

**Official Mexican Norm NOM-054-ZOO-1996, Establishment of Quarantines for Animals and their Products.**

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In the margin, a seal of the National Shield, which reads: United States of Mexico.- Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, and Rural Development.

**OFFICIAL MEXICAN NORM NOM-054-ZOO-1996, ESTABLISHMENT OF QUARANTINES FOR ANIMALS AND THEIR PRODUCTS.**

JORGE MORENO COLLADO, Judicial General Director of the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, and Rural Development, with foundation in Articles 35 Fraction IV of the Organic Law of Federal Public Administration , 4th. Fractions I, II, III, IX, X and XI, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18 Fraction VI, 21, 22, 23, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 44 and 47 of the Federal Law of Animal Health; 1st., 38 Fraction II, 40 Fractions III and IX, 41 and 47 of the Federal Law of Metrology and Standardization; 12 Fractions XXIX and XXX of the Internal Rules of this Dependence, and

**CONSIDERING**

That it is the duty of the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, and Rural Development to organize, administer and apply the defense measures and services in order to prevent the spread of epidemics and diseases that affect animals, and also as a measure to control and eradicate these problems.

That in the same way, it corresponds to the Secretariat to promote and at the same time protect the nation's livestock activity, that because of its socioeconomic impact has been considered to be a priority. It is under zoosanitary campaigns and the advances of these campaigns depends, in great measure, in satisfying the demands for nutrients of the animal origin.

That within the context of international commerce, Mexico sustains exchanges of this nature and with increasing tendencies on the rise, which require a better sanitary level for the herds in the face of having to better competitive perspectives, and on the other hand, as a protection against exotic diseases.

That in virtue of the above, on March 10, 1997, the project of Official Mexican Norm NOM-054-ZOO-1996, was published in the **Diario Oficial de la Federación**, the Establishment of Quarantines for Animals and their Products, beginning with the procedures referred to in Articles 45, 46 and 47 of the Federal Law of Metrology and Standardization. On April 8, 1998, the answers were published in response to comments received in relation to said project.

That by virtue of the legal procedure above mentioned, various points were modified as was proper and therefore the following ordinances were issued to

change and complete the official Mexican Norm, NOM-054-ZOO-1996, Establishment of Quarantines for Animals and their Products.

## **INDEX**

- 1.- Objective and Field of Application**
- 2.- References**
- 3.- Definitions**
- 4.- General Ordinances**
- 5.- Quarantine Methods**
- 6.- Internal Quarantine**
- 7.- External Quarantine**
- 8.- Total Quarantine**
- 9.- Conditioned Quarantine**
- 10.- Preventative Quarantine**
- 11.- Focal Area**
- 12.- Peripheral areas to Focal Area**
- 13.- Quarantine Restraints for the affected area**
- 14.- Isolation**
- 15.- Establishment and Lifting of Quarantines**
- 16.- Bio-security measures**
- 17.- Sanctions**
- 18.- Agreement with international norms**
- 19.- Transitory Ordinances**

## **1. Objective and Field of Application**

**1.1.** This Norm is of mandatory observance throughout national territory and has as its objective to avoid the entrance of infectious contagious diseases and parasites. It is also to prevent and control the spread of those found presently within national territory, supporting in this way the advance and adequate development of zoosanitary campaigns.

It is applied to animals and their products which will be transported throughout the country, as well as to those animals entering Mexico that may be sick or suspected of being carriers of epidemics or diseases.

**1.2.** Supervision of this Norm corresponds to the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, and Rural Development through the General Office of Animal Health, the General Office of Fitozoosanitary Inspection in Ports, Airports, and Borders and to the state governments within the scope of their respective jurisdictions and territorial districts, in agreement within their respective coordinating agreements.

**1.3.** Application of this Norm corresponds to the General Office of Animal Health, the General Office of Fitozoosanitary Inspection in Ports, Airports, and Borders, as well as to the delegations of the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, and Rural Development, within the scope of their respective jurisdictions and territorial districts, in agreement within their respective coordinating agreements.

## **2. References**

For the correct application of this Norm, one should consult the following official Mexican norms:

NOM-001-ZOO-1994, National Campaign against Varroasis of Bees.

NOM-002-ZOO-1994, Technical and Operative Activities applicable to the National Program to Control the African Bee.

NOM-005-ZOO-1993, National Campaign against Avian Salmonellosis.

NOM-007-ZOO-1994, National Campaign against Aujeszky's Disease.

NOM-012-ZOO-1993, Specifications for the regulation of chemical, pharmaceutical, biological, and food products for use in animals or for animal consumption.

NOM-013-ZOO-1994, National Campaign against Newcastle Disease, the velogenic presentation.

NOM-031-ZOO-1995, National Campaign against Bovine Tuberculosis (*Mycobacterium bovis*).

NOM-037-ZOO-1995, National Campaign against Classical Swine Fever.

NOM-041-ZOO-1995, National Campaign against Brucellosis in animals.

NOM-042-ZOO-1995, Zoosanitary characteristics and specifications for installations, equipment, and operations of zoosanitary regularization units for livestock—bovine, equine, sheep, and goat.

NOM-044-ZOO-1994, National Campaign against Avian Influenza.

### 3. Definitions and Abbreviations

For effects of the present Norm, the following terms will be understood as:

**3.1. Focal Area:** Is the area in which sick animals or carriers, their products, by-products, or organic wastes could be the vehicle of the etiologic agent of a notified disease and all animals are subject to observation and supervision.

**3.2. Peripheral areas to Focal Area:** Is the area that surrounds the focal area and in which preventative measures are established and supervised to avoid, and in its case, detect the etiologic agent localized in the focal area.

**3.3. Outbreak:** Presence of one or more cases of a disease in an abrupt and sudden increase that exceeds the normal frequency of said disease.

**3.4. Campaign:** The national zoosanitary campaign for the control, prevention and/or eradication of some disease.

**3.5. Case:** Animal, or group of animals, with positive results for a specific disease, whose diagnosis has been confirmed by a laboratory.

**3.6. Sanitary Certificate:** Document issued by a veterinarian doctor of the country or place of origin that indicates that the animal, or animals, referred to in the document are clinically healthy and free of infectious contagious diseases and parasites.

**3.7. Document of proof of Negative Testing:** Official document in which the absence of a specific disease is indicated in agreement with the official norms issued concerning animal health material.

**3.8. Document of proof of Vaccination:** Official document that is given after satisfactorily complying with the vaccination of animals against specific diseases, in agreement with the official norms issued in regards to animal health.

**3.9. Control:** Set of zoosanitary measures with the objective of diminishing the incidence or prevalence of a specific disease in a specified geographical area.

**3.10. Quarantine:** Set of preventative, restrictive measures and of zoosanitary activities developed to avoid the spread of a disease in a region outside of a notified focal point, or rather, to impede the introduction of a disease into a region, federal entity, or national territory.

**3.11. DINESA:** National Animal Health Emergency Device.

**3.12. Interdiction:** Loss of person's rights to administer his livestock property.

**3.13. Secretariat:** Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, and Rural Development

**3.14. SIVE:** National System of Epizootiologic Supervision.

#### **4. General Ordinances**

**4.1.** The establishment of quarantines is oriented towards the prevention of the spread of disease in animals, with the purpose of protecting their health in benefit of the population and even when its application is authorized and applied by the federal government, the responsibility of its operation is shared with the state governments, the committees for the development and protection of livestock, organized producers, national and international livestock businessmen, transportation carriers, and all individual and legal entities linked to the handling of animals, their products and by-products, and consumbles.

**4.1.1.** The restrictive zoosanitary measures that exact the establishment of quarantines should be applied with solid epizootiology reasons and exclusively in function with the objective quoted in point 1 and does not constitute a commercial barriers by which means one can overstep that established in the official Mexican norms and other guidelines in this respect. They should be subject to a technical analysis by a specialized committee in the subject who will report back about their appropriateness or inappropriateness.

**4.1.2.** The zoosanitary quarantine cordoning should be considered a fundamental part in the supervision of the compliance with this Norm, as well as with the chapters related to quarantine and mobilization established by the other norms issued in respect to Animal Health.

#### **5. Quarantine Methods**

For the introduction and establishment of the technical and operative aspects inherent to the quarantine actions being applied, in agreement with the type of

disease, its manifestation and space of presentation, one of the following quarantine methods should be chosen according to the case presented:

- a) Internal quarantine
- b) External quarantine
- c) Total quarantine
- d) Conditioned quarantine
- e) Preventative quarantine

## **6. Internal quarantine**

**6.1.** This should be applied within national territory and refers to the restriction of mobilization and, in its case, the observation of suspicious or sick animals and those that are apparently healthy but have been exposed to the disease, as well as their products and by-products that may be found or not in direct contact with the infected animals. The purpose of this type of quarantine is to avoid the possible transmission in chain reaction of the disease to other susceptible animals who were not directly exposed within an installation, federal entity, region, or between these.

**6.2.** All animals found under the outlined national campaigns for the control and/or eradication of specific diseases, as well as the reservoirs and any other material potentially capable of transmitting the infectious agent or parasite, are subject to the conditioned or total quarantine, in such a way that for their mobilization they must comply with that specified in the corresponding official Mexican norm or, in its case, with the guidelines issued by the Secretariat through DINESA.

**6.2.1.** The production installations, animal collection centers and any other place where animals exist whatever its function or purpose in which there is a suspicion of an outbreak of an enzootic or epizootic disease, and they find themselves under or not the actions of zoosanitary campaigns or, in its case, of DINESA, are subject to the application of quarantines. The type of quarantine, its duration time, as well as the restrictions will be in accordance to the zoosanitary risk it represents to the district, entity, region, or for the country and are determined by the Secretariat and upheld for technical reasons.

**6.2.2.** For the application of quarantine measures one should consider as the affected area the geographical area in which the infectious and/or parasitic agent is found. The regions of influence should be included and restrictive and preventative zoosanitary actions will be required to be applied in agreement with the method of quarantine in order to avoid the spread of the disease.

**6.2.3.** The affected area mentioned in the above point should be integrated with other areas perfectly well defined and marked as the focal area and the peripheral area of the focal area.

## **7. External quarantine**

It is a set of restrictive measures that are applied to prevent the introduction of an infectious contagious disease and/or parasite into national territory, a federal entity or a specific geographical region within the country.

These actions should be carried out within the region, federal entity, or the country's territorial boundaries; maritime ports and terrestrial borders, as well as in international, and in its case, national airports as determined by the Secretariat through the General Office of Fitozoosanitary Inspection at Ports, Airports, and Borders.

**7.1.** The preventative actions will be subject to the specific zoosanitary measures found in the official document called the zoosanitary requirement sheet for the importation of animals.

**7.2.** For importation animals, when the zoosanitary requirement sheet specifies that they will be maintained in quarantine, the following ordinances should be followed:

**a)** The installations where the animals are received for their stay in quarantine should have been authorized previously by the Secretariat's State Delegation of the federal entity in which said installations are located. They should have the following minimum characteristics:

- An easily accessible location with safe and passable roads leading to it in regards to highway administration.

- The sufficient infrastructure to adequately house the specie and amount of animals for quarantine.

- Installation materials that in general permit the disinfecting, the isolation of animals and the application of the corresponding zoosanitary measures.

- Adaptations for the control of entrances and exits of animals, food, implements and personnel.

**b)** The preventative measures for animal mobilization from its point of entry into the country to the installations in which the animals will remain in quarantine will be specified in the official Mexican norms related to the subject. Likewise, other measures can be added for the zoosanity benefit as technically justified.

**c)** the time of stay within the installations will be what is strictly necessary in order to prove that the animals' presence within the country and in the destination zone do not imply any zoosanitary risk.

Internal and external quarantines can be applied in total or conditioned forms, according to the cause that motivates them.

## **8. Total quarantine**

This type of quarantine consists as the absolute restriction of animal mobilization for a time period of no less than triple the average incubation period of the disease which is to begin to be counted starting from the appearance of the last clinical case.

## **9. Conditioned quarantine**

This consists of the restriction of animal mobilization, which can be realized only when it can be proved that said animals comply with the specific zoosanitary requirements of a species, disease, method of mobilization, place of origin and destination. It will be applied in special instances, taking into account the differences in susceptibility, manifestations, and the enzootic presence of the disease as well as justified economic reasons. Within this type of quarantine, one may encounter diseases falling under an outlined campaign for their prevention, control, or eradication on a national level, as well as other reasons judged fit by the Secretariat.

## **10. Preventative quarantine**

This kind of quarantine applies when there is a suspicion of the existence of a disease of obligatory notification, based on the clinical diagnosis, while lacking its confirmation by biological and/or laboratory tests. The quarantine will be maintained until the results of said tests are obtained. If the results are positive, a quarantine is established. If negative, the quarantine is lifted.

## **11. Focal area**

The focal area is made up of:

- a)** The property containing sick animals.
- b)** The neighboring properties whose animals have the possibility of direct contact with the animals of the property where clinical cases of the disease have been found.
- c)** They can exclude from the focal area all animals of the affected property or of the neighboring properties that have not had direct or indirect contact with the animals that have presented clinical cases, for a time before the diagnosis corresponding to twice the disease's incubation period or, in its case, the parasite's biological cycle. Measures should be included that contribute to lessening the risk

of infection such as, bio-security measures, revaccination, disinfecting or others measures that may be necessary and technically justified.

**d)** All properties that have received animals, products or elements capable of acting as vehicles of the infectious agent or parasite, coming from an infected property and in a period of time twice as long as the incubation period or biological cycle correspondent to the disease before the first case's appearance should be obligatorily inspected.

#### **11.1. Animals within the focal area.**

**a)** No susceptible animal should be taken out of a declared focal area.

The groups of animals where clinically ill animals exist, as well as those that are apparently healthy and have been in direct contact with the ill animals, should be kept isolated within the areas where the disease appeared until diagnostic confirmation for the application of control measures against epizootic as they correspond.

**b)** The exit from the focal area will be allowed to non-susceptible animals to the disease when they travel or are destined to places where there are no susceptible animals.

**c)** Any animal species susceptible or not to the disease that enters the infected area will remain under the regimen imposed by the interdiction.

#### **12. Peripheral area to the focal area**

The peripheral area of the focal area is made up of:

The properties that surround the focal area in a radius of approximately 5 to 10 km around its boundaries and is variable due to geographical accidents such as rivers, lakes, mountains, ravines, agricultural areas exempt of livestock, urban areas or others which may serve as barriers to avoid the disease's diffusion, taking into account the possibility that at some of said barriers there could propagate the spreading of some diseases.

In practical terms, the peripheral area of the focal area is made up of the territorial boundaries of possible contact with the focal point to where exists the risk of the outbreak's diffusion.

During the disease's development, an inspection of the existing animals within the peripheral area of the focal area should be realized. Its periodicity should be determined by the Secretariat through the General Office of Animal Health, and likewise during the required time after the outbreak's elimination which in any case should be no less than three months.

In order to avoid the disease's spread through the technical personnel who realized these properties' inspections, veterinarian doctors should be commissioned who have not had contact with the disease's outbreak. These visits should be taken advantage of to inform the owners or persons in charge about the disease's signs and symptoms besides the precautions they should take in order to prevent that the animals become infected.

#### **12.1. Restriction of animal movement within the peripheral area of the focal area.**

**a)** Susceptible animals within the peripheral area of the focal area should be maintained in total or conditioned quarantine in accordance with the case for a time period equivalent to double the time required for the incubation of the infectious agent or the parasitic cycle of the last reported clinical case, according to the type of disease.

**b)** Taking into consideration that indicated in reference to conditional quarantine, this regimen can always be applied whenever the potential scope of risk has been measured and under the owner's responsibility and according to the opinion, supervision and authorization of an authorized veterinarian doctor for that effect.

**c)** Those animals not susceptible to the disease can leave the peripheral area of the focal area provided that they foresee the avoidance of contact with susceptible animals in other areas.

### **13. Quarantine interdiction of the affected area**

In cases in which diseases that require the establishment of some kind of quarantine present themselves, the interdiction is a legal action which deprives the animals' owner of his rights to freely administrate of said property found within the affected area. Interdiction refers to the isolation and quarantine procedures, which should be brought to the attention of the affected parties through the Secretariat's Delegation by official written notification.

### **14. Isolation**

When this procedure is implied in the establishment of a quarantine the separation of sick animals and their direct contacts is carried out to places and under conditions so as to avoid the direct or indirect transmission of the infectious agent from infected animals to other susceptible animals. It is also important to realize the isolation of animal species which are not naturally susceptible, but possibly transmitters or vectors. This applies within the infected or focal area from the moment of verification of the report or notification of the disease subject to the quarantine and until the transmission risks have disappeared.

### **15. Establishment and lifting of quarantines**

**15.1.** All people, and especially those in relation with animals, their handling, commercialization, possession, reproduction, and health are obligated to report the suspicion or presence of diseases requiring obligatory notification to the closest representative of the Secretariat, including the veterinarian doctors approved in the distinct areas in which the Secretariat has granted said approval.

**15.1.2.** Based on the given report and strictly following the Procedure Manual of the National System of Epizootiologic Supervision, the veterinarian doctor personnel dependent on the state delegations of the Secretariat or of the General Office of Animal Health, in accordance with the case, should proceed to realize all activities needed to diagnose the disease and kind of guarantee to be applied.

**15.1.3.** Having been determined by official veterinarian doctors the need to establish a quarantine, the Secretariat's State Delegation should proceed to official notification, in which he should indicate in the very least the following:

- a) Motive of the notification
- b) Affected area
- c) Kind of quarantine
- d) Mobilization restrictions
- e) Applicable zoosanitary measures
- f) Estimated time of duration

**15.1.4.** Lifting of quarantines.

Once the Secretariat has verified the absence of the infectious or parasitic agents which were the motive of establishing the quarantine measures, it will proceed through a written notification to those affected directly such as the operating sectors involved, making reference to the information listed in point 15.1.3 and to such information pertinent to lifting the quarantine.

## **16. Bio-security measures**

In the production installations that technically justify the application of bio-security measures and with the finality of avoiding the spread of disease to the interior as well as to the exterior of said units, the following minimum safety measures should be applied:

**a) Personnel and visitors.**

- All people who enter should leave their street clothes in a dressing room or area, located and adapted for such a purpose, and they should use work clothes provided by the unit such as: overalls, boots, and rubber gloves. In the same way, when these people leave the installations they must take off said garments and the clothing will be disinfected. The use of strategically placed sanitary rugs is also required.

- In the same way, there should exist dressing rooms adapted for personnel working in the production installations in such a way that when said personnel are required to enter production areas, they do so with clean, disinfected clothes, rubber boots, and any other necessary utensils so as to avoid area cross-contamination.

- Personnel entering the production installation should shower before putting on work clothes for access to the unit.

- In the same way, when personnel leave production zones, they should leave their work clothes in the dressing room locker, take a shower, and change into the street clothes they had previously left.

**b) Vehicles.**

- Vehicles should only enter production installations when it is of the utmost necessity and access is only allowed within the loading and unloading area which is to be isolated from the rest of the installation.

- All vehicles must be washed and disinfected before their entrance and exit of the installation. Likewise, vehicles must pass through a sanitary ford which is located at the entrance and exit doors of the property and is constructed with a minimum depth of 25 cm, a length of 3 m, and with a sufficient width for the installation's work vehicles to pass through. This ford should contain a disinfectant solution efficient enough to destroy the etiologic agent of the disease subject to quarantine. The disinfectant chemical products being utilized should be approved and registered by the Secretariat and recommended by the official Mexican norms referring to the disease in question.

- All equipment in general should be disinfected also.

**c) Excrement and wastes.**

- All excrement and wastes should be treated to assure that they are free of pathogens. Treatment may be thermally or chemically done based on a specific disinfectant and depending on the use and destination intended for excrement as well as wastes. Both treatment cases, heat and disinfectant products, should be carried out in agreement with the corresponding official Mexican norms.

- If no industrial use will be given to the excrement, it should be incinerated or buried under a layer of quicklime or sprayed with a disinfectant such as bleach and its derivatives, sodium or calcium hypochlorite, formaldehyde, etc., depending on the pathological agent being eliminated.

**d) Vectors y reservoirs.**

- One should avoid the presence of other animal species which are not the zotechnic objective of the production installation.

- In regards to harmful fauna such as insects and rodents, integrated control systems should be utilized for their elimination.

### **17. Sanctions**

Non-compliance with the ordinances contained in this Norm will be sanctioned in agreement with that established by the Federal Law of Metrology and Standardization.

### **18. Agreement with international norms**

This official Mexican Norm does not coincide with any international norm.

### **19. Transitory Ordinances**

This norm will take effect the day following its publication in the **Diario Oficial de la Federación**.

Effective Suffrage. No Re-election.

Mexico City, May 13, 1998.- General Judicial Director of the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, and Rural Development, **Jorge Moreno Collado**.- Initials.