

2016 - 2017

INDUSTRY AFFIRMATION AGREEMENT
FOR CITRUS EXPORTS TO CHINA FOR
PACKINGHOUSES OTHER THAN TULARE COUNTY

Packinghouses and their affiliated growers agree to implement the following mitigation measures to control *Phytophthora* for citrus exports to China:

1. Growers will skirt prune trees to significantly reduce the risk of Phytophthora infections and no fruit will be harvested below 50 cm (20 inches) for export to China.
2. Each packinghouse must have a Standard Operating Procedure documenting how fruit harvested above and below 50 cm (20 inches) will be separated when fruit is destined for China.
3. Copper applications must be made at the beginning of the season after the first rain fall between Oct. 15 and Nov. 30th, and mandatory additional applications will be made as environmental conditions dictate and as stipulated by the University of California. Packinghouses will notify growers when applications should be made.
4. Copper applications must cover the entire tree to prevent infections of both *Phytophthora syringae* and *P. hibernalis*.
5. Packinghouses must keep copper-spray and monitoring records and provide those records to APHIS upon request; including prior to phytosanitary inspection if requested.
6. Designated packinghouse personnel must ensure compliance by visiting groves for export to China prior to harvest. A list of those individuals must be made available to APHIS upon request.
7. Grove monitoring is mandatory. While the protocol is not specific with regard to how monitoring should be conducted, we are strongly recommending that the industry follow these guidelines very closely so *Phytophthora* is managed in a conservative manner. Even a small number of interceptions can result in future market closures.

The minimum requirement is to monitor groves one week before harvest, so an assessment can be made whether to ship fruit to China. Records must be kept on monitoring conducted one week before harvest.

8. Groves are eligible for shipments to China if 5 or fewer symptomatic fruit per acre are found above 50 cm (20 inches) from the ground during monitoring. If more than 5 symptomatic fruit are detected, the fruit from that grove should not be shipped to China.

9. There is a zero tolerance for rot during county inspectors. Grower lots in which rot is detected during inspection will be rejected.

10. Phytosanitary Certificates should include a declaration stating [This shipment complies with "The Protocol of Phytosanitary Requirements of California Citrus Exported to China"](#) , ["Supplementary Inspection and Quarantine Requirements for California Citrus to be exported to China"](#) and ["Supplementary Inspection and Quarantine Requirements for California Citrus to be exported to China II"](#).

Required Documentation

Packinghouses will (i) sign this affirmation letter which affirms that the mitigation measures noted above were implemented in accordance with University of California guidelines, and (ii) secure a signed standard operating procedures (SOP) document with growers participating in the China export program. (iii) Packinghouses must document copper applications that were made and when groves were monitored.

Verification

Packinghouses will maintain a signed copy of the affirmation document and SOPs document and make records available to APHIS or their authorized representative upon request.

Affirmation

Packinghouse: _____

Owner/Manager: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Date: _____