

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION

DA-2016-42

June 24, 2016

Subject: APHIS Establishes a Mexican Fruit Fly (*Anastrepha ludens*) Quarantine in the Laredo Area of Webb County, Texas

To: State and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effective June 7, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) established a Mexican fruit fly (*Anastrepha ludens* or Mexfly) quarantine in a residential area of Laredo, Webb County, Texas. APHIS is applying safeguarding measures and restrictions on the interstate movement or entry into foreign trade of regulated articles from this area.

We are taking this action because APHIS confirmed two adult Mexflies on June 6 and one Mexfly larva on June 7 in the Laredo area of Texas. In cooperation with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA), APHIS is responding to this confirmed detection with the establishment of a new quarantine area, which encompasses approximately 57 square miles of Webb County. APHIS is working with TDA to respond to this detection following program survey and treatment protocols. This action is necessary to prevent the spread of Mexfly to non-infested areas of the United States.

The establishment 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/ff-quarantine>

For additional information about the Fruit Fly Program, please contact National Policy Manager John Stewart at 919-855-7426.



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Deputy Administrator

Plant Protection and Quarantine