


## RE: MX Trip Materials

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**From:** "Siordia, Matthew T. EOP/USTR" <matthew.t.siordia@ustr.eop.gov>  
**To:** "Michel, Samuel B. EOP/USTR" <samuel.b.michel@ustr.eop.gov>, "Tata, Shantanu S. EOP/USTR" <shantanu.s.tata@ustr.eop.gov>  
**Cc:** "Watson, Daniel L. EOP/USTR" <daniel\_watson@ustr.eop.gov>, "Thompson, Jamila EOP/USTR" <jamila.thompson@ustr.eop.gov>, "O'Brien, Daniel C. EOP/USTR" <daniel.c.obrien@ustr.eop.gov>, "Boron, Andrea W. EOP/USTR" <andrea.w.boron@ustr.eop.gov>, "Hodge, Adam R. EOP/USTR" <adam.r.hodge@ustr.eop.gov>  
**Date:** Wed, 30 Jun 2021 17:50:31 -0400   
**Attachments** TAB 03 - Bilat with Villalobos and Clouthier.docx (135.86 kB); TAB 07 - Bilat with Clouthier.docx (139.31 kB)

Hey Shantanu,

Tab 3 and Tab 7 are ready for your review. Jamila has also cleared these.

We will update the RRM points (flagged via TC) in Tab 7 next week when there is an update.

The only outstanding papers for confirmed events are Tab 9 and Tab 10. We are still working with Mexico and the Solidarity Center, to firm those up so we can finalize the papers and send for clearances. Will try to get them to you as soon as possible.

Tab 13 and Tab 14 are still pending meetings so it is unclear if or when those will be confirmed. The requests have been made to MX and hope to know one way or another tomorrow or Friday at the latest.

Best,

Matt

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**From:** Siordia, Matthew T. EOP/USTR

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2021 3:41 PM

**To:** Michel, Samuel B. EOP/USTR <Samuel.B.Michel@ustr.eop.gov>; Tata, Shantanu S. EOP/USTR <Shantanu.S.Tata@ustr.eop.gov>

**Cc:** Watson, Daniel L. EOP/USTR <Daniel\_Watson@USTR.EOP.GOV>; Thompson, Jamila EOP/USTR

<Jamila.Thompson@ustr.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Daniel C. EOP/USTR <daniel.c.obrien@ustr.eop.gov>; Boron, Andrea W. EOP/USTR <Andrea.W.Boron@ustr.eop.gov>; Hodge, Adam R. EOP/USTR <Adam.R.Hodge@ustr.eop.gov>

**Subject:** RE: MX Trip Materials

Hello Shantanu,

Tab 11 is also ready for your review. Jamila has cleared. Please note there are portions here on the RRM cases that we unfortunately won't have updates to until early next week.

Thanks,

Matt

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**From:** Siordia, Matthew T. EOP/USTR

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2021 1:47 PM

**To:** Michel, Samuel B. EOP/USTR <Samuel.B.Michel@ustr.eop.gov>; Tata, Shantanu S. EOP/USTR <Shantanu.S.Tata@ustr.eop.gov>

**Cc:** Watson, Daniel L. EOP/USTR <Daniel\_Watson@USTR.EOP.GOV>; Thompson, Jamila EOP/USTR <Jamila.Thompson@ustr.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Daniel C. EOP/USTR <daniel.c.obrien@ustr.eop.gov>; Boron, Andrea W. EOP/USTR <Andrea.W.Boron@ustr.eop.gov>; Hodge, Adam R. EOP/USTR <Adam.R.Hodge@ustr.eop.gov>

**Subject:** RE: MX Trip Materials

Hello Shantanu,

Attached is Tab 12 for your review. Jamila has cleared this as well. We are still awaiting final participants but have flagged that.

Best,

Matt

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**From:** Michel, Samuel B. EOP/USTR

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2021 1:08 PM

**To:** Siordia, Matthew T. EOP/USTR <Matthew.T.Siordia@ustr.eop.gov>; Tata, Shantanu S. EOP/USTR <Shantanu.S.Tata@ustr.eop.gov>

**Cc:** Watson, Daniel L. EOP/USTR <Daniel\_Watson@USTR.EOP.GOV>; Thompson, Jamila EOP/USTR <Jamila.Thompson@ustr.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Daniel C. EOP/USTR <daniel.c.obrien@ustr.eop.gov>; Boron, Andrea W. EOP/USTR <Andrea.W.Boron@ustr.eop.gov>; Hodge, Adam R. EOP/USTR

<Adam.R.Hodge@ustr.eop.gov>

**Subject:** RE: MX Trip Materials

Hello – Tab 8 is attached. Jamila has cleared this as well.

Thank you.

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**From:** Siordia, Matthew T. EOP/USTR

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 30, 2021 12:07 PM

**To:** Tata, Shantanu S. EOP/USTR <Shantanu.S.Tata@ustr.eop.gov>

**Cc:** Watson, Daniel L. EOP/USTR <Daniel\_Watson@USTR.EOP.GOV>; Thompson, Jamila EOP/USTR <Jamila.Thompson@ustr.eop.gov>; Michel, Samuel B. EOP/USTR <Samuel.B.Michel@ustr.eop.gov>; O'Brien, Daniel C. EOP/USTR <daniel.c.obrien@ustr.eop.gov>; Boron, Andrea W. EOP/USTR <Andrea.W.Boron@ustr.eop.gov>; Hodge, Adam R. EOP/USTR <Adam.R.Hodge@ustr.eop.gov>

**Subject:** MX Trip Materials

Hi Shantanu,

Here are some of the cleaned up documents ready for your review (Tab 2, 4, 5, and 6). Jamila has also reviewed these.

I have flagged some areas, such as participants and bios, that we won't have until Mexico provides them. They are still working on confirmation of some participants. That should not impact the substance, just the bio/participants section.

Will send you more on this chain as they come.

Best,

Matt Siordia  
Director - USMCA, Panama, Peru, and Chile  
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative  
600 17th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20508  
202-395-9527

July 7, 2021



**BRIEFING MEMORANDUM FOR BILATERAL MEETING WITH MEXICAN SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT, VICTOR VILLALOBOS, AND SECRETARY OF ECONOMY, TATIANA CLOUTHIER**

**TO: USTR KATHERINE TAI**

**FROM: JULIE CALLAHAN, KELLY MILTON**

**THROUGH: JAMILA THOMPSON**

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On July 7 at 9:00am, you will have a forty-five-minute bilateral meeting with Victor Villalobos [*Vee-YA-low-bōs*] the Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development (SADER) and your Mexican counterpart, Tatiana Clouthier [*Tah-tee-ahna kloo-tee-EHR*], Secretary of Economy (“Economía”). This will be your first bilateral meeting with Secretary Villalobos, and can use this discussion to raise agricultural and environmental issues of top concern to U.S. stakeholders. You last held a bilateral meeting with Secretary Clouthier on May 17 ahead of the inaugural USMCA FTC meeting, and will have a second one-on-one bilateral meeting on July 7 at 1:30pm to engage on all bilateral trade issues.

**OBJECTIVES**

- **Engage on Bilateral Agricultural Issues:** You can ask for updates on Mexico’s failure to authorize new agricultural biotech products, market access for U.S. potatoes, and raise Mexico’s blend rate for ethanol. Mexico has indicated it will raise the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service’s decision that renders 11 areas in Mexico ineligible to export cattle to the United States due to bovine tuberculosis concerns.
- **Underscore Environment Commitments and Priorities in USMCA:** You can reinforce that USTR is closely monitoring a number of fisheries issues that are causing concern with respect to Mexico’s implementation of several USMCA Environment chapter commitments, and communicate the expectation that the United States and Mexico will continue to work together to make progress on addressing these issues.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- U.S.-Mexico agricultural trade data, 2016-2020

**ATTENDEES**

**USTR**

- YOU
- Nora Todd
- Jamila Thompson
- Daniel Watson
- Carlos Romero
- Matt Siordia

**GOM**

- Secretary Villalobos
- Secretary Clouthier
- UnderSecretary Luz Maria de la Mora,
- Director General Lydia Antonio

## TALKING POINTS

### U.S. AGRICULTURAL ISSUES TO RAISE WITH MEXICO

#### Agricultural Biotechnology

- Agricultural biotechnology, particularly the lack of authorizations of new products since 2018, remains a concern.
- What is your view on where the Government of Mexico is headed on biotechnology issues, including the decree on biotech corn?

#### Potatoes

- Mexico's Supreme Court decision in April was a solid step in the right direction.
- What are the steps, and timing, for finalization of access for U.S. fresh potatoes to all of Mexico, including publication of import requirements?

#### Ethanol

- Establishing a ten percent rate for the blending of ethanol into fuel throughout Mexico would align with the U.S. blend mandate and could yield economic and environmental benefits.
- We would like to continue dialogue on the mutual benefits of permitting a ten percent ethanol blend throughout the country.

### AGRICULTURAL ISSUES MEXICO WILL RAISE

#### Bovine Tuberculosis

**EXEMPTION 5**

### U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES TO RAISE WITH MEXICO

#### Fisheries

**EXEMPTION 5**

# EXEMPTION 5

**Illegal Fishing in the U.S. EEZ in the Gulf of Mexico**

# EXEMPTION 5

**Sea Turtle Bycatch**

# EXEMPTION 5

## Conclusory Remark


- I expect my environment team will want to hold a meeting with Mexico in the near future to better understand the efforts the government of Mexico currently has underway with respect to both illegal fishing and sea turtle bycatch and, ideally, to identify opportunities to make additional progress on these critical issues.

(If asked) **EXEMPTION 5** [REDACTED]


[REDACTED]

## BACKGROUND

### Agricultural Biotechnology

While cotton is the only biotech crop that has permits to be cultivated in Mexico, Mexico has one of the highest numbers of authorizations of biotech products for food and feed use in the world. Mexico's approach to these products has drastically changed under the AMLO Administration. Mexico has not authorized any new biotech products for food and feed use since May 2018, despite the fact its own Biosafety Law requires a decision on a complete application within six months of receipt. Nineteen of the twenty pending applications have passed the six-month mark, affecting major U.S. exports (*i.e.*, corn, soybean). 

Mexico is our largest export market for corn (worth \$2.7 billion in CY 2020) and second largest for soybean (worth \$1.9 billion in CY 2020). Because the vast majority of corn and soybean planted in the United States is comprised of varieties improved with biotech, U.S. growers of these products are unlikely to support commercialization of new biotech products without authorization in Mexico. Consequently, lack of authorization in Mexico stifles commercialization of new biotech products, limiting the ability of U.S. farmers to manage pests and diseases, and adapt in response to climate change.

Under a decree that entered into force on January 1, 2021, we understand that Mexican authorities can revoke existing authorizations to use biotech corn in food and feed and prohibit new authorizations until biotech corn is completely replaced by January 31, 2024. It is uncertain if the decree applies to processed products containing biotech corn (*e.g.*, high fructose corn syrup, cereal). On January 15, 2021, SADER issued a release indicating that the scope of the decree includes feed as well as food containing biotech corn. However, in a March 2, 2021 meeting with Secretary Vilsack, Secretary Villalobos provided assurances that the decree's ban on biotech corn would not impact imports of yellow corn used for feed, noting Mexico's lack of domestic capacity to replace imports. It is unclear what the basis would be for any such assurance by Secretary Villalobos. Moreover, a scope of the decree that does not include feed does not resolve USTR or U.S. industry concerns. 

In the May 6, 2021 USMCA SPS Committee meeting, Mexico did not engage on U.S. concerns on biotech, or provide requested information, including responses to questions on the scope and other details of the decree USTR staff sent in January. Mexico noted that it is working on

implementing procedures for the decree. Economía staff has not provided information in response to follow-up by USTR staff.

Ninety-six percent of cotton planted in Mexico is comprised of varieties improved with biotech. In the 1990s, the introduction of biotech seeds rescued cotton production in Mexico from pests. In 2019, 19 permit applications (4 experimental, 9 pilot, and 6 commercial) for cultivation of biotech cotton using U.S.-produced seeds were submitted for planting in 2020. Mexico rejected all 19 applications based on negative opinions issued by the Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT), citing the so-called “precautionary principle” and scientifically unsubstantiated studies. Applications for cultivation of biotech cotton using U.S.-produced seeds were submitted in 2020 for planting in 2021, but to date the Mexican government has not responded to these applications.

### **Potatoes**

Mexico limits imports of U.S. fresh potatoes to a 26-kilometer zone along the border, despite the fact that the pest concerns that formed the basis of this limitation have been addressed. In 2014 and 2016, the Mexican administration attempted to expand access for U.S. fresh potatoes to all of Mexico. The Mexican potato industry mounted multiple legal challenges to the Mexican administration’s authority to expand access. In October 2018, Mexico’s Supreme Court agreed to hear appeals of two lower court decisions. On April 28, 2021, the Supreme Court released a unanimous ruling that affirms the Mexican administration’s authority to expand access for U.S. fresh potatoes. We expect the Supreme Court to address other lower court decisions.

In the May 6, 2021 bilateral meeting on the margins of the USMCA SPS Committee, officials from Economía and SENASICA (Mexico’s regulatory authority over animal and plant health issues, including regarding imports) provided no information on final resolution of this issue. Economía staff has not provided information in response to follow-up by USTR staff.

In CY 2020, U.S. exports of fresh potatoes to Mexico, the second largest market for the United States after Canada, were valued at \$51 million, up from \$45 million in 2019. The U.S. potato industry estimates expanded access for U.S. fresh potatoes to all of Mexico will provide a market potential of \$200 million per year, in five years.

### **Ethanol**

On June 1, Mexico’s blend rate for ethanol into gasoline reduced from 10 percent (E10) throughout Mexico, to 5.8 percent nationwide (with the exception of in the three largest cities of Mexico City, Monterrey and Guadalajara, where blending at any rate has always been prohibited). This reduction was the result of Mexico’s energy regulatory authority, referred to by its acronym as the “CRE”, not taking action to revise a regulation (or “NOM”) it had issued a few years prior allowing for E10 nationwide, including in the three largest cities.<sup>1</sup>

USDA and U.S. industry have been encouraging Mexico to allow E10 nationwide for many years, to align with the E10 mandate in the United States.

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<sup>1</sup> The CRE needed to take action by June 1, per Supreme Court Decree, to address administrative issues that delayed implementation of the NOM.



**EXEMPTION 5**

**Glyphosate (Background Only)**

Since November 2019, SEMARNAT has rejected import permit applications for glyphosate-containing products. Mexico has not provided an opportunity for public comment, submitted notification to the WTO, or provided scientific evidence for the rejections. Traders have reported that denial letters have cited the precautionary principle as the reason for denial. Under the same decree on biotech corn (see above), Mexico plans to phase out the domestic use of glyphosate by January 31, 2024. Secretary Clouthier noted during your May 17 meeting that glyphosate would not be phased out until Mexico identifies a suitable alternative. During the phase-out period, Mexico’s National Council for Science and Technology (CONACYT) is tasked with studying, developing, and promoting alternatives to glyphosate. Furthermore, the decree prohibits Mexico from using glyphosate in any government-sponsored programs during the phase-out period. On April 4, 2021, CONACYT announced its recommended import limits for glyphosate and glyphosate-containing products for 2021. Approximately 40 percent of herbicides used in Mexico have glyphosate in their formulas. Secretary Vilsack and Secretary Villalobos have discussed the importance of access to glyphosate-containing products to Mexican farmers.



**Bovine Tuberculosis**

USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has been working with Mexico for over 20 years to strengthen Mexico’s national TB program and reduce the number of TB-infected cattle exported to the United States. Historically, APHIS administratively granted TB-accredited status to certain Mexican regions. This status provided those regions with eligibility to export cattle to the United States. APHIS monitored the TB programs in these regions via onsite reviews. SENASICA was responsible for working with the regions to maintain or improve their individual TB programs between APHIS reviews. **EXEMPTION 5**

In 2013, APHIS and SENASICA signed a joint TB strategic five-year plan in which APHIS agreed to develop import regulations to allow formal classification of foreign regions (including Mexico) for TB. This formal TB classification, or status, would provide eligibility to Mexican regions to export cattle to the United States. At the same time, SENASICA agreed to update national TB legislation to enhance their authority over the national TB program and make other critical improvements to allow for such classification. APHIS published the proposed import

rule in December 2015 and the final rule 5 years later, in October 2020. EXEMPTION 5

APHIS is preparing to review seven Mexican regions for TB classification under the new import regulations and will review an additional Mexican region for classification later this fiscal year. These eight Mexican regions continue to be eligible to export cattle to the United States and collectively account for over 90% of the cattle exported to the United States from Mexico annually. APHIS has downgraded 11 Mexican regions to TB non-accredited status, thereby making them ineligible to export cattle to the United States. This change took effect on February 15, 2021, with a 60-day transition period through April 16. EXEMPTION 5

However, APHIS reminded SENASICA of its commitment to classify additional Mexican regions, once SENASICA has taken the necessary actions to strengthen the national TB program in Mexico.

### **Fisheries**

USTR is tracking a number of active fisheries-related issues with respect to Mexico that have actual and potential trade implications for Mexico under several domestic statutes or processes, in addition to potential implications under USMCA Chapter 24.

### **Vaquita/totoaba**

Vaquita are listed as an endangered species under both U.S. and Mexican law,<sup>2</sup> and are endemic to northern Gulf of California waters in Mexico. It is estimated that fewer than 10 individual animals remain. Gillnets are the primary source of vaquita mortality and fishers continue to deploy them to illegally fish for totoaba (an endangered fish also endemic to the Gulf of California) to supply China's illicit-market demand for totoaba swim bladders.

The measures that Mexico has published since USMCA entry-into-force are important steps toward making progress on this issue. However, despite significant work jointly undertaken by the United States and Mexico to address this issue under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), including publication by Mexico of a new regulatory agreement and enforcement plan to address marine mammal bycatch in the northern Gulf of California, evidence continues to demonstrate a persistent lack of effective enforcement by Mexican authorities. In addition to the work undertaken under the MMPA, USTR, with NOAA participation, organized a bilateral meeting on May 6, 2021 with seven Mexican agencies to exchange technical information on Mexico's plan to enforce its regulations, including surveillance and inspection actions designed to protect the vaquita and prevent and inhibit the illegal take of, and trade in totoaba. Mexico has provided follow-up information in writing. ENR is currently reviewing that information, and will prepare follow-up questions to be shared with Mexico, as appropriate.

### **Illegal Fishing in the Gulf of Mexico**

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<sup>2</sup> The vaquita is protected under the Endangered Species Act in the U.S., which implements CITES obligations into U.S. law, and under the Mexican Official Standard NOM-059-SEMARNAT-2010, which implements CITES obligations into Mexican law.

Mexico continues to struggle to combat unauthorized activities of its fishing vessels in the U.S. waters of the Gulf of Mexico. The illegal activities of these vessels, known locally as lanchas, have deleterious effects on fish stocks, including red snapper, as well as bycatch of protected sea turtles. Reports by U.S. Coast Guard and NOAA indicate that incursions by lanchas in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone have increased in the past year. As a result, NOAA will be negatively certifying Mexico in its biennial report to Congress, which will result in denial of port privileges for Mexican fishing vessels and may also result in prohibitions on the import of certain fish and fish products into the United States. The latter has yet to be determined. The transmission of NOAA's report to Congress will likely be delayed until July 2021. **Please note that NOAA's report to Congress, in which this negative certification will be published, will NOT yet be released at the time of this meeting. Consequently, this information is currently embargoed.**

On June 7, 2021, the Government of Mexico published the Internal Regulation of the Secretariat of the Navy (SEMAR). This regulation transfers certain authorities to SEMAR. Mexico has claimed in other meetings that this transition to SEMAR will improve Mexico's ability to address the illegal lancha activities in the Gulf of Mexico.

### **Sea Turtle Bycatch**

There are a number of ongoing processes related to Mexico's sea turtle bycatch:

1. In 2013, National Marine Fisheries Service identified Mexico under the Moratorium Protection Act for lack of a regulatory program comparable in effectiveness to that of the United States to reduce or minimize bycatch of North Pacific loggerhead sea turtles, an endangered species under U.S. law, and a Protected Living Marine Resource shared with the United States, in the gillnet fishery in the Gulf of Ulloa. In 2015, NOAA negatively certified Mexico for not having adopted relevant regulatory measures. Subsequently, Mexico put in place regulations to reduce North Pacific loggerhead sea turtle bycatch in the fishery, including fishing gear restrictions, onboard video monitoring, a sea turtle mortality limit, and the establishment of a refuge area. Mexico reported that the measures would remain in place to ensure loggerhead conservation and long-term fishery sustainability and resiliency. In 2016, NOAA issued Mexico a positive certification based on the publication of the revised regulations and high-level assurances that the measures would be fully implemented and enforced. In 2018, Mexico extended the timeframe for these regulations, meaning that they will remain in effect until 2023.

Despite these measures, Mexican Wildlife Law Enforcement has reported significant strandings of deceased North Pacific loggerhead sea turtles on the shores of the Gulf of Ulloa in each of the past three years. NOAA is alarmed by the magnitude of these mortalities involving a shared stock of an endangered sea turtle. While Mexico has recently noted that the Gulf of Ulloa measures are still in place, including in the refuge area, NOAA is concerned that some of the measures are not being effectively implemented, in particular some of the observer requirements. As a result, based on the high numbers of strandings, NOAA will be re-identifying Mexico for bycatch of North Pacific loggerhead sea turtles in Gulf of Ulloa fisheries in its 2021 report to Congress.

**Please note that NOAA's report to Congress, in which this determination will be published, will NOT yet be released at the time of this meeting. Consequently, this information is currently embargoed.**

2. USTR and relevant agencies are reviewing the public assertion that Mexico has allegedly failed to enforce domestic laws and international commitments intended to protect the endangered loggerhead sea turtle. Specifically, the United States is working to better understand what Mexico is or is not doing to enforce, implement, and maintain its measures related to the protection and conservation of the loggerhead sea turtle. On February 8, 2021, the CEC Secretariat determined that the submission relating to loggerhead turtles (SEM 20-001) warrants a response from Mexico. Mexico submitted a response to the CEC Secretariat on May 31, 2021. USTR has received the translation of this document and is currently reviewing it.
  
3. As of May 1, 2021, the Department of State has suspended Mexico's certification under Section 609 of Public Law 101-162, which prohibits the importation of wild-caught shrimp and products from shrimp harvested in ways that may adversely affect sea turtles, including the improper use of turtle excluder devices. This determination was based on visits by relevant U.S. authorities in 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021 and resulted in an import prohibition on wild-caught shrimp from Mexico effective May 1, 2021. The import prohibition will remain in place until it can be determined that Mexico has taken the necessary action to maintain an overall conservation program that is comparable in effectiveness to that in the United States. In an attempt to address this issue, Mexico recently released an announcement publishing the websites containing Mexico's plan of actions for the conservation of sea turtles. ENR is currently reviewing those plans.



**Víctor Manuel Villalobos Arámbula**  
**Mexico's Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development**  
**(SADER)**



Víctor Villalobos has over 40 years of experience in agronomy, agricultural economy and environmental sciences. He holds an engineering degree in Agronomy from Mexico's Agriculture School, an MSc in Plant Genetics from the Graduate College of Chapingo, and a PhD in Plant Morphogenesis from the University of Calgary in Alberta, Canada. As a researcher, he has promoted the development of agricultural biotechnology as a tool for increasing agricultural production and food security in Mexico and around the world.

Villalobos was Director General of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) for two consecutive four-year periods beginning in 2010. He was the first Mexican to serve as Director General of IICA.

He has twice served as Undersecretary in the Mexican Federal Government, first as Natural Resources Undersecretary for the Secretariat of Environment, Natural Resources, and Fisheries, and later, as Agriculture Undersecretary for the Secretariat of Agriculture, Ranching, Rural Development, Fisheries, and Food. He has also served as Principal Biotechnology Officer for the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome, Italy, and Director of the Tropical Crops Improvement Program at the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE) in Costa Rica.

Villalobos became a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry in 2004 for his research in biotechnology, plant production, and conservation of natural and genetic resources. He received an honorary doctorate from CATIE in the same year, and an honorary doctorate from Asunción University in Paraguay in 2013. In 2015, he received the "Golden Spike" award from the Graduate College of Agronomy Engineers and Agriculture and Livestock Professionals in La Paz, Bolivia.



**Tatiana Clouthier**  
**Mexico's Secretary of Economy**

Since January 2021, Tatiana Clouthier Carrillo has served as Mexico's Secretary of Economy. Clouthier was previously a party federal deputy of the National Regeneration Movement (MORENA). She was President Lopez Obrador's campaign manager in 2018 and is one of his closest advisors.

Clouthier is one of 11 children born to Leticia Carrillo and politician Manuel Clouthier, who was the presidential candidate for National Action Party (PAN) presidential candidate in 1988. He died in a car accident in 1989.

Secretary Clouthier was a PAN federal deputy from 1991-1994 and again from 2003-2005. She announced her departure from PAN in 2005, claiming that PAN had failed to govern well at the federal level.

Clouthier holds a master's degree in public administration from the Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon and a bachelor's degree in English from the Technological University of Monterrey. She has been a frequent contributor to *El Financiero*, *Reporte Indigo*, and *Periodico Noroeste* and has written and published five books, including *Juntos Hicimos Historia* in March 2019, which details her experience as Lopez Obrador's campaign manager.

Clouthier was born in Culiacan, Sinaloa in August 1964, but has lived in Nuevo Leon since she was 18 years old. She is married to businessman Jose Martinez and has two children, Maria and Lucas. She speaks fluent English.

ATTACHMENT

U.S. Agricultural Exports to Mexico (\$ million)						
Product	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 2020 vs. 2019
Corn	2,550	2,645	3,061	2,736	2,680	-2%
Soybeans	1,462	1,574	1,818	1,878	1,878	0%
Dairy Products	1,199	1,293	1,375	1,526	1,401	-8%
Pork & Pork Products	1,360	1,514	1,311	1,278	1,153	-10%
Poultry Meat & Prods. (ex. eggs)	931	933	956	1,077	983	-9%
Beef & Beef Products	977	979	1,058	1,107	853	-23%
Wheat	612	852	662	812	778	-4%
Soybean Meal	801	579	665	642	664	3%
Food Preparations	526	520	571	597	582	-2%
Sugar, Sweeteners, Bev. Bases	621	665	649	601	574	-5%
Other	7,754	8,041	7,953	7,926	7,418	-6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,793</b>	<b>19,595</b>	<b>20,079</b>	<b>20,180</b>	<b>18,964</b>	<b>-6%</b>

U.S. Agricultural Imports from Mexico (\$ millions)						
Product	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	% Change 2020 vs. 2019
Fresh Vegetables	5,598	5,472	5,865	6,285	7,101	13%
Beer	3,094	3,316	3,595	3,947	4,151	5%
Distilled Spirits	1,134	1,299	1,523	1,847	2,668	44%
Fresh Fruit - Berries	1,490	1,794	1,972	2,449	2,655	8%
Fresh Fruit - Avocados	1,768	2,335	2,071	2,453	2,217	-10%
Processed Fruit & Vegetables	1,528	1,549	1,717	1,846	1,959	6%
Fresh Fruit - Other	1,681	1,834	1,779	2,030	1,926	-5%
Baked Goods, Cereals, & Pasta	1,206	1,291	1,356	1,410	1,562	11%
Beef & Beef Products	1,033	1,040	1,120	1,284	1,446	13%
Live Animals	590	728	843	889	937	5%
Other	5,844	6,226	6,666	6,872	7,470	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,966</b>	<b>26,884</b>	<b>28,507</b>	<b>31,312</b>	<b>34,092</b>	<b>9%</b>