

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2014-08
February 10, 2014

SUBJECT: Citrus Canker (*Xanthomonas* spp.) Quarantine Established in Louisiana

TO: State and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is establishing quarantined areas for citrus canker (CC) in Louisiana.

Following the positive identification of *Xanthomonas* spp., the bacterial causal agent of CC from a sweet orange tree located in New Orleans, Louisiana, APHIS and the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry completed a delimiting survey.

The attached Federal Order adds Orleans Parish and portions of Jefferson, Plaquemines, and St. Charles Parishes in Louisiana to the CC quarantined area in the United States. Louisiana has established an intra-state quarantined area for CC that parallels the federal CC regulatory requirements as specified in 7 CFR §301.75.

Under the current CC quarantine regulations, the interstate movement of citrus plants and plant parts, other than commercially packed and disinfected citrus fruit, remains prohibited with the following exception: Citrus nursery stock that is moved in accordance with regulations contained in 7 CFR §301.76 may move from areas quarantined for CC.

For additional information regarding the CC program, please call the Citrus Health Response Program's National Coordinator Prakash Hebbar at 301-851-2228. You may also call the Citrus Disease Program's National Policy Manager Lynn Evans-Goldner at 301-851-2286.

/s/

Osama El-Lissy
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment: Federal Order

FEDERAL ORDER

Domestic Quarantine for Citrus Canker (*Xanthomonas* spp.)

DA-2014-08

The purpose of this Federal Order is to prevent the spread of the plant disease caused by *Xanthomonas* spp.¹ (citrus canker). This Federal Order is issued in accordance with the regulatory authority provided by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, as amended, Section 412(a), 7 U.S.C. 7712(a). The Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant part, or article, if the Secretary determines the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the dissemination of a plant pest within the United States. This Federal Order is likewise issued pursuant to the regulations promulgated under the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.75 *et. seq.*

Addition of Quarantined Areas

Effective immediately, this Federal Order adds Orleans Parish and portions of Jefferson, Plaquemines, and St. Charles Parishes in Louisiana to the citrus canker (CC), *Xanthomonas* spp. quarantine area. This action is in response to the detection of CC in these areas. Following the initial detection of CC in Orleans parish and subsequent delimiting surveys, we have determined that these areas meet the criteria in § 301.75-4 (b) of the regulation to be designated as quarantined areas.

The Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) finds it necessary to regulate Orleans Parish and portions of Jefferson, Plaquemines, and St. Charles Parishes in Louisiana in order to prevent the spread of CC. Accordingly, effective immediately, all interstate movement of CC regulated articles from these areas must be done in accordance with the regulations promulgated in accordance with the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.75 *et seq.* and any applicable provisions of this Federal Order.

Section 7 CFR 301.75-4 (d) allows the designation of less than an entire state as a CC regulated area only when the Administrator of APHIS has determined, as in this case, that the designation of less than an entire state as a regulated CC area is adequate to prevent the interstate spread of infestations of CC. In addition, 7 CFR 301.75-4 (d) (2) requires that the state enforces an intrastate CC quarantine that is equivalent to the Federal CC regulations. The State Plant Regulatory Official for Louisiana has confirmed the establishment of an intra-state quarantine area for CC that mirrors the Federal regulatory requirements as specified in 7 CFR 301.75.

Section 7 CFR 301.75-4 (b) provides for the temporary designation of new regulated areas pending publication of a rule to add the new areas to the list shown in 7 CFR 301.75-4 (a). Section 7 CFR 301.75-4 (b) further requires written notification be given to the owner or person

¹ Citrus canker is caused by *Xanthomonas* spp. *Xanthomonas* spp. refers to (1) *Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv. *citri* (Xac A, A* and AW) with synonyms *X. citri* pv. *citri*, or *X. citri* subsp. *citri* or *X. campestris* pv. *citri* or *X. smithii* subsp. *citri* and (2) *X. axonopodis* pv. *aurantifolii* (Xac B & C) with a synonym *X. fuscans* subsp. *aurantifolii*.

in possession of a newly quarantined area. This is the responsibility of the Federal and/or State regulatory personnel responsible for the CC program in the affected state.

For additional information regarding the CC program, please call the Citrus Health Response Program's National Coordinator Prakash Hebbar at 301-851-2228. You may also call the Citrus Disease Program's National Policy Manager Lynn Evans-Goldner at 301-851-2286.

We continue to appreciate the cooperative relationship with the state regulatory officials, the Native American tribes in Louisiana, and the citrus industry in our effort to prevent the spread of CC.

Quarantine Boundaries

This Federal Order updates §301.75-4 (a) as follows:

Louisiana.

1. The entire parish of Orleans.
2. The portions of Jefferson, Plaquemines and St. Charles Parishes bounded by a line beginning at the intersection of the Orleans and Plaquemines Parish line located in the center of the Mississippi River near St. Bernard State Park; then moving west, following the Orleans Parish line to the intersection of the Orleans Parish line with River Road; then moving west on River Road and following River Road parallel to the western border of the Mississippi River to the point where River Road becomes Highway 11; then following Highway 11 until it reaches the point immediately east of East Walker Road; then moving west following East Walker Road and crossing Highway 23 to the intersection of Highway 23 and Walker Road; then moving west following Walker Road to the intersection of East Bayou Road; then moving north following East Bayou Road to the intersection of the service road servicing the intracoastal waterway west closure complex; then moving west-southwest along an imaginary line that intersects with the Jefferson Parish line running through Lake Salvador; then moving northeast, following the Jefferson Parish line to the intersection of the parish line with Highway 18; then moving southwest following Highway 18 (River Road) to the intersection of Interstate Highway 310; then moving north following Interstate Highway 310 across the Mississippi River and continuing on to the Interstate Highway 310 / Interstate Highway 10 interchange; then moving east following Interstate Highway 10 to its intersection with the Jefferson Parish line; then moving north following the Jefferson Parish line until reaching the south shoreline of Lake Ponchartrain; then moving east following the south shoreline of Lake Ponchartrain until its intersection with the Orleans Parish line; then moving south following the Orleans Parish line and following said parish line to the point of beginning.