Finding of No Significant Impact
Oriental Fruit Fly Cooperative Eradication Program
Miami-Dade County, Florida
Environmental Assessment
September 2015

U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) prepared an environmental assessment (EA) analyzing alternatives for control of an outbreak of the Oriental fruit fly, Bactrocera dorsalis (Hendel) (synonym—Dacus dorsalis Hendel) (OFF), an exotic agricultural pest detected at actionable levels in Miami-Dade County, Florida. APHIS’ involvement in an OFF cooperative eradication program with Florida was triggered on August 28, 2015 with the confirmed detection of 45 adult male OFF in the Redland region of the county. The EA is incorporated by reference in this document, and is available from:

USDA—APHIS—PPQ
State Plant Health Director
8100 NW 15th Place
Gainesville, FL 32606

or

USDA—APHIS—PPQ
Center for Plant Health Science and Technology
1730 Varsity Drive, Suite 400
Raleigh, NC 27606

The EA for this program analyzed two alternatives: (1) no action and (2) eradication. Each of these alternatives is associated with potential environmental consequences. APHIS selected the eradication program using an integrated pest management approach because of its capability to achieve eradication in a way that reduces the overall magnitude of potential environmental consequences.

APHIS reviewed the program area and determined the proposed action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, listed butterflies in the program area including: Schaus swallowtail butterfly (Heraclides (=Papilio) aristodemus ponceanus), Miami blue butterfly (Clytargus thomasi bethunebakers), Florida leafwing butterfly (Anaea troglodyta floridalis), and Bartram’s scrub hairstreak (Strymon acis bartrami). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) concurred with this determination. Should the program area expand, or a new species or critical habitat be listed that may occur in the program area, APHIS will reinitiate consultation with FWS, as necessary. In addition, implementation of the preferred alternative is not expected to have any adverse effect on migratory birds or their flight corridors and only minimal impact other nontarget species in the program area because of the application methods used, the favorable toxicity profile of the insecticides, and the limited and targeted use of the insecticides.

I find implementation of the proposed program will not significantly impact the quality of the human environment. I have considered and based my finding of no significant impact on the quantitative and qualitative risk assessments of the proposed pesticides, the analysis in the referenced EA, and on my review of the program’s operational characteristics. In addition, I find the program has fulfilled consultation requirements associated with the human environment (including low-income and minority populations, children, and tribal, cultural, and historical resources). Lastly, because I have not found evidence of significant environmental impacts associated with this proposed program, I find an environmental impact statement does not need to be prepared and the program may proceed.

Paul L. Hornby
State Plant Health Director, Florida
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

September 10, 2015
Date