

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION  
DA-2011-68  
December 6, 2011

SUBJECT: Expansion of Quarantine Areas in Tennessee for the Imported Fire Ant (*Solenopsis invicta* Buren, *S. richteri* Forel, and hybrids of these species)

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is issuing a revised Federal Order that expands the existing imported fire ant (IFA) quarantine areas in Tennessee. This action is necessary in order to prevent the interstate spread of IFA.

The Federal Order establishes IFA quarantine areas in portions of Davidson, Haywood, Lauderdale, Sevier, and Wilson counties in Tennessee.

APHIS is taking these actions based upon verification from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture that IFA are present and established in the areas listed above.

IFA is present in some parts of the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Attached is the Federal Domestic Quarantine Order, as well as the updated, composite list of quarantine areas for IFA. If you wish more details on the Federal IFA regulatory program, please contact the IFA National Program Manager, Charles Brown, at (301) 734-4838.

**/s/ Paul R. Eggert for**

Rebecca A. Bech  
Deputy Administrator  
Plant Protection and Quarantine

2 Attachments:

- Federal Order
- IFA Quarantine Area Changes—2011

**FEDERAL ORDER**  
**DA-2011-68**  
**December 6, 2011**  
**Domestic Quarantine of Counties in Tennessee**  
**for Imported Fire Ant**  
**(*Solenopsis invicta* Buren, *Solenopsis richteri* Forel and hybrids of these species)**

This Federal Order is issued pursuant to the regulatory authority provided by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, as amended, Section 412 (a), 7 U.S.C. 7712 (a), which 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 and is likewise issued pursuant to the regulations promulgated under the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.81.

This Federal Order quarantines, effective immediately, the following areas for red and black Imported Fire Ants (IFA) (*Solenopsis invicta* Buren and *Solenopsis richteri* Forel, respectively), and hybrids of these species. This action is in response to the new detection in portions of Tennessee described in the attached document. Thus, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has determined that it is necessary to quarantine these areas in order to prevent the spread of IFA. Therefore, effective immediately, all interstate movement of IFA regulated articles from the listed areas must be done in accordance with the regulations promulgated pursuant to the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.81 et seq. and any applicable provisions of this Federal Order.

APHIS has confirmed IFA infestations in various areas of the United States for which the Administrator has determined that it is necessary to quarantine these areas in order to prevent the human assisted spread of IFA. The areas quarantined, to contain the spread of IFA are designated in the federal regulations located at 7 CFR 301.81-3 and in the Federal Orders which are located at the following APHIS website:  
[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/plant\\_pest\\_info/fireants/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/fireants/index.shtml)

The 7 CFR 301.81-3(a) allows the designation of less than an entire State as a IFA quarantined area only when the Administrator of APHIS has determined that the designation of less than an entire State as a quarantined IFA area is adequate to prevent the interstate spread of infestations of this pest. In addition, 7 CFR 301.81-3(b) requires that the State enforces an intrastate IFA quarantine that is equivalent to the Federal IFA regulations. The State has established intra-state quarantines for the areas listed that mirror the Federal Regulatory requirements as specified in 7 CFR 301.81.

7 CFR 301.81-3 (d) provides for the temporary designation of new quarantined areas pending publication of a rule to add areas to the list shown in 7 CFR 301.81-3(c). 7 CFR 301.81-3 (d) further requires written notification be given to the owner or person in possession of a newly quarantined area. This is the responsibility of the Federal and/or State regulatory personnel responsible for the IFA program in the affected State.

The Federal Orders quarantining these areas have been necessary due to the ongoing delimitation of the IFA infestation in Tennessee. This March 2011 Federal Order updates all previous versions of Federal Orders pertaining to the expansion of quarantined areas in the IFA domestic regulations.

If you wish more details on the Federal IFA regulatory program, you may contact Dr. Ron Weeks, APHIS' Eastern Regional Program Manager, at (919) 855-7297, Stacy Scott, APHIS' Western Regional Program Manager, at (970) 494-7577, or Charles Brown, APHIS' National IFA Program Coordinator, at (301) 734-4838.

We appreciate the cooperative relationships with the State of Tennessee in our effort to prevent the spread of IFA.

**FEDERAL ORDER**  
**DA-2011-68**  
**December 6, 2011**  
**IMPORTED FIRE ANT EXPANSION AREAS**  
**IN QUARANTINE AREAS WITHIN TENNESSEE**

**Davidson County** - *That portion of the county lying south of the Cumberland River.*

**Haywood County** – *That portion of the county lying south of a line beginning at the Lauderdale/Haywood County line on Tennessee Highway 19 and then continuing east along Tennessee 19 until reaching Tibbs Road and then continuing southeast along Tibbs Road until reaching Allen King Road and then continuing east along Allen King Road until reaching Tennessee Highway 54 and then continuing northeast along Tennessee Highway 54 until reaching the Haywood/Crockett County line.*

**Lauderdale County** – *That portion of the county lying southwest of a line beginning at the Mississippi County, Arkansas/Lauderdale County, Tennessee line at Latitude 35 Degrees 45 Minutes and then continuing east along Latitude 35 Degrees 45 Minutes until reaching Tennessee Highway 19 and then continuing east along Tennessee Highway 19 until reaching United States Highway 51 and then continuing south along United States Highway 51 until again reaching Tennessee Highway 19 and then continuing east along Tennessee Highway 19 until reaching the Lauderdale/Haywood County line.*

**Sevier County** – *The entire county except for that portion of the county lying both southeast of Tennessee Highway 139 and that is in an area north of a line beginning at the intersection of Tennessee Highway 139 and Tennessee Highway 66 and continuing south along Tennessee Highway 66 until reaching United States Highway 411 and then continuing northeast along United States Highway 411 until reaching the Sevier/Jefferson County line.*

**Wilson County** – *That portion of the county lying southwest of a line beginning at the Davidson/Wilson County line along Interstate 40 and continuing east along Interstate 40 until reaching Tennessee Highway 840 and then continuing southwest along Tennessee Highway 840 until reaching the Wilson/Rutherford County line.*