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On April 15, Mexico suspended imports of most fresh fruit from Chile after government health officials for the second time in less than a month discovered moth larvae among crates of Chilean apples. Previously, inspectors from the Agriculture Secretariat (Secretaria de Agricultura y Recursos Hidraulicos, SARH) had discovered the moth larvae in three shiploads of fruit on March 31. At that time imports were suspended from only designated regions of Chile. However, the latest discovery of the larvae, which is the offspring of a moth species not common in Mexico, forced authorities to cancel all imports of Chilean fruit indefinitely, affecting 300,000 crates of apples and 80,000 crates of "pit fruit" (peaches, plums, and nectarines). Health authorities from both countries are scheduled to meet in Santiago at the end of April to seek a solution to the problem. Although the ban covers apples and pit fruit, it does not include grapes and kiwi fruit. In recent years, Chilean exports of all fresh fruit to Mexico have averaged about 2.5 million boxes per season. (Sources: Notimex, 04/15/93; Agence France-Presse, 04/16/93)

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