

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2011-16
March 25, 2011

SUBJECT: Clarification of the Sweet Orange Scab (*Elsinoë australis*) Federal Order Issued on March 23, 2011

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is clarifying portions of the Sweet Orange Scab (*Elsinoë australis*) Federal Order, DA-2011-14 issued March 23, 2011.

Specifically, citrus fruit from Florida and Arizona that have been harvested or packed and not yet shipped prior to the issuance of the Federal Order are not subjected to its labeling requirements. However, all other conditions outlined in the Federal Order must be met. Please note that Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas are already subjected to the labeling requirements via the Federal Order issued on December 22, 2010, and should, therefore, continue to provide this information on both the paperwork accompanying the shipment and on the containers in which the regulated articles are packed.

Although APHIS is not requiring that labels accompany each container of fruit that was harvested or packed and not yet shipped prior to the March 23 Federal Order, APHIS requests that packing houses attach one label to the pallet of fruit and one label to the conveyance (provided all other conditions have been met). The following information should be included on the labels attached to the pallet and conveyance:

- (1) Name of Grove, Land Owner/agent, Lessee, Harvester;
- (2) License tag number;
- (3) Number of boxes contained in load (if not bulk);
- (4) Grove block in which the fruit originated;
- (5) Processing plant or packing house to which fruit is destined; and
- (6) Date of harvest

Additionally, in response to learning that some small packing houses are having difficulty meeting the labeling requirement, APHIS will provide assistance to them until April 15. Please contact your respective APHIS State Plant Health Director's office to make arrangements to receive labeling assistance.

For additional information, you may contact Leon Bunce, Eastern Regional Program Manager, at (919) 855-7360 or Deborah McPartlan, National Program Manager, at (301) 734-5356.

/s/ Rebecca A. Bech

Rebecca A. Bech
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine