



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER ADAM H. PUTNAM

Notice to the Citrus Industry
Citrus Black Spot Confirmed on Single Piece of Fruit in Polk County
November 28, 2012

On November 16, 2012, the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) confirmed the presence of citrus black spot (*Guignardia citricarpa*) on a single piece of fruit on an orange tree from a commercial grove in Polk County. The survey was part of a major citrus transportation route corridor survey, in this case US 27. The suspect fruit was collected by a Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Citrus Health Response Program inspector and, the first round of diagnostics was performed by the Division of Plant Industry pathology lab and was confirmed by the USDA.

APHIS issued an Emergency Action Notification for 270-acres of citrus within section (TRS 32S28E33) that contains the orange tree where the CBS symptoms were found. This section is near the Highlands/ Polk County line near US 27. The EAN states that all regulated articles from the aforementioned section are subject to the requirements outlined in the CBS Federal Order, dated March 16, 2012, and the Approved Packinghouse Procedures document, dated December 20, 2011. The Federal Order and Packinghouse Procedures can be found on the CBS website at:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/citrus/black_spot.shtml

A delimiting survey is underway of 1,339 total acres of oranges, grapefruit and tangelos, located within a nine-square-mile area around the positive tree. To date, all fruit that were at the proper stage of maturity for CBS symptom detection have been surveyed and no additional fruit with CBS symptoms were detected. All late-maturing varieties and other fruit that remain on the trees within the nine-square-mile survey area will be surveyed as the fruit breaks color, which is estimated to be in mid-January 2013. Beginning in the fall of 2013, all citrus in the designated survey area will be resurveyed, as the citrus fruit matures, based on the results of 2012 and early 2013 field surveys.

For additional information on citrus black spot and/or the Citrus Health Response Program, contact Greg Carlton, FDACS/DPI Pest Eradication and Control Bureau Chief, (863) 298-3009 Greg.Carlton@FreshFromFlorida.com, or visit www.FreshFromFlorida.com/pi