



June 27, 2011

JAPAN COUNTRY ALERT

Japan Exporters:

The California Citrus Quality Council (CCQC) is requesting immediate action from California citrus packers that export to Japan. We are requesting that all houses review their standard operating procedures (SOPs) to avoid additional violations in Japan. We are requesting this action to ensure that all exports meet Japan's regulatory requirements, especially maximum pesticide residue limits (MRLs), and to avoid possible industry wide sanctions.

CCQC was notified late last week that Japan's Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare (MHLW) detected an MRL violation from an application of Imazalil. It is our understanding that MHLW has evaluated the nature of the violation and determined that it will not be necessary to impose additional sanctions on the California citrus industry because the violation was from a post harvest application particular to a specific packing house. Should MHLW view violations as a wide concern they may require additional sanctions on the entire industry.

Please make every effort to ensure that residues are within Japan's MRLs by evaluating grower pesticide records, periodic residue testing and reaffirming SOPs with service companies.

Please be aware that even one additional violation could result in 100 percent test and hold for the entire California citrus industry until there are 300 clean shipments or two years of clean shipments.

We appreciate your continued diligence to ensure there are no additional problems with exports to Japan.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "JRCranney, Jr." in a cursive style.

James R. Cranney, Jr.
President