

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION

DA-2017-28

September 14, 2017

Subject: APHIS Removes Mexican Fruit Fly (*Anastrepha ludens*) Quarantine in the Brownsville Area of Cameron County, Texas

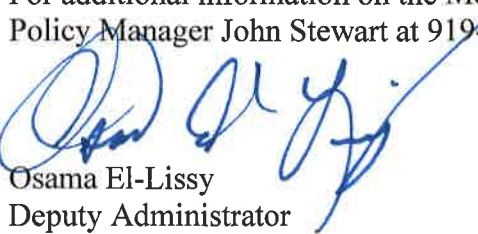
To: State and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effective September 5, 2017, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) removed the Mexican fruit fly (*Anastrepha ludens* or Mexfly) quarantine area in Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas.

On June 9, 2017, APHIS and TDA established a Mexfly quarantine in the Brownsville area of Cameron County, Texas, restricting the interstate movement of regulated articles from this area to prevent the spread of Mexfly to noninfested areas of the United States. Since that time, APHIS has worked cooperatively with TDA and the Texas citrus industry to eradicate the transient Mexfly population through various control actions per program protocols. APHIS removed the quarantine after three Mexfly life-cycles elapsed with negative detections in the area. This removal of the quarantine area is reflected on the following designated website, which contains a description of the current Federal fruit fly quarantine areas:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/fruit_flies/quarantine.shtml

For additional information on the Mexfly quarantine area, please contact National Fruit Fly Policy Manager John Stewart at 919-855-7426.



Osama El-Lissy
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine