


CITRUS HEALTH RESPONSE PROGRAM




APHIS
Response to
Citrus Black Spot
In Florida

August 2010


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APHIS Response to CBS

- Survey
- Detection
- Regulatory Control



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• **Survey**

- Grove: Assisted DPI in surveys of groves, particularly lemon groves in Collier & Hendry counties
- Residential: Surveyed over 11,000 properties in Immokalee and Golden Gate Estates
- Re-emphasized CBS awareness during Multiple Pest Surveys statewide

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• **Survey**

- Provided CBS training materials to APHIS Fruit Fly Detection personnel for use when servicing fruit fly traps
- For 10/11 season, APHIS will join DPI in surveying for CBS to delimit the disease distribution and establish the quarantine area

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• **Detection**

- Assigned APHIS personnel to all 17 processing plants statewide that receive fresh fruit
- Assisted DPI Pathologists in training of processing plant employees for around-the-clock detection of CBS on arriving fruit

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• **Regulatory Control**

- Issued Emergency Action Notifications (EAN's) to growers within 1-mile arc of all CBS finds and to processors receiving whole fruit from any multiblock within 1-mile arc
- EAN's identified regulated grove blocks, required tarping of fruit moved out of regulated area, and required cleaning and disinfection of trailers hauling fruit

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- **Regulatory Control**
 - EAN's will be reissued soon and will remain in effect until a Federal Order is issued, a formal quarantine is established and producers, packers and processors are placed under Compliance Agreements
 - Tarping from CBS-regulated groves to processors (or packers) will continue to be required, as will cleaning and disinfection of trailers with proper destruction of debris

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- **Regulatory Control**
 - APHIS has completed a Pest Risk Assessment (PRA) for CBS designed to identify safeguarding measures to facilitate safe movement of fruit from a CBS quarantine area
 - The PRA concludes that fresh and dried fruit is not a pathway for the movement and establishment of Citrus Black Spot

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- **Regulatory Control**
 - PRA currently undergoing peer review and cannot be used as a basis for long-term regulatory strategy until the formal review is complete
 - Current completion estimate: October
 - APHIS Administrator Cindy Smith recently visited groves in Collier County and understands the urgency of finalizing the regulatory framework for CBS before the harvest season

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- **Regulatory Control**
 - In the meantime, we are in the process of developing interim safeguarding measures designed to accommodate producers in the regulated area who wish to harvest early-season fruit
 - Goal: Finalize interim safeguarding measures by September 16

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- **Regulatory Control**
 - Interim measures will outline conditions to facilitate the safe interstate movement of fresh citrus from the CBS-regulated area
 - **Possible interim measures**
 - Field treatments for CBS
 - Preharvest Survey within 30 days of harvest (CBS tolerance?)
 - Commercial packing with grading/culling and disinfection
 - Packinghouse inspection by APHIS
 - Limited distribution to non-citrus producing states only

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- **Regulatory Control**
 - Export of fruit from a CBS-quarantine area
 - Japan
 - Considers CBS a pest of major quarantine significance but requires no special risk mitigation
 - APHIS will inspect fruit from CBS-regulated areas only
 - Will incinerate fruit if CBS lesions are found
 - European Union
 - Fruit from CBS-regulated area prohibited to EU at this time
 - No change in export requirements of fruit to EU from other parts of Florida

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- **Regulatory Control**
 - **REALITY:** Movement of fruit from a CBS regulated area as well as how that area is defined are both highly charged political issues
 - APHIS must ensure that all actions it takes are scientifically valid and supportable in a court of law, as they are likely to be challenged

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THANK YOU!

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