

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2019-30
November 18, 2019

Subject: APHIS Removes Mexican Fruit Fly (*Anastrepha ludens*) Quarantines in Salineño, Starr County and Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas

To: State and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

On September 17 and 19, 2019, the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) removed two Mexican fruit fly (Mexfly) quarantines after completion of the required three generations without a detection, based on the degree-day model.

- Effective September 17, 2019, APHIS and TDA removed the Mexfly quarantine in Salineño, Starr County, Texas. This quarantine was established on April 16, 2019, when APHIS confirmed a fifth Mexfly in Salineño, Texas, within three miles of each other and within a time period equal to one life cycle of the fly. The quarantine area encompassed approximately 66 square miles of Salineño, Starr County.
- Effective September 19, 2019, APHIS and TDA removed the Mexfly quarantine in Brownsville Cameron County, Texas. On April 26, 2019, APHIS and TDA confirmed the quarantine trigger of one mated female Mexfly. On May 2, APHIS subsequently confirmed five additional Mexfly adults and two larvae in Brownsville, Texas. The quarantine area encompassed 111 square miles.

APHIS worked cooperatively with TDA to eradicate the transient Mexfly populations through various control actions per program protocols. The following website reflects the removal of these quarantine areas and contains descriptions of all the current Federal fruit fly quarantine areas:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-health/ff-quarantine>

For additional information on the Mexfly quarantine area, please contact Fruit Fly National Policy Manager Richard Johnson at 301-851-2109.

/s/

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