FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2016-49

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Subject: APHIS Adds Ventura County to the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) (*Epiphyas postvittana*) Regulated Area in California

To: State and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is adding Ventura County to the light brown apple moth (LBAM) regulated areas in California. This action is necessary to prevent the spread of LBAM into non-infested areas of the United States. In cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture and local county agricultural commissioners, APHIS maintains survey and regulatory framework to prevent the artificial spread of LBAM to other states or trading partners.

APHIS is taking this action in response to LBAM detections in Ventura County in June 2016. Specifically, all interstate movement of LBAM regulated articles from the quarantined areas must be done in accordance with the current federal order. Certain commercially-produced host commodities are exempted from the regulated articles list based on the pest mitigations provided through industry standards of production, harvesting, and packaging practices for each of the exempted commodities. The exempted host list, regulated articles, and quarantined areas can be found on the following designated website:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/planthealth/lbam-quarantine

For changes to the LBAM regulated areas, APHIS updates its website with the date and description of the quarantined areas and notifies state regulatory authorities immediately of the change. In addition, APHIS will publish a notice in the *Federal Register*.

LBAM is native to Australia and has established populations in New Zealand, Ireland, the United Kingdom, and Hawaii. The host range for LBAM includes more than 300 plant species. A map of the federal quarantine area is located at <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/planthealth/lbam_maps>.

For further information about the LBAM program, please call National Policy Manager Richard Johnson at 301-851-2109.

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