

United States Department of Agriculture • Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service • Legislative and Public Affairs 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737–1232 • Voice (301) 743–7799 • Web: http://www.aphis.usda.gov

USDA ADOPTS FINAL RULE TO REMOVE FOUR TEXAS COUNTIES FROM KARNAL BUNT REGULATED AREAS

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The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is adopting as a final rule, without change, an interim rule that amended the Karnal bunt regulations to remove certain areas or fields in Baylor, Knox, Throckmorton and Young counties, Texas, from the list of regulated areas. APHIS determined that these fields or areas meet its criteria for release from regulation. The interim rule was necessary to relieve restrictions that are no longer necessary.

This action became effective April 7 and is scheduled for publication in Sept. 5 *Federal Register*.

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Note to Reporters: Public notices and other APHIS information are available on the Internet. Go to the APHIS news release page at http://www.aphis.usda.gov and click on the "Newsroom" button. For additional information about this topic contact David Sacks at (301) 734-5271 or by e-mail at david.sacks@aphis.usda.gov.