
SPS Balance Sheets

Identifying market priorities, SPS barriers, and technical assistance needs in Central America

Jason Hafemeister

jhafemeister@afjandassociates.com

202.349.1434



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- I. Methodology
- II. Common Problems and National Priorities
- III. On-going and planned assistance
- IV. Recommended actions

1. Preparatory work from Lima conference
2. Literature review
3. Questionnaire
4. In-country interviews
5. Publicly available information

1. Institutional needs
2. Meats
3. Dairy
4. Fish
5. Fruits and Vegetables
6. Processed Foods

1. Inspection
2. Quarantine
3. Diagnostics
4. Surveillance
5. Control
6. Eradication
7. Certification

1. Beef
 - Food and mouth and BSE
 - Brucellosis and tuberculosis
 - Packing plants/slaughterhouses
 - Traceability
2. Pork
 - Classical swine fever
 - Packing plants/slaughterhouses
 - Traceability
3. Poultry
 - Exotic Newcastles Disease
 - Avian Influenza
 - Salmonella
 - Packing plants/slaughterhouses
 - Traceability

U.S.	APHIS	APHIS	FSIS	National
	BSE	Foot & Mouth	System Recognized	Plant Certified for Export
Costa Rica	Recognized as free by APHIS	Recognized as free by APHIS	Yes	2
El Salvador	Recognized as free by APHIS	Recognized as free by APHIS	No	n/a
Guatemala	Recognized as free by APHIS	Recognized as free by APHIS	No	n/a
Honduras	Recognized as free by APHIS	Recognized as free by APHIS	Yes	2
Nicaragua	Recognized as free by APHIS	Recognized as free by APHIS	Yes	5
Panama	Recognized as free by APHIS	Recognized as free by APHIS	No	n/a

EU	Costa Rica	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Nicaragua	Panama
Approved plants	3	0	1	0	2	1

U.S.	APHIS	APHIS	APHIS	FSIS	National
	Classical Swine Fever	Vesicular Disease	Foot and Mouth	System Recognized	Plant Certified for Export
Costa Rica	Controlled, but not recognized	Recognized as free	Recognized as free	Approved	0
El Salvador	Need to eradicate and control.	Recognized as free	Recognized as free	Not approved	0
Guatemala	Need to eradicate and control.	Recognized as free	Recognized as free	Not approved	0
Honduras	Need to eradicate and control.	Recognized as free	Recognized as free	Approved	0
Nicaragua	Need to eradicate and control.	Recognized as free	Recognized as free	Approved	0
Panama	Controlled, but not recognized.	Recognized as free	Recognized as free	Not approved	0

U.S.	APHIS	APHIS	APHIS	FSIS	National
	Newcastle disease	Avian Influenza	Salmonella	System Recognized	Plant Certified for Export
Costa Rica	Recognized as free by APHIS	Recognized free of H5N1 highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)	Claims non-existent, subject to review by FSIS	System not approved	0
El Salvador	No region recognized as free	Recognized free of H5N1 (HPAI)	Claims non-existent, subject to review by FSIS	System not approved	0
Guatemala	No region recognized as free	Recognized free of H5N1 (HPAI)	Need to control.	System not approved	0
Honduras	No region recognized as free	Recognized free of H5N1 (HPAI)	Claims non-existent, subject to review by FSIS	System not approved	0
Nicaragua	No region recognized as free	Recognized free of H5N1 (HPAI)	Claims non-existent, subject to review by FSIS	System not approved	0
Panama	No region recognized as free	Recognized free of H5N1 (HPAI)	Need to control.	System not approved	0

Country	General concerns	Specific priorities
Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Recognition of equivalence by the United States and the EU –Improve laboratory capacity and achieve accreditation –Improve capacity for monitoring residues and contaminants –Establish traceability systems –Providing training on good agricultural practices on farm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Pork – official certification that the country to be free of classical swine fever for exports to various countries –Poultry – official determination of avian influenza situation for exports to various countries –Poultry – study on prevalence of salmonella to support exports to various countries –Rabbit – establish equivalence for exports to the EU –Pork, beef, poultry, and fish – establish traceability regimes for exports to the EU
El Salvador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Eradication, surveillance, and monitoring of various avian diseases and improving sanitary standards at packing plants. –Expand productivity and reduce costs associated with disease control and plant sanitary standards for cattle, expanding beef exports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Poultry to Central America, in particular Costa Rica and Nicaragua. –Pork products to the United States, particular pork <i>pupusa</i>, in addition to eradicating classical swine fever.
Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Establish credible system of epidemiological surveillance and control. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Poultry disease eradication, quarantine, surveillance and monitoring. –Improve poultry packing plant sanitary standards to achieve equivalence recognition. –Beef – achieve systemic equivalence and plant approval to export beef, either from the region or re-exporting beef shipped from the United States to Guatemala for processing.

Country	General concerns	Specific priorities
Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Improve and strengthen surveillance system. –Improve and strengthen prevention, eradication, and control of pests and diseases. –Strengthen laboratory network –Maintain a current sanitary database. –Establish a specialized technical experts group part of quarantine system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Exotic Newcastle disease eradication, monitoring and control to allow for export to the United States. –Classical swine fever eradication, monitoring and control to allow exports to the United States. –Risk assessment on processed pork (pork tamales) to allow exports to the United States –Improved sanitary controls and traceability to allow more beef and dairy products to be exported to the EU, United States and various countries.
Nicaragua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Disease eradication, monitoring and surveillance. –Laboratory improvements –Monitoring residues and contaminants –Traceability –Good agricultural practices, good manufacturing practices, HACCP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Eradication, control, and monitoring of avian diseases. –Eradication, control, and monitoring or classical swine fever.
Panama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Establish accredited laboratories to assist shrimp, beef and poultry exports. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Establish and recognize Exotic Newcastle Disease Free area for poultry production. –Plant approvals for beef and poultry exports to the United States.

1. Disease control
2. Microbiological contamination
3. Maintaining product quality
4. Plant approvals
5. Traceability
6. Labeling and technical standards

Country	General concerns	Specific priorities
Costa Rica	Not identified	Not identified
El Salvador	–Expand productivity and reduce costs associated with disease control and plant sanitary standards for dairy exports	–Improve sanitary performance of dairy products exported to the United States and the EU.
Guatemala	Not identified	Not identified
Honduras	Improved sanitary controls and traceability to allow more dairy products to be exported to the EU, United States and various countries	Not identified
Nicaragua	–Eradication, control, and monitoring of brucellosis and tuberculosis in cattle. –Improved sanitary performance for dairy products.	Not identified
Panama	Not identified	Not identified

1. Equivalence
2. Residue control and testing
3. Microbiological contamination
4. Traceability

EU	Costa Rica	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Nicaragua	Panama
Approved plants	7	6	7	4	7	16
Approved freezer or cold storage	0	2	0	2	4	43

Country	General concerns	Specific priorities
Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Recognition of equivalence by the EU –Improve laboratory capacity and achieve accreditation –Improve capacity for monitoring residues and contaminants –Establish traceability systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Improve ability to certify compliance with residue requirements for exports to the EU –Fish (tilapia and shrimp) – provide good aquaculture practices to support exports to the EU
El Salvador	Not identified	Not identified
Guatemala	Not identified	Not identified
Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Improve and strengthen surveillance system. –Strengthen laboratory network –Maintain a current sanitary database. –Establish a specialized technical expert group as part of quarantine system. 	Not identified
Nicaragua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Laboratory improvements –Monitoring residues and contaminants –Traceability 	Not identified
Panama	–Establish accredited laboratories to assist shrimp exports	Not identified

1. Pests
 - Fruit flies
 - Other
2. Diseases
3. Sanitary standards
4. Residue control
5. Process requirements (including private standards)

Country	General concerns	Specific priorities
Costa Rica	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Recognition of pest free and low prevalence areas –Eradication, control, and surveillance of fruit fly –Recognition of equivalence for phytosanitary control –Approval for transit through third countries –Meeting quarantine standards, including fumigation requirements –Conducting pest risk assessments –Accreditation of laboratories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Citrus leprosis and citrus greening – approval of mitigation plan and certification of pest free areas by the U.S. –Fruit fly in mango – establishment of new protocol for less damaging remediation treatment. –Roya blanca in crysanthemum – achieve recognition of pest free area by U.S. –Carambola – conclusion of U.S. pest risk assessment –Plants larger than 18” – modification of current U.S. ‘clean stock’ requirements through risk mitigation techniques –Conducting pest risk assessments for a number of specific products for access to the U.S. including Guava, Maracuyá, Pitaya, and Avocado and these products as well as Papaya, Melon, and Mango to Japan. –Organic certification to access the U.S., Canada and Japan
El Salvador	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Expand access for products restricted by fruit fly concerns beyond current greenhouse protocols, including by establishing fruit fly free zones. Several fresh fruit currently face import prohibitions in the United States. –Establish access for “nostalgic” products service ethnic markets in other countries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> –Expand access conditions for products currently covered by greenhouse protocols with the United States, including tomato and pepper, by establishing fruit fly free regions. –Expand access for papaya and ornamentals to the United States by reducing required mitigation requirements. –Establish reasonable terms of access for products currently denied access to the U.S. market, such as Flor de Izote, chipilin, pitaya, and avocado.

Country	General concerns	Specific priorities
Guatemala	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Establish quarantine, surveillance, and monitoring capacity and certify conditions. -Improve ability to meet pesticide residue standards. -Expand med fly free zone south from Mexican border. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Resolve concerns of El Salvador and Nicaragua about golden nematode in potato exports. -Various fruit and vegetable restricted by fruit fly concerns, including mangosteen, zapote, avocado and rambutan. -Various vegetables restricted by pesticide residue standards, including snow peas. -Establish less damaging remediation treatment for fruit fly on mangos exported to the United States
Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Implement phytosanitary guide identifying requirements for exporting. -Strengthen phytosanitary diagnostic system. -Strengthen surveillance network. -Strengthen quarantine system. -Establish pest risk analysis unit. -Strengthen register for use and control of pesticides. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Med fly eradication, monitoring, and control to allow various fruits and vegetables to be exported to various markets. -Citrus canker, leprosis, and tristeza to allow exports of citrus products to Central American countries and the United States. -Palm thrip eradication, monitoring and control to allow various fruit exports. -Chile jalapeno, melon, and pepino pest risk assessments to allow exports to Mexico.

Country	General concerns	Specific priorities
Nicaragua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Recognition of pest free and low prevalence areas. -Monitoring, control and eradication of fruit fly. -Conducting pest risk assessments. -Accreditation of laboratories and certification authorities. -Monitoring, surveillance, and quarantine programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Fruit fly - monitoring and surveillance, resources (infrastructure and human resources), eradication program, and achieving recognition of free areas for exports to various countries. -Products with potential to export if risk assessments and mediation procedures can be agreed include: okra, chinese vegetables, mango, pitaya, citrus, and platano.
Panama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Eradication and recognition of pest-free status for Med fly in the principal agricultural production region. -Accredited laboratories to evaluate pesticide residues and identify pests and diseases. -Capacity to conduct Pest Risk Assessments. -Capacity for surveillance and monitoring of plant health threats. -Export certification system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Admissability for various fruits to Japan and Taiwan, principally because of Med Fly concerns.

1. Microbiological control
2. Residue control
3. Labeling and technical requirements
4. Traceability
5. Process requirements (including private standards)

Country	General concerns
Honduras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Improve capacity of equipment, technical ability, and human resources. -Expand participation in international standards-setting organizations. -Establish a risk analysis unit for food safety to generate a database of information to access and maintain foreign market opportunities. -Improving laboratory system, including equipment, technical training, and human resource capacity. -Strengthening systems of surveillance, control and eradication of pests and diseases. -Establishing inspection and certification processes, for laboratories and for products and production methods.
Nicaragua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provide capacity building on good agricultural practices, good manufacturing practices, HACCP. -Improve laboratory and certification services. -Develop system for laboratory and certification accreditation. -Establish traceability system
Panama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Strengthen laboratories, surveillance, diagnostic, and risk assessment capacity, including achieving accreditation. -HACCP training -Establishment and coordination of traceability program in the region. -Technical training for personnel and expand capacity of inspection, surveillance and diagnostic system, including accreditation of food safety systems and establishment of a regional reference laboratory.

Country	General concerns
Costa Rica	<p>Addressing requirements for microbiological contaminants</p> <p>Improve inspections of processed foods</p> <p>Accreditation of laboratories</p> <p>Good agricultural practices, good manufacturing practices, and HACCP training</p> <p>Risk analysis capacity</p> <p>Improve the country's participation in international organizations</p> <p>Updating regulations</p> <p>Strengthening the center for information and notification</p>
El Salvador	<p>Improve sanitary practices to reduce microbiological contamination and detention at border through capacity building in good agricultural practices (GAP), good manufacturing practices (GMP), Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP), and other programs.</p> <p>Improve capacity of producers to meet private standards and assistance in dealing with private standards that go beyond those set by international organizations and national legislation.</p> <p>Strengthening technical and human resource capacity of laboratories and government agencies.</p>
Guatemala	<p>Ability to certify HACCP.</p> <p>Improve performance under import inspection for labeling and quality standards.</p> <p>Establish traceability system</p> <p>Create reliable national or regional laboratory system</p> <p>Improve risk assessment capabilities</p>

1. United States
2. European Union
3. OIRSA
4. Inter-American Development Bank
5. Others (IICA, FAO, Chinese Taipei ...)

1. Institutional Support
2. Eradication and Control
3. GMP/GAP
4. Certification
5. Approval/Recognition