

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2011-50
August 19, 2011

SUBJECT: APHIS Revises Approved Packinghouse Procedures for Sweet Orange Scab
(*Elsinoë australis*)

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

Effectively immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has revised the APHIS-approved packinghouse procedures for sweet orange scab (SOS). The procedures were revised to add an additional post-harvest fungicide treatment option, specifically the fungicide combination of fludioxonil plus azoxystrobin, to the list of approved fungicides.

Regulated fruit of *Citrus* spp. and *Fortunella* spp. from a SOS-quarantine area can move interstate with a certificate to all states provided the packinghouse has a signed compliance agreement with APHIS, all conditions of the SOS Federal Order are met, and the fruit is washed, brushed, surface disinfested with APHIS- approved chemicals, treated at the time of packing with APHIS-approved fungicides, and waxed. The APHIS-Approved Packinghouse Procedures for *Elsinoë australis*, Causal Agent of Sweet Orange Scab, may be accessed at http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/citrus/downloads/sweet_orange/CitrusPackingHouseProcedures-v8.pdf.

On July 23, 2010, APHIS confirmed the first United States detection of the fungal pathogen *Elsinoë australis*, causal agent of SOS, in Texas. SOS was subsequently detected and confirmed in Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, and Arizona in August 2010, October 2010, December 2010, and January 2011, respectively.

Federal Orders have been issued to establish SOS-quarantine areas for the entire States of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, and Arizona. In addition, APHIS has developed packinghouse and nursery procedures to facilitate the safe movement of regulated articles from SOS-quarantine areas. All SOS regulatory documents can be accessed via the APHIS website at: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/citrus/sweet_orange.shtml

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