Frequently Asked Questions and Answers (FAQS) for Oriental Fruit Fly Eradication Program

PRODUCERS, GROWERS, HANDLERS and PACKINGHOUSES

10-1-15

Please check the DPI website often for FAQS updates:
http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Plant-Industry

HOSTS OF ORIENTAL FRUIT FLY

Q Are green papaya, banana and plantain blossoms and pseudostem (trunks), and squash blossoms hosts of the Oriental fruit fly (OFF)?
A Green papaya and banana and plantain blossoms and pseudostem (trunks) are hosts of the OFF; squash blossoms are not considered a host of OFF. Visit the DPI website for the latest list of OFF host plants at http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Plant-Industry/Pests-Diseases/Exotic-Fruit-Flies/Oriental-Fruit-Fly-Information

LENGTH OF QUARANTINE

Q How long will the Oriental fruit fly quarantine last?
A The quarantine will not be terminated until there are not OFF detected in the quarantine area for 3 Oriental fruit fly life cycles. How long is a life cycle? The length of an OFF life cycle varies with temperature; cooler temperatures slow the development of OFF and prolong their life cycle time. Broadly speaking each life cycle may take 30 to 45 days.

PREHARVEST TREATMENTS

Q What pre-harvest treatments are approved for certification and movement of fruits and vegetables from the quarantine area?
A Bait sprays using GF-120 NF OR a Nu-lure/Malathion mixture treatment (every 6 to 10 days), over a 30 day period prior to harvest and continuing throughout the harvest period. See compliance agreement sections B and C for details.

Q What organic insecticide-bait can organic growers use to comply with pre-harvest treatments?
A GF-120 Naturalyte is an organic pesticide that can be used. Please contact your organic certification agency prior to its use.

Q Can I start the pre-harvest treatments before I have an approved compliance agreement?
A No. The compliance agreement must be approved prior to starting the 30-day program.

Q What Malathion product mixed with Nu-lure must I use?
A Use a Malathion product labeled for your crop, however, you must apply 0.18 lbs of active ingredient (ai) per acre. The rate of Malathion needed will vary by the Malathion brand (formulation) you purchase. Two Malathion products have obtained Special local needs (SLN) labels (Malathion 8 Aquamul, SLN Registration No. FL150006 and Gowan Malathion 8 Flowable, SLN Registration No. FL150007) which:
   1. allow the use of these Malathion products (brands) on apricots, arugula, avocado, bitter melon, cantaloupe, chayote, citrus (grapefruit, lemon, lime, orange, tangerine,
tangelo, pumelo), coconut, cucumber, eggplant, fig, garlic, gourds, grapes, green bean,
guava, hops, kumquat, leeks, mango, melons, nectarines, onions, papaya, passion fruit,
peach, peppers, potato, pineapple, pumpkins, shallots, squash (winter and summer),
strawberry, tomato and watermelon

2. allow the use of Malathion as a spot-spray treatment at a 6 to 10 day interval.
Malathion is not a restricted use pesticide (RUP) but you must have the SLN label in your
possession and follow the restricted entry interval (REI) and pre-harvest interval (PHI) from
the full product label and SLN label. See compliance agreement sections B and C for details.

What should I do if Malathion is not labeled for use on my crop?
A If Malathion is not labeled for your crop consider using the only alternative, GF-120 NF which
contains spinosad. If your crop does not appear on either the Malathion 8 Aquamul (SLN
Registration No. FL150006) or Gowan Malathion 8 Flowable (SLN Registration No. FL150007)
label but is labeled on some other brand of Malathion that does not have a Special Local
Needs (SLN) label the number of applications allowed per year may be restricted (e.g., use
only twice per year) or the re-treatment interval may be too long (e.g., 30 days); in that case
you may rotate the Malathion plus Nu-Lure bait mix with the GF-120.

What dilution rate must I use for of GF-120 Naturalyte for pre-harvest bait treatment?
A The rate must be 1:1.5 (GF-120 to water) this computes to 20 oz GF-120 and 30 oz of water
mixture per acre; this 50 oz of mix per acre must be spot treated over the entire acre.

What phone number do I call for compliance inspection, witness of a treatment or issue a
limited permit for movement of harvested fruits and vegetables?
A The phone number is 1-888-397-1517. Make sure to leave a clear message with your name
and best contact number.

POSTHARVEST TREATMENTS

A grower has fruits and vegetables inside the quarantine area and wants to harvest and
move the product to a processing plant or quarantine treatment facility outside the
quarantine area. Can fruit be harvested and moved from the quarantine area?
A Growers who want to process or quarantine treat their crop must contact the Oriental Fruit
Fly (OFF) Program Regulatory Office ahead of time. The produce can only be moved to a
processing or quarantine treatment facility with the approval of the Oriental Fruit Fly (OFF)
Program Regulatory Office - call 305-278-4862.

What post-harvest treatments are approved for certification and movement of fruits and
vegetables from the quarantine area?
A The only approved post-harvest treatments can be found in the USDA Treatment Manual that
includes fumigation, irradiation and cold treatment. Mechanical processing (e.g., juicing or pulping) or freezing will also qualify as an approved measure to move fruits and vegetables from the quarantine area. However the movement of the produce to the processing plant (e.g., juicing, freezing) or quarantine treatment facility must occur under a compliance agreement and accompanied by a limited permit. See compliance agreement section B and C for details. See Table below for approved quarantine treatments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop</th>
<th>Treatment code</th>
<th>Pages in USDA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avocado</td>
<td>T101-c-1</td>
<td>305</td>
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<td>Longan</td>
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<td>T103-b-1</td>
<td>362</td>
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<tr>
<td>Papaya</td>
<td>T103-d</td>
<td>364</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abui, Atemoya, Banana, Breadfruit, Pepper (Capsicum spp.), Carambola, Citrus, Cucurbita spp., Dragon fruit, Eggplant, Jackfruit, Litchi (Lychee), Longan, Mango, Mangosteen, Melon, Moringa pods (Drumstick), Papaya, Pineapple, Pitaya, Rambutan, Sapodilla, Sweet Potato, and Tomato</td>
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<td>Litchi, Eggplant, Banana, Breadfruit, Dragon Fruit, Guava, Jackfruit, Melon, Morniga Pods (Drumstick), Mango, Longan, Pineapple</td>
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<td>Bell Pepper, Eggplant, Papaya, Tomato, Squash Zucchini</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carambola, Lychee, Longan</td>
<td>T107-j</td>
<td>386</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Q What is the irradiation treatment requirement for hosts not listed in the Table above for Bactrocera dorsalis?
A Refer to the USDA Treatment Manual Table 3-8-1 indicating the minimum absorbed dose (Gy) for Bactrocera dorsalis is 150 Gy not to exceed 1000 Gy. Contact Oriental Fruit Fly (OFF) Program Regulatory Office at 305-278-4862 or Help line at 1-888-397-1517 for more information and the necessary compliance requirement.

MOVING (TRANSPORTING) PRODUCE IN OR OUT OF THE QUARANTINE AREA

Q How do I need to safeguard shipments (movement) in the quarantine area?
A All movement of fruits and vegetables being moved within or through quarantine area must be completely tarped or in an enclosed truck. The tarp must completely enclose containers that have openings (holes) and be a minimum of 16 mesh. See compliance agreement section C for details on screen requirements.
Q. What phone number do I call for compliance inspection, witness of a treatment or issue a limited permit for movement of harvested fruits and vegetables?
A. The phone number is 1-888-397-1517. Make sure to leave a clear message with your name and best contact number.

Q. What does the ‘yellow card’ look like that goes on the outside of transport bins with harvested fruits and vegetables harvested and transported from the quarantine area?
A. The card needs to be legible and clearly visible on the bin and include the program name “OFF REDLAND-REGULATED COMMODITY, harvest address, and date. See compliance agreement section C for details.

Q. Will the fruit fly program provide yellow cards for harvested bins of fruit from the quarantine area being transported to a packing house or processing plant?
A. No, yellow cards will not be provided by the program, the yellow cards will need to be printed by the harvester and applied to the bins (or boxes or containers).

Q. What does the stamp or label look like that goes on all certified fruits and vegetables harvested from within the quarantine area and packed under the conditions of compliance that are certified form movement?
A. The stamp or label needs to be legible and clearly visible on the bin and include the program name “OFF REDLAND, Compliance Number.

Q. Where do I get my compliance number?
A. From the lower left section of your compliance agreement (Number 8. Agreement No.).

Q. What is does safeguarding of fruits and vegetables mean?
A. Safeguarding refers to any approved method that eliminates the possibility of exotic fruit flies coming in contact with and infesting fruits and vegetables. Whenever any type of activity involving host fruits and vegetables occurs in a non-enclosed area or in an area which would
allow the physical presence of exotic fruit flies, safeguarding measures shall be taken. Examples of those measures are as follows:

- **Tarps:** One way to protect fruits and vegetables on display is by covering it with plastic sheets, canvas tarps, rubberized tarps, and screen with a minimum 16 mesh, etc. There shall be no gaps, folds or tears large enough for a fly to crawl through either the top or bottom of the produce display.

- **Screens:** Insect screen can also be used; however, the screening shall not be in contact with the fruit skins to eliminate the possibility of a female exotic fruit fly ovipositing (laying eggs) and infesting the fruits and vegetables through the gaps of the screen. The screen holes shall be no larger than 4 mm (about 1/8th inch). A framework structure with the screen attached to it may be built.

- **Plastic Bags:** The end of each bag shall be closed or tied shut, and there shall be no holes, ventilation or otherwise, larger than 4 mm (about 1/8th inch) in diameter.

- **Cases/Boxes/Containers:** These can be made from many materials, including cardboard boxes with a lid; ventilation holes shall be no larger than 4 mm (about 1/8th inch). The top of the box lid can be cut and either clear plastic or screening be taped on to allow viewing of the produce. Additional options include using wooden containers with clear plastic lids and small holes (no larger than 4 mm (about 1/8th inch) drilled in them for ventilation. The lids can be attached to the containers with self-closing hinges, to make sure the lid returns to the close position after use.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Q** Does my packing house need to be completely enclosed?

**A** No, however when fruits and vegetables from the quarantine area or at a packing house or processing plant within the quarantine area are held for packing or processing, they must be tarped or maintained in secure enclosed areas or coolers. Please see Packinghouse/processing facility guide to certification at [http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Plant-Industry/Pests-Diseases/Exotic-Fruit-Flies/Oriental-Fruit-Fly-Information](http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Plant-Industry/Pests-Diseases/Exotic-Fruit-Flies/Oriental-Fruit-Fly-Information)

**COMPENSATION PROGRAMS**

**Q** Will there be a program to compensate producers who cannot harvest produce due to the quarantine restrictions?

**A** The OFF Eradication Program is not involved in any compensation program. That determination will be made by other agencies.

(c://ext/handouts/2015/OFF/Frequently Asked Questions for OFF Erad Prog 10-1-15 revision.doc)