

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION  
DA-2008-67  
October 1, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Establishment of an Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) Quarantine Area in California and Expansion of the Citrus Greening (CG) Quarantine Area in Louisiana

**TO:** STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is issuing a revised Federal Order that establishes an ACP quarantine area in California and expands the CG quarantine area in Louisiana. This action is necessary in order to prevent the interstate spread of ACP and CG.

As a result of ongoing surveys conducted by APHIS in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), a detection of ACP in San Diego County, California, was confirmed on September 2, 2008. The detection was made in a lemon tree located at a residential property located in the western part of the county, approximately 11 miles north of the international border with Mexico. Since the time of the initial detection, ACP has been confirmed at several additional residential properties in the vicinity of the original detection, as well as at two residential properties farther east from the site of the initial detection. The most recent detection was confirmed by the State on September 15, 2008. Laboratory PCR tests of both psyllids and host plant material collected at the infested properties in San Diego County were negative when tested for the presence of the CG pathogen.

The attached Federal Order updates the previous version issued on September 12, 2008, with respect to the areas now regulated for ACP, by adding a 1,811-square-mile portion of San Diego County, California. APHIS believes that in this case it is appropriate to regulate less than an entire county since the 1,811-square-mile area being regulated includes a substantial buffer surrounding the infestation. The State of California and San Diego County have agreed to implement regulatory and other measures to reduce the likelihood of the spread of ACP through the movement of infested plant material. CDFA has put in place a parallel regulated area that establishes requirements governing the intrastate movement of regulated articles from the quarantine area that are equivalent to those requirements in the CG/ACP Federal Order.

In addition, the presence of CG has been confirmed on September 5, 2008, in Washington Parish, Louisiana. The detection was based on leaves collected from an orange tree at a residential property. Extensive surveys conducted in the vicinity of the infected tree failed to find any evidence of ACP, and the Parish is not in an area where a quarantine area was previously established for ACP. It should be noted that this is an area in which there is no commercial citrus and in which citrus is not commonly found in residential settings. In response to this new detection of CG, the State has agreed to expand their CG quarantine area, which previously only listed Orleans Parish to now include Washington Parish.

The attached Federal Order also updates the previous version issued on September 12, 2008, with respect to the areas now regulated for CG by adding Washington Parish, Louisiana. The

new maps reflecting these changes will be posted on the APHIS website ([www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov)) under the subject of Plant Health, Citrus Greening.

APHIS continues to work closely with all of the affected states to delimit the presence ACP and to identify any CG infestations, while assessing what other measures need to be taken in response to these new finds. For additional information about this program, you may contact Patrick Gomes, National Coordinator, Citrus Health Response Program, at Area Code (919) 855-7313.

/s/ John H. Payne      /for

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Attachment:  
Federal Order  
Maps