

FOR INFORMATION
DA-2008-33
July 15, 2008

SUBJECT: *Anastreph ludens* (Mexican fruit fly) – Removal of Quarantined Area in San Diego County, California

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

On November 30, 2007, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) designated portions of San Diego County as Mexfly quarantine areas and applied restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles from that area to prevent the spread of Mexfly to noninfested areas of the United States. Since that time, APHIS has worked cooperatively with the California Department of Food and Agriculture to eradicate the transient population of Mexfly from that area through various population control actions, including the release of sterile Mexflies and the application of foliar bait sprays.

Eradication was concluded after sufficient time passed without finding additional Mexflies in the area. Specifically, an intensified fruit fly trap surveillance system was deployed and monitored for three life cycles, calculated through a modeling process specific for Mexfly.

This action is effective immediately. This change to the quarantine area will be reflected on the following designated website which contains a description of all the current Federal fruit fly quarantine areas:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/fruit_flies/index.shtml

APHIS anticipates following this action with the publication of a notice in the Federal Register informing the public of this change. For additional information on the removal of the Mexfly quarantine, you may contact Wayne Burnett, Domestic Coordinator, Fruit Fly Exclusion and Detection Programs at Area Code (301) 734-4387.

/s/ Paul R. Eggert /for

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