

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2010-14
April 28, 2010

SUBJECT: *Bactrocera dorsalis* (Oriental fruit fly) – Removal of Quarantined Area in Los Angeles County, California

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

Effective April 26, 2010, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has removed the La Verne area of Los Angeles County, California from its Oriental fruit fly (OFF) quarantine area. Following this action, there will be no remaining OFF quarantine areas in Los Angeles County.

On August 11, 2009, APHIS designated portions of Los Angeles County as fruit fly-quarantine area and applied restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles from that area in order to prevent the spread of OFF to noninfested areas of the United States. Since that time, APHIS has worked cooperatively with the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner to eradicate the transient population of OFF from the area through various population control actions, including the application of male annihilation technique. Male annihilation involves the use of a high density of bait stations consisting of a male lure combined with an insecticide.

Eradication was concluded after sufficient time passed without finding additional OFF in the area. Specifically, an intensified fruit fly trap surveillance system was deployed and monitored for three life cycles, calculated through a modeling process specific for OFF. Accordingly, the OFF quarantine was lifted from Los Angeles County on April 26, 2010. This change to the 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/plant_pest_info/fruit_flies/index.shtml

APHIS anticipates following this action with the publication of a notice in the *Federal Register* informing the public of this change. For additional information on the removal of the OFF quarantine area, you may contact Wayne Burnett, APHIS Exotic Fruit Fly Director, Fruit Fly Exclusion and Detection Programs at Area Code (301) 734-4387.

/s/Paul R. Eggert /for

Rebecca A. Bech
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine