



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF  
CHEMICAL SAFETY AND  
POLLUTION PREVENTION

United States Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
Environmental and Risk Analysis Services  
Policy and Program Development  
4700 River Road  
Riverdale, Maryland 20737

**Date Issued:** February 6, 2019  
**Expiration Date:** February 6, 2022  
**Interim Report (s) Due:** February 6, 2020, February 6, 2021  
**Final Report Due:** August 6, 2022  
**File symbol:** 19DA02


**Attn:** Samantha B. Floyd

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hereby grants a quarantine exemption under the provisions of section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) as amended, to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, (APHIS), for emergency use of citric acid. This exemption permits citric acid disinfectant treatments of sites with hard, nonporous and porous food and nonfood surfaces that are contaminated or potentially contaminated with foot-and-mouth disease virus (FMDv), African swine fever virus (ASFv), low pathogenic avian influenza virus (LPAIv) and high pathogenic avian influenza virus (HPAIv).

In the event of an ASFv, FMDv, HPAIv, or LPAIv outbreak, a combination of porous and nonporous surfaces would need to be treated with citric acid at any number of agricultural sites. The use sites include, but are not limited to the following: any federal, state, or private indoor or outdoor use site, such as agricultural and non-agricultural equipment and facilities; transportation equipment and facilities; quarantine equipment and facilities; laboratory equipment and facilities; and any footwear/personal protective equipment associated with the above referenced use sites. Treatments may be conducted at any location in the United States, including tribal lands. This citric acid quarantine exemption program is for use only when no suitable EPA-registered products are available and is subject to the conditions and restrictions specified in your request submitted to the Agency on January 29, 2019, and amended on January 30, 2019 including the following:

- 1) The USDA/APHIS is responsible for ensuring that all provisions of this quarantine exemption are met. USDA/APHIS is also responsible for providing information in accordance with 40 CFR §166.32(b). Accordingly, include in a final report summarizing the results of this program, a discussion on the effectiveness of the citric acid program as well as monitoring and/or confirmatory data indicating that the treated areas are pathogen free prior to repopulation. This report must be submitted to EPA Headquarters and the appropriate EPA Regional Office(s) within 6 months following the expiration of this quarantine exemption. Interim reports must be submitted annually by the dates specified above. Additionally, in accordance with 40 CFR §166.32(a), these offices shall be immediately informed of any adverse effects resulting from the use of this chemical in connection with this exemption. Refer to file symbol **19DA02** in any future correspondence regarding this exemption.
- 2) Unregistered Citric acid product, (99-100% solid formulation), manufactured by Archer Daniels Midland Company, may be used under this exemption to create an acidic environment inhospitable to certain disease agents of domestic animals.
- 3) Rate of application for FMDv, ASFv, LPAIv and HPAIv outbreak on **porous** surfaces: apply 3% citric acid. Prepare solution by dissolving solid citric acid in soft, moderately hard or hard water, containing no more than 400 ppm soluble salts with a 30-minute contact time. Surfaces must be pre-cleaned by removing extraneous organic matter, such as with detergent, rinsing, and drying. EPA believes porous materials will be the most challenging to disinfect. Thus, it is recommended that the removal and destruction (e.g., incineration) of any potentially contaminated porous materials (smaller items) be conducted in advance of a large-scale application of the product.
- 4) Rate of application for FMDv, ASFv, LPAIv and HPAIv outbreak on **nonporous** surfaces: apply 3% citric acid. Prepare solution by dissolving solid citric acid in soft, moderately hard or hard water, containing no more than 400 ppm soluble salts with a 15-minute contact time. Surfaces must be pre-cleaned by removing extraneous organic matter, such as with detergent, rinsing, and drying. Where feasible, remove and destroy small contaminated items in advance of a large-scale application of the product.
- 5) No disinfectant treatments are permitted under this authorization on food or feed.
- 6) Applicators must wear protective eyewear (goggles, face shield, or safety glasses) and chemical-resistant gloves, during application to minimize dermal and inhalation exposure to applicators.
- 7) EPA encourages the USDA/APHIS to seek out the most effective virucidal products and cultural practices based on the best scientific data for treating contaminated materials and to support new product efficacy data against the target pathogens, especially on porous materials.
- 8) This section 18 citric acid quarantine exemption expires three (3) years from date of issuance listed above.

If you have any questions regarding the authorization of this quarantine exemption program, please contact Emergency Response Team member Stacey Groce (703-305-2505; [groce.stacey@epa.gov](mailto:groce.stacey@epa.gov)) or the Emergency Response Team Leader, Tawanda Maignan at (703) 308-8050; [maignan.tawanda@epa.gov](mailto:maignan.tawanda@epa.gov)

  
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Michael L. Goodis, Director  
Registration Division  
Office of Pesticide Programs

Date: February 6, 2019

cc: USEPA Region 3, Harry Daw