

FOR INFORMATION  
DA-2010-39  
September 13, 2010

SUBJECT: Detection of Silver Y Moth, *Autographa gamma*, in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

On July 30, 2010, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) confirmed the identification of one *Autographa gamma*, Silver Y Moth, from a grape vineyard in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The adult male specimen was from a pheromone baited trap serviced by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture as part of the Farm Bill-enhanced Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) national grape commodity survey. Although this moth has been frequently intercepted at U.S. ports-of-entry, this is the first detection of Silver Y Moth in the United States.

In response to this detection, APHIS is working closely with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA) and the vineyard grower to survey and delimit for additional Silver Y Moths. PDA has increased the trapping density around a five mile radius of the find and increased the number of traps in nearby counties. APHIS initiated a delimiting survey and a targeted detection survey to determine if this moth is present in other areas of Pennsylvania and other Eastern states. To date, no additional Silver Y Moth detections have occurred. APHIS will continue to work with stakeholders to survey for the pest, while climatic conditions are conducive for the remaining year. APHIS will also be communicating with States through the CAPS program to encourage surveying efforts for next season.

The Silver Y Moth is a pest of concern because of its wide host range and reports of it occurring in other countries including areas of Europe, Asia, and North Africa. The moth may significantly impact a wide range of vegetable crops, greenhouse plants, garden flowers, and young trees.

Under the International Plant Protection Convention standards, *Autographa gamma* is considered to be a pest that is transient, actionable, and under surveillance in Pennsylvania.

For additional information, you may contact Brian Kopper, Eastern Regional Program Manager, at (919) 855-7318 or Valerie DeFeo, National Program Manager, at (301) 734-3393.

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

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