

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2009-54
October 28, 2009

SUBJECT: Areas in Virginia Added to the Imported Fire Ant (IFA) Quarantine and Expansion of Existing IFA Quarantine Areas in Arkansas, Tennessee, and Texas for IFA (Solenopsis invicta Buren, S. richteri Forel, and hybrids of these species)

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is issuing a revised Federal Order that establishes quarantined areas in Virginia for the first time and expands the existing quarantine areas in Arkansas, Tennessee, and Texas for IFA. This action is necessary in order to prevent the interstate spread of IFA.

Effective immediately, APHIS is establishing an IFA quarantine in the following areas: The entire county of Arkansas, in Arkansas; portions of Cannon, Dickson, Davidson, Gibson, Knox, Sevier, and Williamson counties, and the entire counties of Tipton, Warren, and White in Tennessee; a portion of Lubbock county, as well as the entire counties of Archer, Baylor, Callahan, Clay, Coke, Coleman, Concho, Crane, Crockett, Fisher, Haskell, Howard, Irion, Martin, Mitchell, Nolan, Reagan, Runnels, Schleicher, Scurry, Shakelford, Starr, Terrell, Throckmorton, Upton, Ward, Wilbarger, and Winkler in Texas, are quarantined for IFA. For the first time, the entire counties of James City and York, and the Cities of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Poquoson, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and Williamsburg in Virginia, are also added to the IFA quarantine.

APHIS is taking these actions based upon verification from the Arkansas Agriculture Department, the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, the Texas Department of Agriculture, and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, that IFA are present and established in the areas listed above. IFA are pests that are 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 quarantined areas for IFA. If you wish more details on the Federal IFA regulatory

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program, please contact the IFA National Program Manager, Charles Brown, at (301) 734-4838.

/s/ Michael A. Lidsky /for

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Plant Protection and Quarantine

2 Attachments:

- Federal Order
- IFA Quarantine Area Changes—October 2009