



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

OCT 22 2012

OFFICE OF  
CHEMICAL SAFETY AND  
POLLUTION PREVENTION

Ms. Maria T. Boroja, Acting Chief  
Environmental and Risk Analysis Services  
Policy and Program Development  
United States Department of Agriculture  
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
4700 River Road  
Riverdale, Maryland 20737

**Date Issued:** October 22, 2012  
**Expiration Date:** October 22, 2015  
**Interim Reports Due:** October 22, 2013, October 22, 2014  
**Final Reports Due:** April 22, 2016  
**File symbol:** 12DA02

**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, as amended, to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, (APHIS), for use of citric acid to control the viruses that cause foot and mouth disease (FMD) and African swine fever (ASF). This exemption permits citric acid disinfection treatments on porous and nonporous food and non-food contact surfaces potentially contaminated with foot and mouth disease virus (FMDv) and African swine fever virus (ASFv). 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 footwear/personal protective equipment associated with the above referenced use sites. This quarantine exemption is subject to the conditions and restrictions specified in your application submitted to the Agency on April 13, 2012 and amended on September 20, 2012, including the following:

- 1) The USDA APHIS is responsible for ensuring that all provisions of this quarantine exemption have been met. USDA APHIS is also responsible for providing information in accordance with 40 CFR §166.32(a). Accordingly, EPA Headquarters and the appropriate EPA Regional Office(s) shall be immediately informed of any adverse effects resulting from the use of this chemical in connection with this exemption. Additionally, in accordance with 40 CFR §166.32(b), interim reports and a final report summarizing the results of this quarantine program must be submitted to these offices. Interim reports must be submitted annually and the final report must be submitted within six months following the expiration of this program.

- 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. If additional supply is necessary, notify the EPA of alternative manufacturers. Treatments of citric acid as a disinfectant are to be made only when suitable federally registered products are unavailable during an emergency outbreak of FMD or ASF. All applicable use directions detailed in the quarantine exemption request updated on September 20, 2012 as well as restrictions and precautions on the citric acid product label must be followed, except as modified by this authorization.
- 3) Rate of application: Apply 3% citric acid for 30 minutes. If this rate is not practical due to corrosive properties of citric acid, apply 2% citric acid for 20 minutes. While 2% citric acid for 20 minutes will not inactivate 100% of the virus, it should achieve significant virus inactivation.
- 4) Surfaces must be pre-cleaned by removing extraneous organic matter such as with detergent, rinsing, and drying. Prepare solution by diluting 1 ounce citric acid per 1 U.S. quart of water (30 grams of citric acid per 1 liter of water). Disinfectant mixture can then be sprayed or wiped onto surfaces until moist. Allow 15 minute contact time (i.e., keep surface wet for 15 minutes and reapply solution if necessary). Fresh solution should be prepared for each use. Always apply freshly made solutions. Do not reuse the solution.
- 5) Applications under this quarantine exemption may be made by APHIS and its partners (i.e., federal, state, and local governments, animal industries and members of the general public) and treatments may be conducted at any location in the United States, including tribal lands only in the absence of suitable EPA registered products.
- 6) Citric acid as an active ingredient in a pesticide chemical formulation is exempt from the requirement of tolerance for purposes of food exposures under FFDCFA section 408 (40 CFR 180.950(e)). Citric acid is Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS) by FDA for use as a general-purpose food additive. Therefore, a time-limited tolerance will not be established to support this quarantine exemption program.
- 7) No disinfectant treatments are permitted under this authorization on food or feed items.
- 8) Wear personal protective equipment (PPE), including protective eyewear (goggles, face shield, or safety glasses) and chemical-resistant gloves, during application to minimize dermal and inhalation exposure to applicators.
- 9) This section 18 quarantine exemption expires 3 years from the date of issuance.
- 10) Future correspondence regarding this quarantine exemption should refer to the following file symbol: 12DA02

If you have any questions regarding the authorization of this quarantine exemption program, please contact Stacey Groce at (703) 305-2505 or via email at [groce.stacey@epa.gov](mailto:groce.stacey@epa.gov).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "St. Bradbury", written over a horizontal line.

Steven Bradbury, Ph.D., Director  
Office of Pesticide Programs

Date: 10/22/12

cc: USEPA Region 3, Harry Daw