

FOR INFORMATION  
DA-2009-46  
September 9, 2009

SUBJECT: Expansion of Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) Quarantine in California

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has obtained positive confirmation that LBAM, *Epiphyas postvittana*, was detected in additional areas of California, most recently in Los Angeles, San Joaquin, and San Luis Obispo Counties. The confirmation of LBAM's spread to additional California counties was made by the Systematic Entomology Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service in Washington, DC.

In response to recent detections, APHIS is working closely with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to carry-out regulatory and other response activities. The Federal Order expanding the LBAM quarantine area to prevent the further spread of the pest is attached. Effective immediately, all interstate movement of LBAM-regulated articles from the California Counties added to the quarantine must be handled in accordance with the attached Federal Order. APHIS is cooperating with CDFA and local county agricultural commissioners to carry out LBAM delimiting surveys in these counties.

LBAM is native to Australia and is found in New Zealand, Ireland, the United Kingdom, and Hawaii. The host range for LBAM is broad, including over 250 plant species known to be susceptible to attack by this pest. The major domestic hosts of concern are stone fruit (e.g., cherries, peaches, plums, nectarines, and apricots), apples, pears, grapes, and citrus.

For additional details on the Federal response to the detection of LBAM, please contact Deborah McPartlan, APHIS' National LBAM Coordinator, at (301) 734-5356, or Helene Wright, APHIS' State Plant Health Director in California, at (916) 930-5500.

**/s/ Paul R. Eggert for**

Rebecca A. Bech  
Deputy Administrator  
Plant Protection and Quarantine

**FEDERAL DOMESTIC QUARANTINE ORDER**  
***Epiphyas postvittana* (Light Brown Apple Moth)**

**DA-2009-46**  
**September 9, 2009**

The purpose of this Federal Order is to prevent the spread of Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM), *Epiphyas postvittana*, a plant pest, through regulatory authority provided by Section 412(a) of the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 7712(a), which 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 that the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the dissemination of a plant pest within the United States.

The Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) considers it necessary, in order to prevent the dissemination of the LBAM, to establish restrictions on the interstate movement of certain regulated articles from the States of California and Hawaii as described in this Federal Order. The Administrator has also identified a list of previously regulated articles (See C. 3 below) which have now been determined to be exempted from the regulatory provisions for interstate movement of regulated articles. The exemption is applicable only to commercially-produced commodities based on the pest mitigations provided through industry standards of production, harvesting, and packaging practices for each of the exempted commodities. This September 10, 2009, Federal Order adds the entire Counties of Los Angeles, San Joaquin, and San Luis Obispo, as newly infested counties. This Federal Order also updates the LBAM quarantine by adding the entire Counties of San Benito and Yolo, where confirmed detections have also occurred. This quarantine is necessary due to multiple LBAM detections in these counties. Go to the following website to view the Federal Orders issued by the Administrator:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/plant\\_pest\\_info/lba\\_moth/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/lba_moth/index.shtml)

**A. Quarantined Areas:**

The Administrator will list as a regulated area each state, or each portion of a state, in which LBAM has been confirmed by an inspector to be present, in which the Administrator has reason to believe that LBAM is present, or that the Administrator considers necessary to quarantine because of its inseparability for quarantine effectiveness and enforcement purposes from localities in which LBAM has been found.

Designation of an area less than an entire state as a quarantined area. Less than an entire state will be designated as a quarantined area only if the Administrator determines that:

- 1) The state has adopted and is enforcing restrictions on the intrastate movement of the regulated articles that are equivalent to those imposed by this subpart on the interstate movement of regulated articles; and
- 2) The designation of less than the entire state as a quarantined area will prevent the interstate spread of LBAM.

The Administrator has determined that California has adopted and is enforcing restrictions on the intrastate movement of the regulated articles that are substantially the same as those imposed by the Administrator on the interstate movement of regulated articles; and that the designation of less than the entire State of California as a quarantine area will be sufficient to prevent the interstate spread of LBAM.

The Administrator or an inspector may temporarily designate any non-quarantine area as a quarantine area. The Administrator will give a copy of the Federal Order that is in effect at the time along with a written notice for the temporary designation of a non-quarantine area as a quarantine area to the owner or person in possession of the non-quarantine area. Thereafter, the interstate movement of any regulated article from an area temporarily designated as a quarantine area will be subject to the Federal Order that is in effect at that time. As soon as practicable, the quarantined area will be added to the list of quarantine areas until the designation is terminated by the Administrator or an inspector. The owner or person in possession of an area for which designation is terminated will be given notice of the termination as soon as practicable.

The following areas are designated as **quarantined areas**:

- a. State of California –  
The entire counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Los Angeles, Marin, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, and Yolo.
- b. State of Hawaii – all counties in accordance with 7 CFR Part318.13-3.

#### **B. Determination of Infestation:**

The Administrator shall designate as a quarantined area each state, or each portion of a state, in which:

- 1) A total of two or more adult LBAM are trapped within 3 miles of each other and during the timeframe of one lifecycle as determined by the degree day model;  
or
- 2) A mated female LBAM is trapped; or
- 3) DNA analysis confirms the presence of one or more immature LBAMs; or
- 4) The Administrator considers it necessary to regulate due to the area's inseparability for quarantine enforcement purposes from localities in which LBAM has been found.

#### **C. Regulated Articles:**

- 1) The following are regulated articles, and may not be moved interstate from a LBAM quarantine area except in accordance with this Federal Order:
  - a. Nursery stock;

- b. Cut flowers;
- c. Cut trees and shrubs, such as Christmas trees;
- d. Garlands, wreaths, greenery, and other greenwaste of any plants;
- e. Fruits and vegetables, except those specifically exempted below;
- f. Green hay; and
- g. Bulk fresh herbs and spices, except those specifically exempted below.

2) In addition, any other product, article, or means of conveyance is considered a regulated article if an inspector determines it to present a risk of spreading LBAM and the inspector notifies the person in possession of the product, article, or means of conveyance that it is subject to the restrictions in the regulations.

3) The following commercially produced fruits, vegetables, and bulk fresh herbs are not considered regulated articles:

- a. Apium spp. (celery)
- b. Asparagus officinalis (asparagus)
- c. Beta spp. (beet)
- d. Brassica spp. (bok choy, broccoli, brussel sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, collards, kale, kohlrabi, and mustard)
- e. Capsicum spp. (pepper)
- f. Cucurbita spp. (pumpkin, squash)
- g. Cynara scolymus (globe artichoke)
- h. Daucus spp. (carrot without tops)
- i. Juglans spp. (walnut)
- j. Lactuca sativa (head lettuce, leaf lettuce)
- k. Olea spp. (olive)
- l. Petroselinum crispum (parsley)
- m. Raphanus spp. (radish without tops)

n. Solanum lycopersicum (tomato)

o. Solanum spp. (potato)

p. Spinacia oleracea (spinach)

#### **D. Conditions for Interstate Movement of Regulated Articles:**

##### 1) State of California –

a. In order to be eligible for interstate movement, nursery stock, cut flowers, garlands, wreaths or greenery of any plants, trees and bushes, greenwaste, and green hay located 1.5 miles or less from a LBAM detection site in any of the quarantined counties must meet the following conditions:

i. Trapping for LBAM must occur on each premises or farm in a LBAM quarantined area that ships regulated articles interstate. Premises or farms that are larger than five acres must maintain traps at a density of one trap every five acres or less. Premises or farms that are equal to or less than five acres must be trapped with a minimum of one trap. Inspection of traps by an inspector must occur biweekly;

ii. For movement of regulated articles of nursery stock or cut flowers, the place of production shall implement an integrated pest management program that includes regular inspections.

iii. Each shipment of articles intended for interstate movement must be inspected by an inspector and must have a certificate issued for interstate movement but only if the articles are found free of any life stages of LBAM.

b. In order to be eligible for interstate movement under certificate, nursery stock, cut flowers, garlands, wreaths or greenery of any plants, trees and bushes, greenwaste, and green hay, located more than 1.5 miles from a LBAM detection in any of the quarantined counties must meet the following conditions:

i. Trapping for LBAM must occur on each premises or farm in a LBAM quarantined area that ships regulated articles interstate. Premises or farms that are larger than five acres must maintain traps at a density of one trap every five acres or less. Premises or farms that are equal to or less than five acres must be trapped with a minimum of one trap. Inspection of traps by an inspector must occur biweekly to ensure freedom from LBAM.

ii. Each establishment or facility must be subjected to one visual inspection by an inspector to verify freedom from any LBAM life stages, including eggs, larvae, pupae; and

iii. Must be inspected by an inspector not more than 30 days prior to the interstate movement of the regulated article.

- c. Fruits and vegetables and bulk fresh herbs and spices (except as indicated in the attached list of exempted commodities) growing in areas 1.5 miles or less from a LBAM detection site in any of the quarantined counties must meet the following conditions:
  - i. Trapping for LBAM must occur at an approved trapping density and must be inspected by an inspector biweekly; and
  - ii. Each premise or farm must be inspected at least once by an inspector 30 days prior to the interstate movement of regulated articles and found free of LBAM.
- d. For all other regulated articles, except as indicated on the attached list of exempted commodities, growing in areas located more than 1.5 miles from a LBAM detection in any of the LBAM quarantined counties must meet the following conditions:
  - i. Trapping for LBAM must occur at an approved detection level and traps must be inspected by an inspector biweekly.

#### **E. Definitions:**

Certificate: A document in which an inspector, or person operating under a compliance agreement, affirms that a specified regulated article is eligible for interstate movement in accordance with this Order.

Degree day: A unit of measurement used to measure the amount of heat required to further the development of LBAM through its lifecycle. Day-degree life cycle requirements are calculated through a modeling process specific to LBAM.

Green Hay: Any grass or legumes cut and stored that are used for animal feed.

Green Waste: Vegetative material, such as leaves, grass clippings, weeds, yard, roadway and greenspace trimmings, wood waste, branches and stumps, home garden residues, and other miscellaneous plant materials.

Inspector: An employee of APHIS or other person authorized by the Administrator to enforce this Order.

Light brown apple moth (LBAM): The live insect known as light brown apple moth (*Epiphyas postvittana*) in any life stage (egg, larva, pupa, adult).

Nursery stock: All field-grown florist's stock, trees, shrubs, vines, cuttings, grafts, scions, buds, and other plants and plant products for propagation, except field, vegetable, and flower seeds, fruit pits, and other seeds of trees or shrubs, bulbs, and roots.