

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2011-65
October 27, 2011

SUBJECT: Oriental Fruit Fly, *Bactrocera dorsalis* – Expansion of Quarantine Area in the Stockton Area of San Joaquin County, California

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

Effective October 21, 2011, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) expanded the Oriental fruit fly (OFF) quarantine area in the Stockton area of San Joaquin County, California. APHIS is applying restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles from the quarantine area. These actions are necessary in order to prevent the spread of OFF to noninfested areas of the United States. This OFF outbreak is considered to be transient, actionable, and under eradication.

On September 22, 2011, APHIS expanded the OFF quarantine area in the Stockton area of San Joaquin County due to the detection of five adult male and three unmated adult female OFF on five residential properties. On October 21, APHIS further expanded the quarantine area in Stockton by 3-square miles due to additional OFF findings on two new residential properties within the quarantine area. The OFF quarantine area in San Joaquin County now totals approximately 121-square miles. APHIS, in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the San Joaquin Office of Agricultural Commissioner, is responding to these confirmed OFF findings.

Fruit fly traps have been deployed at protocol levels to conduct a delimitation survey surrounding all OFF detection sites. Spinosad foliar bait spray treatments are being applied to all host trees in the surrounding 200 meters from all detection sites in conjunction with the removal of any existing host fruit. In addition, within the 9-square miles surrounding all detection sites bait stations are being applied to utility poles, street trees, and other unpainted surfaces (such as fences) using pressurized tree marking guns at a density of 600 bait stations per square mile. These bait stations contain a mixture of an attractant (methyl eugenol), a pesticide (naled) and a thickening agent (Min-U-Gel) to lure the male OFF to be killed after feeding at the bait station.

The expansion of this quarantine area is 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/quarantine.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 OFF Eradication Program, you may contact Wayne Burnett, APHIS Exotic Fruit Fly Director, at (301) 734-6553.

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