

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2014-49
October 28, 2014

Subject: Removal of Mexican Fruit Fly (*Anastrepha ludens*) Quarantine Area in Weslaco, Hidalgo County, Texas

To: State and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effective August 25, 2014, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) removed the Mexican fruit fly quarantine area from Weslaco, Hidalgo County, Texas.

To prevent the spread of Mexican fruit fly (mexfly) to noninfested areas of the United States, APHIS and TDA established a mexfly regulated area (DA-2014-26 dated January 16, 2014) that restricted the interstate movement of regulated articles from Weslaco, Hidalgo County, Texas. APHIS, TDA, and the Texas citrus industry followed program protocols and used various control actions to eradicate the transient mexfly populations. APHIS removed the quarantine after three life cycles passed without finding additional mexflies in this area.

Information about the removal of this quarantine area and a description of all of the current federal fruit fly quarantine areas may be found at:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-health/ff-quarantine>

For additional information on APHIS Fruit Fly Programs, you may call APHIS Exotic Fruit Fly Policy Manager John Stewart at 919-855-7426.

/s/

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Plant Protection and Quarantine