



ADVISORY

NEW ACP REQUIREMENTS FOR AUSTRALIA EXPORTS

December 21, 2010

Australia Exporters:

The California Citrus Quality Council (CCQC) is contacting you to report that USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and Biosecurity Australia have reached an agreement to lift the Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) inspection on fruit originating in an ACP quarantine area. Previously, a 600 fruit per lot sample pre-packing ACP inspection was required. The new agreement which covers the balance of the 2010/2011 season is as follows:

Under the revised interim measures against the Asian citrus psyllid (*Diaphorina citri*), one of the following measures must be implemented for USA citrus fruit imported to Australia during the 2010/2011 season:

- a) **Pest-Free Places of Production** - Sourcing fruit from USA counties for which USDA/APHIS can provide certification for places of production free of Asian citrus psyllid (i.e., non-regulated areas);
OR
- b) **Washing, Brushing, and Waxing-for Regulated areas or if Option (a) is Not Possible** - Fruit must be subjected to washing, brushing and waxing. In addition, packing houses in regulated areas must have a system of monitoring for ACP in the packing house to address contamination.

Phytosanitary certificates for option (b) should include (AD requirement):

"The fruit in this consignment has been subjected to approved packinghouse measures (washing, waxing, and brushing) effective against *Diaphorina citri*."

County inspection officials will coordinate and service packing house traps. Please contact your county Agricultural Commissioner to coordinate trapping for houses located within an ACP quarantine area.

Biosecurity Australia agreed to the change because of the low prevalence of ACP populations in commercial groves in the ACP quarantine area, the intensity of monitoring and trapping of ACP in quarantine areas and research conducted by the Agricultural Research Service's Spencer Walse on the effectiveness of standard packing procedures. The research was funded by USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service and facilitated by CCQC, Citrus Mutual, Citrus Research Board and Sunkist Growers.

Please contact me by telephone at (530) 885-1894 or via e-mail at jcranney@calcitrusquality.org if you have questions or need additional information.