

Breadcrumb

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

APHIS Expands the Sweet Orange Scab Quarantined Area in California

[Print](#)

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION

DA-2026-07

February 18, 2026

Subject: APHIS Expands the Sweet Orange Scab Quarantined Area in California

To: State, Tribal, and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effective immediately, USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), is expanding the areas quarantined for sweet orange scab (SOS) in the Los Angeles and Villa Park areas of Los Angeles and Orange Counties in California. SOS is a disease caused by the fungus *Elsinöe australis*. APHIS is expanding the quarantined area by 59 square miles in Los Angeles County and six square miles in Orange County. APHIS is taking this action because of SOS detections in plant tissue sample collected from residential properties in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. This expansion does not impact commercial citrus.

APHIS is applying safeguarding measures outlined in Federal Order [DA-2024-34](#) pertaining to the interstate movement of regulated articles from the quarantined areas in California. This measure parallels the intrastate quarantine that CDFA established on February 6, 2026. This action is necessary to prevent the spread of SOS to non-infested areas of the United States.

The [APHIS Sweet Orange Scab website](#) has information on this disease, Federal Orders, APHIS approved packinghouse procedures, and a description of current Federal SOS quarantined areas.

For additional information you may contact:

Abby R. Stilwell Agriculturalist
(919) 323 -6296
abby.r.stilwell@usda.gov

/s/

Matthew A. Rhoads
Acting Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine