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1. [Home](#)
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3. Pdf
4. Node
5. Entity Print

APHIS Expands Mediterranean Fruit Fly (*Ceratitis capitata*) Quarantine in California

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FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION

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January 15, 2026

Subject: APHIS Expands Mediterranean Fruit Fly (*Ceratitis capitata*) Quarantine in California

To: State, Tribal, and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

On January 5, 2026, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) expanded the Santa Clara Mediterranean fruit fly (*Ceratitis capitata*; Medfly) quarantine in Alameda and Santa Clara Counties, California. This action parallels the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) expansion of the Santa Clara Medfly quarantine published on January 2.

APHIS and CDFA expanded the Santa Clara Medfly quarantine following the confirmed detection on December 17 of one wild male Medfly from a trap in on a residential property in an orange tree in Milpitas, Santa Clara County. This action expanded the quarantine by 17 square miles and does not include additional commercial agriculture. The amended quarantine encompasses 241 square miles with 58.76 acres of commercial agriculture, including grape, olive, orange, pepper,

stone fruit, and tomato.

APHIS is applying safeguarding measures and restrictions on the interstate movement of regulated articles to prevent the spread of Medfly 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 Commissioners of Alameda and Santa Clara Counties to eradicate this transient fruit fly population 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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/s/

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