

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION

DA-2021-24

August 20, 2021

Subject: APHIS Amends Import Requirements for Citrus from Australia

To: State and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is revising the entry requirements for citrus fruit from the Districts of Riverina and Sunraysia in Australia. This revision is necessary because both Riverina and Sunraysia no longer meet the requirements to be considered fruit fly free areas for Queensland fruit fly (*Bactrocera tryoni* or QFF). This action applies to the importation of the following fresh citrus species, when produced in either district:

- Grapefruit, *Citrus x paradisi* MacFad.
- Lemons, *Citrus x meyeri* Yu. Tanaka and *Citrus x limon* (L.) Burm. f.
- Lime, *Citrus aurantiifolia*, *Citrus latifolia*
- Mandarins, clementines and tangerines, including satsumas, and other fruits grown from this species or its hybrids, *Citrus reticulata* Blanco
- Oranges, *Citrus x sinensis* (L.) Osbeck
- Tangelo, *Citrus paradisi* x *C. reticulata*, *Citrus x tangelo* Ingram & Moore
- Tangor, *Citrus x nobilis* Lour

APHIS is now requiring in transit cold treatment for the aforementioned citrus varieties when originating in regulated areas for QFF, including the Districts of Riverina and Sunraysia. APHIS will require treatment of citrus prior to entering the United States, as listed in the table below:

Commodity	Treatment Schedule
Grapefruit	T107-d or T107-d-3
Lemon	T107-d or T107-d-3
Lime	T107-d
Mandarin/Clementine/Tangerine	T107-d or T107-d-2
Orange	T107-d or T107-d-2
Tangelo	T107-d or T107-d-2
Tangor	T107-d or T107-d-2

Fresh citrus fruit from designated fruit fly free areas in Australia may continue to be exported with a phytosanitary certificate and without cold treatment for Queensland fruit fly.

APHIS is taking this action in response to detections of Queensland fruit fly in the Districts of Riverina and Sunraysia in Australia. Under this Federal Order, fresh citrus

fruit from areas where Queensland fruit fly is present must be treated in accordance to 7 CFR 305, which is an APHIS approved treatment schedules for Queensland fruit fly.

For additional information regarding this Federal Order, please call Senior Regulatory Policy Specialist Tony Román at 301-851-2242 or e-mail at Juan.A.Roman@usda.gov.



Dr. Osama El-Lissy
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment: Federal Order

**United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Plant Protection and Quarantine**

Federal Order

***APHIS amends import restrictions on citrus fruit from Queensland fruit fly
quarantined areas in Australia.***

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Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is revising the entry requirements for citrus fruit from the Districts of Riverina and Sunraysia in Australia. This action is necessary because both Riverina and Sunraysia no longer meet the requirements to be considered fruit fly free areas for Queensland fruit fly (*Bactrocera tryoni* or QFF). This action applies to the importation of the following fresh citrus species when produced in a QFF regulated area:

- Grapefruit, *Citrus x paradisi* MacFad.
- Lemons, *Citrus x meyeri* Yu. Tanaka and *Citrus x limon* (L.) Burm. f.
- Lime, *Citrus aurantiifolia*, *Citrus latifolia*
- Mandarins, clementines and tangerines, including satsumas, and other fruits grown from this species or its hybrids, *Citrus reticulata* Blanco
- Oranges, *Citrus x sinensis* (L.) Osbeck
- Tangelo, *Citrus paradisi* x *C. reticulata*, *Citrus x tangelo* Ingram & Moore
- Tangor, *Citrus x nobilis* Lour

Australia notified APHIS that the Riverina and Sunraysia Districts are no longer pest free areas for QFF. In response to this letter, APHIS is requiring that citrus fruit from Riverina and Sunraysia Districts be treated with cold treatment as per 7 CFR 305 for export to the United States.

Queensland fruit fly is a tropical fruit-fly species found in Eastern Australia. APHIS estimates that the species would be able to establish populations in southern regions of the United States (Plant Hardiness Zones 9-11) where hosts are present. Queensland fruit fly has been recorded infesting many important economic species including mangos and most commercial citrus species. Queensland fruit fly attacks at least 240 plant species in at least 36 families.

Requirements for Fresh Citrus Fruit

All fresh citrus consignments must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) of Australia with the additional

declaration stating the citrus fruit was produced in Riverina, Riverland, Sunraysia; the inland region of Queensland, the regions comprising Western Australia, or the shires of Bourke or Narromine within New South Wales District.

Citrus fruit produced in Fruit Fly free Areas

Citrus fruit produced in designated fruit fly free areas in Australia may continue to be shipped with a phytosanitary certificate and does not require cold treatment for Queensland fruit fly.

Citrus fruit produced in areas with Queensland Fruit Fly

Citrus fruit originating in the Riverina and Sunraysia Districts must also be cold treated (in-transit cold treatment) prior to entering the United States as follows:

Commodity	Treatment Schedule
Grapefruit	T107-d or T107-d-3
Lemon	T107-d or T107-d-3
Lime	T107-d
Mandarin/Clementine/Tangerine	T107-d or T107-d-2
Orange	T107-d or T107-d-2
Tangelo	T107-d or T107-d-2
Tangor	T107-d or T107-d-2

The APHIS Administrator has determined that the introduction and establishment of QFF poses a serious threat to United States agriculture including fresh citrus fruits grown in the United States. APHIS has determined that removing the Riverina and Sunraysia Districts from the fruit fly free area for fresh citrus fruit from Australia is necessary to prevent the introduction and establishment of QFF in the United States. These changes are warranted to address plant pest risks including QFF.

This Federal Order is issued in accordance with the regulatory authority provided by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, as amended, Section 412(a), 7 U.S.C. 7712(a). The Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant part, or article if the Secretary determines the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the dissemination of a plant pest within the United States. The regulatory authority provided by 7 U.S.C. 7754 allows the Secretary to issue orders to carry out this provision of the Plant Protection Act. This Federal Order is also issued pursuant to the regulations promulgated under the Plant Protection Act and found in the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations at Title 7 CFR Part 319.

For additional information regarding this Federal Order, please call Senior Regulatory Policy Specialist Tony Román at 301-851-2242 or e-mail at Juan.A.Roman@usda.gov.