

**Finding of No Significant Impact
for
Mediterranean Fruit Fly Cooperative Eradication Program
Santa Clara County, California
Environmental Assessment,
October 2007**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) that analyzes alternatives for control of the Mediterranean fruit fly, an exotic agricultural pest that has been found in areas of Santa Clara County, California. The EA, incorporated by reference in this document, is available from:

USDA, APHIS, PPQ
State Plant Health Director
650 Capital Mall, Suite 6-400
Sacramento, CA 95814

or

USDA, APHIS, PPQ
Fruit Fly Exclusion and Detection Program
4700 River Road, Unit 134
Riverdale, MD 20737-1236

The EA for this program analyzed alternatives of (1) no action, (2) quarantine only, (3) quarantine and commodity certification, and (4) eradication. Each of those alternatives was determined to have potential environmental consequences. APHIS selected eradication using an integrated pest management (IPM) approach for the proposed program because of its capability to achieve eradication in a way that also reduces the magnitude of those potential environmental consequences.

APHIS has determined that this program will have no effects on endangered and threatened species based upon its review of proposed program operations, and upon review of consultations by the California Department of Food and Agriculture with the U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service.

I find that implementation of the proposed program will not significantly impact the quality of the human environment. I have considered and based my finding of no significant impact on the quantitative and qualitative risk assessments of the proposed pesticides and on my review of the program's operational characteristics. In addition, I find that the environmental process undertaken for this program is entirely consistent with the principles of "environmental justice," as expressed in Executive Order 12898, and the protection of children, as expressed in Executive Order 13045. Lastly, because I have not found evidence of significant environmental impact associated with this proposed program, I further find that an environmental impact statement does not need to be prepared and that the program may proceed.

Helene R. Wright

Helene Wright
State Plant Health Director, California
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Sacramento, California

10/27/07

Date