possible to know in detail many phytosanitary procedures in Peru and consider the most relevant technical problems raised by the industry to the consultants.

CONCLUSIONS OF PHASE 1:

Production level: Peru is a country that has the ecological conditions for this type of industry, including the production of flower seeds.

Regarding the possibility of increasing the presence of currently present or potential American seed producing companies, it is considered necessary to analyze other aspects such as logistics, labor, services and other business environment issues.

Business level: Based on what was raised by the companies, the main problems and challenges detected are the following:

- › Communication problems have been detected between the NPPO and the users, the most relevant ones would be:
 - Lack of communication of changes in the phytosanitary import requirements or on its updates.
 - For new export markets, a procedure for the follow-up of PRA requests is necessary and the same happens when SENASA requires information to an exporting country to initiate the PRA.
 - Uncertainties arise regarding the sampling of consignments. This is related to the lack of information on high and low risk countries, interceptions and initiation of PRA after several interceptions on a plant species, from a country of origin.
- › About Import procedures:
 - Phytosanitary Import Requirements. SENASA has approved the entry of more than forty species of vegetable seeds of almost fifty origins, without specific pest certification.
 - PRA. The companies have not expressed the urgent need to have any new PRA.
 - SENASA does not have a list of pest regulated on seeds, but it would be possible to get an internal document at this respect.
 - On risk management, the concepts contained in ISPM No 38 for commercial seed or small lots do not look as applied in practice.
 - For the inspection at arrival, there are several problems with sampling at arrival, due to the way to extract the seed sample, the volume extracted, and the number of packages opened for extraction.

Seed Associations Level:

Currently there are three seed groups/association operating in Peru. This situation is a threat, since a single vision and a single voice is not built up to face regulatory agencies of the seed sector and could weaken the next phase of this project.

Official level:

The NPPO of Peru (SENASA): has the structure and legal framework to fulfill its responsibilities properly. It has established detailed procedures and manuals for its officials to carry out their activities. Within the procedures, there is a specific one for the importation of seeds.

In the meetings held, they have been quite open to reviewing the import procedure, as well as defining guidelines for other required procedures, together with the companies.

It is important to understand that after this project it could be expected that seeds as a commodity be prioritized within the institution to continue moving forward in the future.

USDA FAS/APHIS Perú: They were informed of the project and the result of the visit, being at the orders of the consultants in the follow-up of the same.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PHASE 2:

Based on what was found and evaluated in Phase 1, the following activities will take place in Phase 2:

1. Establish a Proposal of Work Plan SENASA/APHIS with the objective to facilitate import/export operations of vegetable and flower seeds for production or multiplication in Peru.
 - 1.1. Prepare a draft proposal of work plan
 - 1.2. Prepare a protocol of agreement on a procedure to integrate and maintain a list of quarantine pests for Peru associated with its respective hosts for seeds of vegetables and flower species.
 - 1.3. Analyze the list of regulated weeds as quarantine pests and their technical justification, to clarify the regulation of these pests
 - 1.4. Training for SENASA officials, on seed production techniques and practices in companies installed in Peru, for better knowledge of the possible application of System approach as a phytosanitary measure
2. Host workshops and trainings for SENASA and other government officials
 - 2.1. Host workshop on analysis of possible alternative risk management measures for seeds, taking into account ISPM 38 i.e.: post entry quarantine, bilaterally agreed diagnostic protocols, seed certification procedures in the U.S., cases of small lots, system approach including Good management practices and others, for more attendants (25-30) and for three days.
 - 2.2. Host training for SENASA officials, on seed production techniques and practices in companies installed in Peru, for

better knowledge of the possible application of System approach as a phytosanitary measure.

- 2.3. Host four discussion meetings on the topics of:
 - Review of current import procedures
 - Preparation of a proposal of procedure for seed export,
 - Preparation of a proposal of phytosanitary measures for small lots, including system approach
 - Review of Labs procedures for seeds.
3. Planning and coordination of exploratory mission of U.S. companies and APHIS representatives to Peru visiting SENASA and other regulatory and operational agencies.
4. Planning and coordination of exploratory mission of SENASA to the U. S. visiting APHIS and seed industry representatives and facilities.
5. Preparation of the Final Report
6. Serve as liaison for ASTA company business development