FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION DA-2018-13 April 25, 2018

Subject:

APHIS Expands the Citrus Greening (Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus)

Quarantined Area in Texas

To:

State and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effectively immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), in cooperation with the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) and the Texas citrus industry, is expanding the area quarantined for citrus greening (Huanglongbing) to include all of the following counties: Aransas, Brooks, Calhoun, Nueces, and Starr. APHIS is taking this action because of the positive detections of citrus greening in plant tissue samples collected in multiple locations.

APHIS is applying safeguarding measures on the interstate movement of regulated articles from Aransas, Brooks, Calhoun, Nueces, and Starr Counties in Texas. These measures parallel the intrastate quarantine that the TDA initiated on March 30, 2018. This action is necessary to prevent the spread of citrus greening to non-infested areas of the United States. The counties are listed in **bold.**

The specific changes to the regulated areas in Texas are attached and can also be found at:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-health/citrus-greening

APHIS will publish a notice of this change in the *Federal Register*. For additional information, contact Citrus Health Response Program National Coordinator Angela McMellen Brannigan at 301-851-2314.

Osama El-Lissy

Deputy Administrator

Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment: Quarantined Areas for Citrus Greening

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

7 CFR 301.76

§ 301.76-3 Quarantined Areas; Citrus Greening

Last Update: April 25, 2018.

Reason for update: Expansion of Citrus Greening quarantined area in Texas

Quarantined Areas for Citrus Greening

Texas: The following counties:

Aransas: The entire county.

o Brooks: The entire county.

o Calhoun: The entire county.

o Cameron: The entire county.

o Ft. Bend: The entire county.

o Harris: The entire county.

Hidalgo: The entire county.

Montgomery: The entire county.

Nueces: The entire county.

Starr: The entire county.

Willacy: The entire county.