

**MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY
MIRA MESA AREA, SAN DIEGO COUNTY
2009**

06/13/09



● DETECTION SITE
● LARVAL SITE

- - - - ERADICATION BOUNDARY



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

OFFICIAL NOTICE FOR THE CITIES OF DEL MAR, EL CAJON, POWAY, SAN DIEGO, SANTEE AND SOLANA BEACH AND THE COMMUNITES OF FAIRBANKS RANCH AND MIRA MESA

PLEASE READ IMMEDIATELY

PROCLAMATION OF AN ERADICATION PROJECT AGAINST THE MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY

The Mediterranean fruit fly (medfly), a serious exotic insect pest, was detected in the community of Mira Mesa in San Diego County on May 20, 2009. On June 9, 2009, medfly larvae were detected in backyard fruit within the eradication area. Due to this development, the eradication zone will be increased to allow for sterile medfly releases over a larger area. The medfly is not known to occur in California. This pest attacks over 250 different hosts, many of which are grown in San Diego County. Emergency eradication action is needed to protect California from the negative economic and environmental impacts the establishment of this pest would cause.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) eradication protocol is based on an Action Plan developed in consultation with the Pest Prevention Committee of the California Agricultural Commissioner's Association, United States Department of Agriculture and scientists on an advisory panel.

Treatment Plan for Medfly in San Diego County:

- Foliar bait treatments are applied from the ground. The foliage of all host trees and plants within a 200 meter radius of the detection site are treated. The spray is an organic formulation of spinosad. Visit the CDFA website to learn more about the treatment process at <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/videos/spinosad/>.
- The standard treatment technique for the medfly is the sterile insect technique. This method relies on the flooding of the area with sterile medflies. When the sterile males mate with wild females, no offspring are produced. Gradually, the wild fly population decreases, while the sterile fly population increases through continued release. When wild flies can find only sterile flies with which to mate, the wild population becomes extinct.
- Larval survey will occur up to 200 meters around any property where medflies are trapped to determine if other stages are present. If medfly larvae are present, fruit from the infested property and up to 100 meters around the detection site will be removed and taken for disposal under regulatory compliance.

Public Notification:

Affected properties are notified in writing at least 24 hours prior to treatment. Following the treatment, completion notices are left with the homeowners detailing precautions to take and post-harvest intervals applicable to any fruit on the property. Treatments are repeated every seven to 14 days for one life cycle of the medfly.

Enclosed is the Addendum to the Proclamation of an Eradication Project and a map of the eradication area. This eradication project will continue for three life cycles past the date of the last medfly trapped. If no additional medflies are detected, the medfly will be declared eradicated.

ADDENDUM TO THE PROCLAMATION OF AN ERADICATION PROJECT
REGARDING THE MEDITERRANEAN FRUIT FLY

On June 9, 2009, Mediterranean fruit fly (medfly) larvae were detected within backyard grown fruit in the community of Mira Mesa, City of San Diego, San Diego County. This detection of larvae confirms that a medfly infestation exists in the area. Although this detection is within the original 45.2 square mile eradication area set forth in the May 26, 2009 Proclamation of Eradication Project (PEP) addendum, there is a probability that infested fruit may have been transported out of the area prior to the establishment of the quarantine. Therefore, the Medfly Science Advisory Panel recommended that the sterile release area be expanded to encompass the quarantine area. The severity of this medfly infestation requires that the treatment zone be expanded by 166.4 square miles to allow for the release of sterile medflies in this area. The total area for the eradication zone, including the expansion, is 211.6 square miles.

The PEP dated May 20, 2009 was based upon authority in Section 3591.5 of Title 3 of the California Code of Regulations, Sections 403, 5001 et seq., and especially 5761-5763 of the Food and Agricultural Code.

Specific program activities are found in the PEP dated May 20, 2009 with attachments, which includes the medfly work plan. This document is available upon request. A map of the treatment zone is attached.



Will Brown, Undersecretary

6/23/09
Date

If you have specific questions related to this program, please contact John Hooper, Program Supervisor at (916) 654-1211.

Attachments