

FOR INFORMATION  
DA-2007-67  
December 12, 2007

SUBJECT: *Ceratitis capitata* (Mediterranean fruit fly) - Quarantined Area in Los Angeles County, California

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) confirmed further detections of Mediterranean fruit fly (Medfly) in the Palos Verdes Peninsula area of Los Angeles County, California. APHIS finds it necessary to expand the designated Medfly quarantine area to include a greater portion of Los Angeles County. Portions of Los Angeles County were previously designated as a Medfly quarantine area on November 8, 2007. These actions are necessary to prevent the spread of Medfly to noninfested areas of the United States. This Medfly outbreak is considered to be transient, actionable, and under eradication.

From October 24 through December 1, 2007, eight mated and five unmated female Medflies, one male Medfly, and, 17 larvae on thirteen separate residential properties were detected in the Palos Verdes Peninsula area. These detections triggered the initiation and now the subsequent expansion of this quarantine. The expanded quarantine boundary encompasses approximately 97 square miles of Los Angeles County. This is mostly a residential area, and there is no commercial host production in the quarantine area. Most of the Port of Los Angeles and portions of the Port of Long Beach are within the quarantine area.

Fruit fly traps are being deployed at protocol levels to conduct a delimitation survey surrounding the detection sites. Spinosad foliar bait spray treatments are being applied to all host trees within 200 meters of the detection sites at 7 to 10 day intervals. The release of sterile male Medflies was intensified in a 44.19-square-mile area surrounding the detection sites at a release rate of 250,000 sterile Medflies per square mile per week. The weekly release of sterile Medflies will continue through two projected Medfly life cycles in the Palos Verdes Peninsula area.

This action is effective immediately. The Federal Domestic Quarantine Order delineating the new expanded quarantine area for Medfly in Los Angeles County is attached. This quarantine area replaces the previous delineated quarantine area in Los Angeles County. APHIS anticipates following this action with the publication of an Interim Rule in the Federal Register and soliciting public comment in accordance with the Administrative Procedures Act.

For additional information on this Medfly quarantine, you may contact Wayne Burnett, Domestic Coordinator, Fruit Fly Exclusion and Detection Programs at (301) 734-4387.

/s/ **John H. Payne for**  
Richard L. Dunkle  
Deputy Administrator  
Plant Protection and Quarantine

# FEDERAL ORDER

## Domestic Quarantine in Los Angeles County, California for Mediterranean Fruit Fly (*Ceratitis capitata*)

This Federal Order is issued under the regulatory authority provided by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, as amended, Section 412(a), 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 the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the dissemination of a plant pest within the United States and the regulations promulgated pursuant to the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.78.

Medfly has been found in Palos Verdes Peninsula, Los Angeles County, California; and the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has reason to believe that the Medfly is present in that area and therefore it is necessary to quarantine an area in Los Angeles County in order to prevent the spread of Medfly. Therefore, effective immediately, APHIS is temporarily designating the following area in Los Angeles County, California, as a quarantined area:

In the Palos Verdes Peninsula area of Los Angeles County:

Beginning at the intersection of State Highway 1 and Pier Avenue; then, northeasterly, easterly and northeasterly along Pier Avenue to its intersection with Grant Avenue; then, easterly along Grant Avenue its intersection with Inglewood Avenue; then, southerly along Inglewood Avenue to its intersection with 182<sup>nd</sup> Street; then, easterly and northeasterly along 182<sup>nd</sup> Street to its intersection with US Interstate 405; then, southeasterly along US Interstate 405 to its intersection with Crenshaw Boulevard; then, southerly and southwesterly along Crenshaw Boulevard to its intersection with W 190<sup>th</sup> Street; then easterly and northeasterly along W 190<sup>th</sup> Street to its intersection with W Victoria Street; then, northeasterly along W Victoria Street to its intersection with E Victoria Street; then, northeasterly and easterly along E Victoria Street to its intersection with Avalon Boulevard; then, southerly along Avalon Boulevard to its intersection with E University Drive; then, easterly along E University Drive to its intersection with Central Avenue; then, southerly along Central Avenue to its intersection with E Del Amo Boulevard; then, easterly along E Del Amo Boulevard to its intersection with S Alameda Street; then, southwesterly along S Alameda Street to its intersection with US Interstate 405; then, easterly along US Interstate 405 to its intersection with Santa Fe Avenue; then, southerly along Santa Fe Avenue to its intersection with W 9<sup>th</sup> Street; then, northwesterly along W 9<sup>th</sup> Street to its intersection with Edison Avenue; then, southerly southeasterly, southwesterly and southeasterly along Edison Avenue to its southeastern most point; then, southwesterly along an imaginary line to its intersection with the northeastern most point of Carrack Avenue; then, southwesterly along an imaginary line to its intersection with the of W Ocean Boulevard and the eastern shoreline of Terminal Island; then, southeasterly, southwesterly, southeasterly and southerly along the shoreline of Terminal

Island to its southeastern most point; then, southerly along an imaginary line to its intersection with the southeastern most point of Nimitz Road; then, southwesterly and northwesterly along Nimitz Road to its intersection with Reeves Avenue; then, southwesterly along Reeves Avenue to its intersection with Terminal Way; then, due south along an imaginary line to its intersection with the shoreline of Terminal Island; then, southwesterly, southeasterly, southwesterly, southeasterly, northeasterly, southeasterly, southwesterly, northwesterly, southwesterly, northeasterly, northerly, westerly, northwesterly, northeasterly, northerly, northwesterly, southwesterly, southeasterly, northeasterly, southeasterly, northeasterly, southeasterly and southwesterly along the shoreline of Terminal Island to its southwestern most point; then, southwesterly along an imaginary line to its intersection with the southern most point of Signal Street; then, northwesterly along Signal Street to its intersection with E 22<sup>nd</sup> Street; then, southwesterly along E 22<sup>nd</sup> Street to its intersection with W 22<sup>nd</sup> Street; then, southwesterly and westerly along W 22<sup>nd</sup> Street to its intersection with S Pacific Avenue; then, southerly along S Pacific Avenue to its intersection with the northern boundary of Point Fermin Park; then, northeasterly and southeasterly along the boundary line of Point Fermin Park to its intersection with the California coastline; then, southwesterly, northerly, northwesterly, westerly, southwesterly, northwesterly, southwesterly, northwesterly, southwesterly, northwesterly, westerly, northwesterly, southwesterly, northwesterly, southwesterly, southerly, westerly, northerly, northwesterly, southwesterly, northwesterly, northeasterly, northerly, northwesterly, southwesterly, northwesterly, southwesterly, northerly, northwesterly, southwesterly, northeasterly, northwesterly, northerly, northwesterly, northeasterly, northwesterly, northerly, northwesterly, westerly, northwesterly, northeasterly, northwesterly, westerly, northwesterly, northeasterly, northwesterly, southwesterly, northwesterly, northeasterly, northerly, northeasterly, northerly, northwesterly, northerly, northwesterly, southwesterly, northerly, northeasterly and northerly along the California coastline to its intersection with the southern boundary line of Redondo Beach State Park; then, northerly along the boundary line of Redondo Beach State Park to its northern most point; then, northwesterly along an imaginary line to its intersection with the southern most point of the Redondo Beach peninsula; then, northwesterly, northeasterly, northerly and northwesterly along the California coastline to its intersection with the southern boundary line of Manhattan Beach County Park; then, northeasterly along the boundary line of Manhattan Beach County Park to its intersection with Pier Avenue; then, northeasterly and southeasterly along Pier Avenue to its intersection with State Highway 1; then, southeasterly along State Highway 1 to the point of beginning.

7 CFR 301.78-3(a) allows the quarantine of less than an entire State only when the State enforces an intrastate quarantine that matches APHIS' Mediterranean Fruit Fly regulations.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture has already designated the above delineated area as an area under quarantine under the California State interior quarantine for Mediterranean fruit fly.

The 7 CFR 301.78-3(b) provides for temporary designation of new quarantined areas pending publication of a rule to add affected areas to the list shown in 7CFR 301.78-3(c).

Effectively immediately, persons seeking movement of regulated articles designated in 7 CFR 301.78-2 should refer to 7 CFR 301.78-4 for conditions governing the interstate movement of regulated articles from quarantine areas.

This action will be reflected in an Interim Rule that we anticipate will soon be published in the Federal Register for public comment in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act.