

FLORIDA CITRUS GROWERS INSTITUTE

*South Florida State College, Avon Park, Florida
April 3, 2018*

CITRUS COMPLIANCE AGREEMENTS

CALLIE WALKER, BUREAU CHIEF

PEST ERADICATION AND CONTROL

CITRUS HEALTH RESPONSE PROGRAM





Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Division of Plant Industry

GROWER / CARETAKER COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT

ADAM H. PUTNAM
COMMISSIONER

Section 581.031(26), F.S. / Rule 5B-63.001, F.A.C.
3027 Lake Alfred Road, Winter Haven, FL 33881

1. OWNER / BUSINESS NAME & MAILING ADDRESS:		2. PROPERTY LOCATION / IDENTIFICATION:	
1.1 CA#	(ISSUE DATE)	2.1 COUNTY:	
1.2 CONTACT:		2.2 T-R-S:	
1.3 PHONES:		2.3 CARETAKER:	
1.4 BUS. TYPE: GROWER / OWNER		2.4 TRAINING: (DECONTAMINATION CERTIFICATE NUMBERS)	
3. REGULATED ARTICLE(S): Any article capable of transporting or harboring Citrus Black Spot, Citrus Canker, Citrus Greening, or the Asian Citrus Psyllid			
4. APPLICABLE STATE QUARANTINE(S) OR REGULATIONS: Section 581, F.S. and Rule Chapter 5B-63, F.A.C.			

In addition to the regulations contained in Section 581, F.S. and Rule Chapter 5B-63, F.A.C., 7 CFR 301.75, 7 CFR 301.76 and Federal Order DA-2012-09, I/we agree to abide by the following stipulations:

I. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR GROVE OPERATIONS

- All citrus growers (grove owners, agents or lessees) and caretakers (grove contractors, including but not limited to management, planting, fertilizing, cultivating, irrigating, spraying, mowing, pruning, hedging, topping, and tree removal companies) who own, plant, maintain or service commercial citrus groves, or citrus plantings consisting of forty or more trees, are required to sign a Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Citrus Health Response Program (CHRP), "GROWER / CARETAKER COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT."
- Growers are expected to implement self-survey, psyllid control and decontamination programs, and should also consider and adopt the latest recommendations for pest and disease control available from University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF-IFAS). Any incidence of exotic citrus pests must be reported promptly to Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) Division of Plant Industry (DPI) inspection staff.
- Training in recognition and control of both exotic and serious endemic citrus pests, and in approved methods of decontamination will be conducted upon request by UF-IFAS. Certified Trainer cards are issued by FDACS/ DPI for successful completion of decontamination training, and delivered by UF-IFAS. For information, please see Schedule 10.
- All persons who enter a grove are responsible to decontaminate as described in this agreement. The Grower is responsible for the decontamination of all personnel and equipment under direct supervision of the grower. Citrus caretakers, contractors, harvesters, haulers, handlers and equipment operators must also be in compliance with the Citrus Health Response Program (CHRP), hold separate CHRP Compliance Agreements, and be responsible for decontaminating their own personnel and equipment prior to entering and upon each departure of all citrus growers' properties.



II. RULES FOR GROVE OPERATIONS IN CITRUS BLACK SPOT QUARANTINES
In addition to the GENERAL REQUIREMENTS, the following conditions apply:

- Caretakers, harvesters and field personnel accessing or working on any grove property under a valid decontamination and sufficient quantities of approved decontaminant solution readily available, and located on site at all times while equipment or workers are present on the grove.
- Approved citrus black spot and citrus canker decontamination procedures for all personnel and equipment follow:
 - Prior to departing any citrus grove or grove block, disposal site or receiving facility, all personnel must inspect vehicles and equipment for citrus plant material, and clean all vehicles, equipment, ladders, tubs, picking sacks and personal clothing free of citrus fruit, leaves, limbs, soil and debris. All plant material and debris must be left on that property or be disposed of on a CHRP approved site that will not pose a risk to citrus groves, trees or nurseries.
 - Personnel and equipment must be decontaminated in a manner as prescribed in Approved Decontamination Protocol & Methods (Schedule 11) prior to departing a citrus grove, an approved receiving facility or disposal site.
 - Caretakers, harvesters and field personnel working on any grove property are required to have adequate decontamination equipment and sufficient quantities of approved decontaminant solutions at acceptable use dilutions readily available, and located on site at all times while equipment or workers are present on the grove property.
- Growers may require evidence that all personnel and equipment have been properly decontaminated prior to entering their groves. For this reason, caretakers, harvesters and equipment operators are advised to communicate with growers and inspectors in advance of performing decontamination events, prior to arrival at the next grower's property. Equipment must always arrive at growers' properties clean and free of citrus fruit, leaves, limbs, soil and debris, and plant pests.
 - Depositing a citrus grove in a non-quarantine area, hedging, topping, and tree removal/land clearing equipment must be cleaned with water, and decontaminated by use of an approved product and method (per Schedule 11).
 - Equipment used in new or established groves and all budwood used for top-working must be obtained from a certified FDACS/ Division of Plant Industry (DPI).
 - Equipment used in citrus groves must be properly decontaminated prior to entering a citrus grove. Equipment used in citrus groves must be properly decontaminated prior to entering a citrus grove. Equipment used in citrus groves must be properly decontaminated prior to entering a citrus grove.

FDACS/ DPI and USDA/ Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) must be notified in advance of any equipment used in citrus groves. Equipment used in citrus groves must be properly decontaminated prior to entering a citrus grove. Equipment used in citrus groves must be properly decontaminated prior to entering a citrus grove.

Why the change ?

- The European Union made several changes to their Directive in July 2017 regarding the movement of citrus into the EU from countries that have *Xanthomonas citri* (citrus canker) and *Phyllosticta citricarpa* (citrus black spot).
- The changes were scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2018.



What where the changes?

- Under the new guidelines growers who were shipping fresh fruit to the European Union for the 2017 and 2018 season needed to be under the new compliance agreement by January 1, 2018. Packinghouses also had new compliance agreements.
- For shipment of fruit to the European Union **from outside of counties that are quarantined for Citrus Black Spot but under the statewide Citrus Canker quarantine**, growers are required to implement cultural practices to minimize the effects and spread of citrus canker as recommended in the UF-IFAS *Florida Citrus Production Guide*.
- CHRP regulatory inspectors will conduct quality assurance checks to show implementation of cultural practices.



What where the changes?

- Growers will be required to make a “CC” notation on trip tickets to indicate that the grower is in compliance with the practices and also include their grower compliance number on the trip ticket. Proof of area freedom from Citrus Black Spot is required and will be validated by Citrus Black Spot survey and Multi-Pest survey performed by FDACS inspectors.
- For shipment of fruit to the European Union **from within the Citrus Black Spot county-wide quarantines and under the statewide Citrus Canker quarantine (counties quarantined for Citrus Black Spot are Charlotte, Collier, Hendry, Lee and Polk)**, pre-harvest surveys will be required; harvest permits will be issued for proof of freedom from disease along with grower assurance of the implementation of cultural practices per the UF-IFAS *Florida Citrus Production Guide* instructions in pest and disease management.
- Growers will mark trip tickets with “TARP-Q” to show the fruit is coming out of a Citrus Black Spot quarantine, make the “CC” notation to indicate the growers’ efforts to mitigate the incidence of Citrus Canker in their groves and include their grower compliance number on the trip ticket.



What did not change?

- The general requirements of the agreements have not changed but all growers/caretakers, harvesters/haulers and processing plants need to sign the new compliance agreements.
- Growers are still asked to implement self-survey, psyllid control, decontamination programs and should adopt the latest recommendations for pest and disease control available from UF-IFAS.
- There is additional language in the agreements with regard to moving fruit from CBS regulated areas and it is explained in detail in **Part II** of the grower/caretaker and harvester/handler and processor compliance agreements including decontamination, keeping equipment free from debris and plant material, tarping and use of “TARP-Q” on pick tickets.



Who to contact ?

The new compliance agreements are available from the five CHRP offices as follows and they can assist you in getting the new agreement signed:

You may email us at DPI-chrp@freshfromflorida.com or call

Avon Park	863-314-5900
Immokalee	239-675-4001
Tavares	352-609-6190
Vero Beach	772-778-5069
Winter Haven	863-298-3000



QUESTIONS ?



THANK YOU !

Callie Walker , Bureau Chief
3027 Lake Alfred Road
Winter Haven, FL 33881

Office: (863)298-3000
Cell: (863)271-3766

