FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2026-10
March 16, 2026

Subject: APHIS Establishes a Mexican Fruit Fly (*Anastrepha ludens*) Quarantine Area in California

To: State, Tribal, and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

On March 5, 2026, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) established a Mexican fruit fly (*Anastrepha ludens;* Mexfly) quarantine in La Mesa, San Diego County, California, designated the La Mesa quarantine. On March 10, APHIS and CDFA expanded this quarantine.

APHIS and CDFA established the La Mesa quarantine in response to the February 24 detection of a wild mated female Mexfly from a trap in a loquat tree on a residential property. The quarantine encompassed approximately 77 square miles and contained no commercial agriculture. On March 10, APHIS and CDFA expanded the La Mesa quarantine in response to a confirmed detection on February 26 of one wild male Mexfly from a trap in a calamondin tree on a residential property in the city of La Mesa. The amended quarantine encompasses approximately 82 square miles and contains no commercial agriculture.

APHIS is applying safeguarding measures and restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles to prevent the spread of Mexfly to non-infested areas of the United States, as well as to prevent the entry of these fruit flies into foreign trade. APHIS is working with CDFA and the Agricultural Commissioner of San Diego County to respond to these detections following program guidelines for survey, treatment, and regulatory actions.

The APHIS Exotic Fruit Flies website contains descriptions and maps of all current Federal fruit fly quarantine areas. APHIS will publish a notice of this change in the Federal Register.

For additional information you may contact:

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