Breadcrumb

- 1. Home
- 2. Print
- 3. Pdf
- 4. Node
- 5. Entity Print

USDA Proposes Additional Requirements for Imported Chilean Table Grapes

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Washington, D.C., October 13, 2022 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) proposes to revise the conditions under which table grapes from Chile may be imported into the United States.

Currently, table grapes from Chile must be fumigated with methyl bromide to mitigate for the Chilean false red mite, Brevipalpus chilensis, and the European Grapevine Moth, Lobesia botrana. APHIS is proposing that table grapes from areas in which the moth is either absent or at very low prevalence could be imported into the United States under a systems approach or irradiation. The systems approach would provide an alternative to the current import requirement of mandatory treatment with methyl bromide fumigation.

APHIS prepared a pest risk assessment and a commodity import evaluation document. The commodity import evaluation identifies the phytosanitary measures that could be applied to table grapes from new areas of Chile without increasing the risk of introducing pests.

APHIS is making the pest risk assessment and commodity import evaluation available to the public for review and comment until December 16, 2022, 60 days from date of publication. To view the documents, go to www.regulations.gov, and enter APHIS-2021-0078 in the search field effective Monday, October 17, 2022.

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