



Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement

Commissioner Wilton Simpson



Florida Department of
Agriculture and Consumer Services

- FDACS agricultural inspectors began inspecting citrus fruit shipments in 1935 as mandated by Florida statute.
- Inspections were conducted to ensure that all shipments of citrus complied with standards established by the Florida Citrus Commission and the US Department of Agriculture.
- Originally, most stations were staffed by local citizens, generally farmers, looking to supplement their income.
- Stations were often housed in tents and used kerosene lanterns for lighting. Inspectors used their own vehicles to chase down those failing to stop.
- In 1951 the inspection stations began operating 24 hours a day, year round and inspected fruits and vegetables.



Tick inspection station, Baker County, circa 1930.



Core Mission

Officers conduct inspections of agricultural, horticultural, aquacultural products to ensure compliance with DACS regulations, Federal and State Marketing Agreements and Florida laws.



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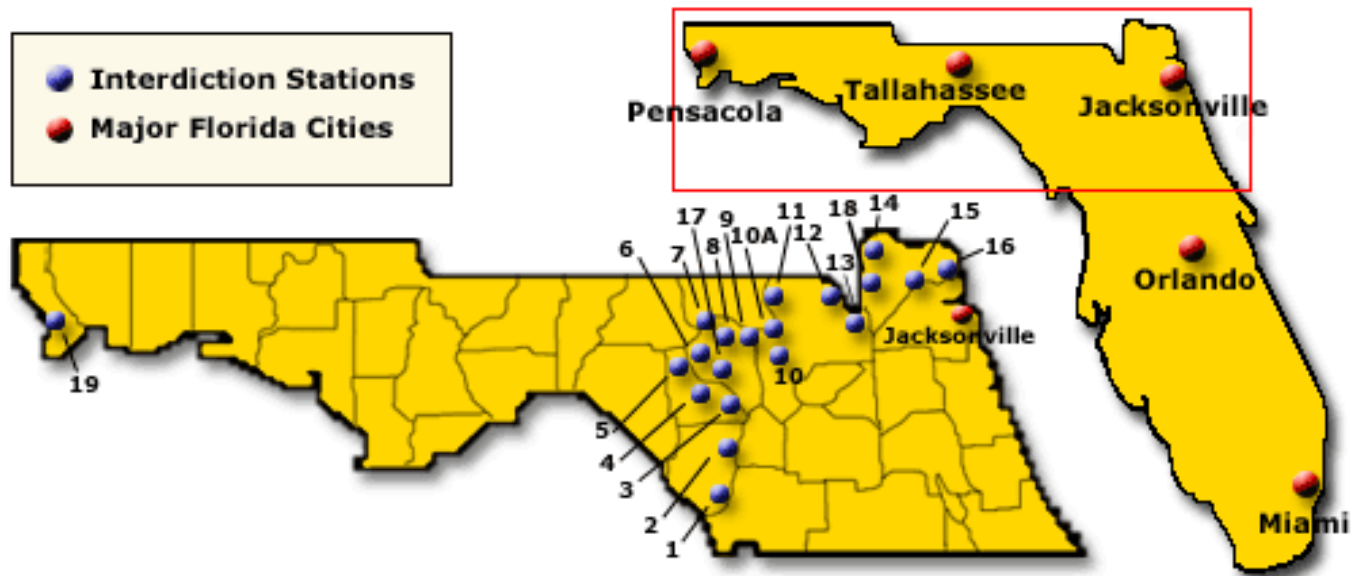
Florida's protected
agricultural area
consists of all counties
south of the Suwannee
and St. Mary's Rivers.



Florida Department of
Agriculture and Consumer Services

The Bureau of Uniform Services has four operational regions and 23 inspection stations located in North Florida and the Panhandle.

The stations are located on every paved highway crossing the natural boundary of the Suwannee and St. Mary's Rivers.





Inspections are conducted at
each location around the clock,
365 days a year.



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Citrus Paperwork Violations

- Driver has a bill of laden on commercial load
- Driver does not have a MOCC
- Citrus is packed in brand new boxes
- Boxes have Inspection stamps
- Most likely the citrus has been inspected and the MOCC has been misplaced
- Violation documented on FDACS form, load allowed to proceed to destination



Citrus Criminal Violation

- Driver has a bill of lading on commercial load
- Driver does not have a MOCC
- Citrus is packed in used boxes, banana boxes moving boxes, water boxes, etc.
- No stamps on boxes
- Citrus has leaves and stems still attached
- Citrus most likely uninspected
- Driver may be arrested/NTA, load not allowed proceed



Seeking Violations



Seeking Violations



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Seeking Violations





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