

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2012-43
October 19, 2012

SUBJECT: APHIS Establishes Two Additional Regulated Areas in Florida for Giant African Snail (*Lissachatina fulica*, formerly *Achatina fulica*)

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is notifying stakeholders of two new regulated areas for giant African snail (GAS) in Miami-Dade County, Florida. In August, program personnel detected GAS in two residential areas outside of, but closely associated with, existing regulated areas in Miami. The revised map and description of the new regulated area are posted on the APHIS website at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/gas/index.shtml.

In September 2011, APHIS confirmed the detection of GAS, *Lissachatina fulica*, in a residential area of Miami, Florida. GAS is one of the most damaging snails in the world because it is known to consume at least 500 different plants including vegetables, fruits, and ornamental crops.

Since the initial detection, APHIS has actively worked with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to conduct survey, regulatory, control, and outreach activities within the affected areas.

For further information, please contact Anthony Man-Son-Hing, Regional Program Manager, at (919) 855-7331, or Andrea Simao, National Program Manager, at (301) 851-2067.

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