

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
Title 3 of the California Code of Regulations

3406 Mediterranean Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, 3417 Mexican Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, 3423 Oriental Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, 3424 Bactrocera zonata Interior Quarantine, 3441 Bactrocera correcta Interior Quarantine, 3442 Malaysian Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, 3444 Zeugodacus tau Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, and 3445 Queensland Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine

**Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
45 – Day Notice**

The Department of Food and Agriculture (Department) proposes to amend Title 3 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) 3406 Mediterranean Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, 3417 Mexican Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, 3423 Oriental Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, 3424 Bactrocera zonata Interior Quarantine, 3441 Bactrocera correcta Interior Quarantine, 3442 Malaysian Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, 3444 Zeugodacus tau Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, and 3445 Queensland Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing is not scheduled. However, a public hearing will be held if any interested person, or his or her duly authorized representative, submits a written request for a public hearing to the Department no later than 15 days prior to the close of the written comment period.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

Any interested person or their authorized representative may submit written comments relevant to the proposed regulations to the Department. Comments may be submitted by USPS, FAX or email. The written comment period closes on September, 3, 2024. The Department will consider only comments received at the Department offices by that date or postmarked no later than September, 3, 2024. Submit comments to:

Erin Lovig, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor
California Department of Food and Agriculture Plant Health and
Pest Prevention Services
1220 N St,
Sacramento, CA 95814
916.403.6650
Permits@cdfa.ca.gov

Questions regarding the substance of the proposed regulation should be directed to Erin Lovig. In her absence, you may contact Rachel Avila at (916) 698-2947 or rachel.avila@cdfa.ca.gov.

Unless there are substantial changes to the proposed regulations prior to amendment, the Department may adopt the proposal as set forth in this notice without further notice to the public. Following the public hearing, if one is requested, or following the written comment period if none is requested, the Department, at its own motion, or at the instance of any interested person, may adopt the proposal substantially as set forth without further notice.

AUTHORITY

The Department proposes to amend Sections 3406, 3417, 3423, 3424, 3441, 3442, 3444, and 3445 pursuant to the authority vested by Sections 407, 5301, 5302, and 5322 of the Food and Agricultural Code (FAC).

REFERENCE

The Department proposes this action to implement, interpret and make specific Sections 407, 5301, 5302, and 5322 of the FAC.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

The specific purpose of amending the CCR Sections 3406 Mediterranean Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, 3417 Mexican Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, 3423 Oriental Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, 3424 *Bactrocera zonata* Interior Quarantine, 3441 *Bactrocera correcta* Interior Quarantine, 3442 Malaysian Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, 3444 *Zeugodacus tau* Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine, and 3445 Queensland Fruit Fly Interior Quarantine is to correct quarantine language, which currently does not accurately describe how the Department will respond when a single fly is more than 3 miles from any of the other finds or within one life cycle. In this situation, the find will only expand delimitation trapping and not extend the quarantine or be considered a satellite infestation.

EXISTING LAWS & REGULATIONS

Existing law, FAC Section 401.5, states that the department shall seek to protect the general welfare and economy of the state and seek to maintain the economic well-being of agriculturally dependent rural communities in this state.

Existing law, FAC Section 407, provides that the Secretary may adopt such regulations as are reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of this code that the Secretary is directed or authorized to administer or enforce.

Existing law, FAC Section 5301, provides that the Secretary may establish, maintain, and enforce such quarantine regulations as they deem necessary to protect the agricultural

industry of this state from pests. The regulations may establish a quarantine at the boundaries of this state or elsewhere within the state.

Existing law, FAC Section 5302, provides that the Secretary may make and enforce such regulations as they deem necessary to prevent any plant or thing which is, or is liable to be, infested or infected by, or which might act as a carrier of, any pest, from passing over any quarantine line which is established and proclaimed pursuant to this division.

Existing law, FAC Section 5322, provides that the Secretary may establish, maintain, and enforce quarantine, eradication, and such other regulations as are in their opinion necessary to circumscribe and exterminate or prevent the spread of any pest that is described in FAC Section 5321.

ANTICIPATED BENEFITS OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT

The implementation of these regulations will help prevent potential issues when future pest finds occur within a quarantine area. The Department following USDA guidelines will help prevent the spread of pests within California, which will prevent:

- direct damage to the agricultural industry growing host fruits
- indirect damage to the agricultural industry growing host fruits due to the implementation of quarantines by other countries and loss of export markets
- increased production costs to the affected agricultural industries
- increased pesticide use by the affected agricultural industries
- increased costs to the consumers of host fruits
- increased pesticide use by homeowners and others
- the need to implement a State interior quarantine
- the need to implement a federal domestic quarantine

There are no existing, comparable federal regulations or statute.

There are no known specific benefits to worker safety or the health of California residents.

EVALUATION OF INCONSISTENCY / INCOMPATIBILITY WITH EXISTING STATE REGULATIONS

As required by Government Code Section 11346.5(a)(3)(D), the Department has conducted an evaluation of Sections 3406, 3417, 3423, 3424, 3441, 3442, 3444, and 3445 and has determined that they are not inconsistent or incompatible with existing state regulations.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

Prior to conducting any action authorized by this regulation, the Department shall comply with the California Environmental Quality Act of 1970 (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et. seq. as amended) and the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15000 et. seq.).

DISCLOSURES REGARDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Department has made the following initial determinations:

Mandate on local agencies or school districts: None.

Cost or savings to any state agency: None

Other nondiscretionary cost or savings imposed on local agencies: None.

Cost or savings in federal funding to the State: None.

Cost impacts on a representative private person or business: The agency is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

Significant, statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states: The cost impacts are expected to be none and minimal/non-consequential. The Department makes the initial determination that the proposed action will not have a significant, statewide adverse economic impact.

Significant effect on housing costs: None

Small business determination: The proposed action will not affect small business because compliance activities are currently being performed by existing staff throughout quarantine areas within the state without any impact on small business.

Cost to any local agency or school district which must be reimbursed in accordance with Government Code sections 17500 through 17630: None and no nondiscretionary costs or savings to local agencies or school districts.

RESULTS OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS / ASSESSMENT

The Department has concluded that the Sections 3406, 3417, 3423, 3424, 3441, 3442, 3444, and 3445 amendment (1) will have no significant impact on the creation or elimination of jobs in the state of California, (2) will have no impact on the creation or elimination of businesses within the state of California, (3) will have no impact on the expansion of businesses within the state of California, (4) is expected to benefit the health

and welfare of California residents, (5) is expected to benefit the state's environment, and (6) is not expected to harm or benefit workers' safety.

The health and welfare of California residents: The proposed action will benefit the health and welfare of California residents as taking the correct action when a pest is found lowers the risk that the pests could spread into the local environment via the surrounding non-agricultural ecosystems. Infestations leads to increased costs to the consumers of host materials and increased pesticide usage.

The state's environment: The proposed action will benefit the environment as taking the correct action when a pest is found lowers the risk that the pests could spread into the local environment via the surrounding non-agricultural ecosystems.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

The Department must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

The Department invites interested persons to present alternatives during the written comment period.

AVAILABILITY OF STATEMENT OF REASONS, TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS, AND RULEMAKING FILE

The Department has prepared an initial statement of reasons for the proposed action, and has made available all the information upon which its proposal is based and the express terms of the proposed action. The Department has posted the information regarding this proposed regulatory action on its Internet website (www.cdffa.ca.gov/plant/Regulations.html). A copy of the initial statement of reasons and the proposed regulations in underline and strikeout form may be obtained upon request. The location of the information on which the proposal is based may also be obtained upon request. In addition, the final statement of reasons will be available upon request. Requests should be directed to the contact named herein.

AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT

After the comment period and considering all timely and relevant comments received, the Department may adopt the proposed regulations substantially as described in this notice. If the Department makes modifications which are sufficiently related to the originally

proposed text, it will make the modified text (with the changes clearly indicated) available to the public for at least 15 days before the Department adopts the regulations as revised. Any person interested may obtain a copy of said regulations prior to the date of adoption by contacting the agency officer named herein. The Department will accept written comments on the modified regulations for 15 days after the date on which they are made available.

AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Upon its completion, copies of the Final Statement of Reasons may be obtained by contacting the agency officer named herein.