

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2011- 57
September 23, 2011

SUBJECT: Oriental Fruit Fly, *Bactrocera dorsalis* – Establishment of a New Quarantine Area in the Stockton Area of San Joaquin County, California

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

Effective September 22, 2011, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) established a new Oriental fruit fly (OFF) quarantine area in the Stockton area of San Joaquin County, California. APHIS is applying restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles from the quarantine area. These actions are necessary in order to prevent the spread of OFF to noninfested areas of the United States. This OFF outbreak is considered to be transient, actionable, and under eradication.

From September 8, 2011 to September 15, 2011, a total of five adult male OFF and three unmated adult female OFF were detected on five different residential properties in the Stockton area of San Joaquin County, California. APHIS, in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the San Joaquin Office of Agricultural Commissioner, is responding to these confirmed OFF findings. These confirmed findings triggered the establishment of the new quarantine area, which encompasses approximately 118-square miles of San Joaquin County.

Fruit fly traps have been deployed at protocol levels to conduct a delimitation survey surrounding all OFF detection sites. Spinosad foliar bait spray treatments are being applied to all host trees in the surrounding 200 meters from all detection sites in conjunction with the removal of any existing host fruit. In addition, within the 9-square miles surrounding all detection sites bait stations are being applied to utility poles, street trees, and other unpainted surfaces (such as fences) using pressurized tree marking guns at a density of 600 bait stations per square mile. These bait stations contain a mixture of an attractant (methyl eugenol), a pesticide (naled) and a thickening agent (Min-U-Gel) to lure the male OFF to be killed after feeding at the bait station.

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/plant_pest_info/fruit_flies/quarantine.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 OFF Eradication Program, you may contact Wayne Burnett, APHIS Exotic Fruit Fly Director, at (301) 734-6553.

/s/ **Paul R. Eggert** /for

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