

Psyllid find prompts citrus quarantine in Madera County

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FILE - This undated file photo provided by the California Department of Food and Agriculture shows an Asian citrus psyllid (*Diaphorina citri*), an insect about one-eighth of an inch long. An Asian citrus psyllid has been found in the heart of California's citrus belt. The pest can spread bacteria which kill citrus trees and has decimated the citrus industry in Florida and other parts of the world. (AP Photo/California Department of Food and Agriculture, File) ANONYMOUS — AP

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A 100-square-mile portion of Madera County has been placed under quarantine for the Asian citrus psyllid after agriculture officials found a psyllid in the northeast section of Madera last month.

The quarantine zone is bordered on the north by Road 603, on the south by Avenue 15, on the west by Road 26, and on the east by the Madera Canal. The quarantine prohibits the movement of citrus and curry tree nursery stock out of the area. All citrus fruit must be cleaned of leaves and stems prior to moving out of the quarantine. Nursery stock and budwood grown in U.S. Department of Agriculture-approved structures are allowed. Residents with backyard citrus trees in the quarantine are asked not to transport citrus fruit or leaves, potted citrus trees, or curry leaves from the area.



The Asian citrus psyllid is a major citrus pest because it can carry the disease huanglongbing, HLB, also known as citrus greening. There is no cure for an infected tree that will decline in health, produce bitter and misshaped fruit before it eventually dies.

Residents in the area who think they may have seen the a psyllid or symptoms of HLB on their citrus trees are urged to call the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Pest Hotline at [1-800-491-1899](tel:1-800-491-1899). For more information, please visit: www.cdfa.ca.gov/go/acp.

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