

Asian citrus psyllid quarantine expanded in Madera County

By Robert
Rodriguez



This undated file photo provided by the California Department of Food and Agriculture shows an Asian citrus psyllid, an insect about one-eighth of an inch long. Asian citrus psyllids have 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.

ANONYMOUS — AP

The state is expanding a quarantine in a portion of Madera County to protect against the Asian citrus psyllid after an insect was found east of Madera, in the Bonadelle Ranchos-Madera Ranchos area.

The quarantine expansion adds 79 square miles, bringing the total quarantine area in Madera County to 179 square miles. The 79-square-mile expansion is bordered on the north by Avenue 15, on the south by Avenue 9, on the west by Main Canal and on the east by State Highway 41. A link to the quarantine map may be found here: www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/go/acp-qmaps.

The quarantine prohibits the movement of citrus and curry tree nursery stock out of the area. It also requires that all citrus fruit be cleaned of leaves and stems prior to moving out of the quarantine. An exception may be made for nursery stock and budwood grown in USDA-approved structures that are designed to keep the psyllid and other insects out. Residents with backyard citrus trees in the quarantine area are asked not to move citrus or leaves, potted citrus trees, or curry leaves out of the quarantine area.

The psyllid is considered a serious citrus pest because of its ability to carry the tree-killing disease huanglongbing,

also known as citrus greening. There is no cure for the disease. Only one case of the disease has been found in California, a backyard citrus tree in Hacienda Heights, Los Angeles County.

Contact Robert Rodriguez: brodriguez@fresnobee.com, (559) 441-6327 or [@FresnoBeeBob](https://twitter.com/FresnoBeeBob) on Twitter.