

USDA schedules hearing on Medfly quarantine

NEW YORK, N.Y. — A public hearing to consider a proposed quarantine of California in response to continued Mediterranean fruit fly infestations will be held by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in San Francisco, May 19.

"The quarantine is being proposed to replace the emergency regulation as required by law — not because of any change in the infestations," said Elliott Crooks of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

"Under the proposed action, identical areas would continue to be regulated, and the identical food articles would be restricted and controlled," Crooks said.

The Medfly public hearing will begin at 10 a.m. at the Ft. Mason Center, Building A, Conference Center, Buchanan and Laguna streets, in San Francisco, Calif.

Medfly regulations are enforced by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service cooperatively with state and county officials in an effort to keep the citrus fruit and vegetable pest from spreading to uninfested areas.

Transportation restrictions would continue on certain items in areas in Santa Clara and Alameda counties in California where the Medfly has become established.

Restrictions would continue to be

applied to transporting certain fruits and vegetables—almonds, apricots, avocados, sweet and sour cherries, dates, figs, grapes, grapefruits, lemons, limes, mock oranges, peaches, plums, prunes and tomatoes.

The restrictions do not include any fruits or vegetables which have been canned or frozen below 17.8 degrees Celsius (0 degrees Fahrenheit), Crooks said.

USDA will accept written public comments on the proposal dated before June 15. Comments may be mailed to: E.E. Crooks, Regulatory Support Staff, rm. 635, APHIS/PPQ, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Federal Bldg., 6805 Belcrest Rd., Hyattsville, Md. 20782.

All written comments will be available for public inspection at the Federal Building in Hyattsville, Md., during regular business hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Medfly is one of the world's most destructive pests affecting fruits and vegetables, especially citrus fruits, Crooks said. Heavy infestations can cause complete crop loss with losses of 25 percent to 50 percent not uncommon. The short lifecycle of the pest also promotes rapid development of serious Medfly infestations.

Delmarva poultry producers gather honors



Delmarva's outstanding poultry and hatching egg producers were honored at the Delmarva Poultry Rooster Banquet held recently in Salisbury, MD. These producers were selected by the companies as the best producers of the year.

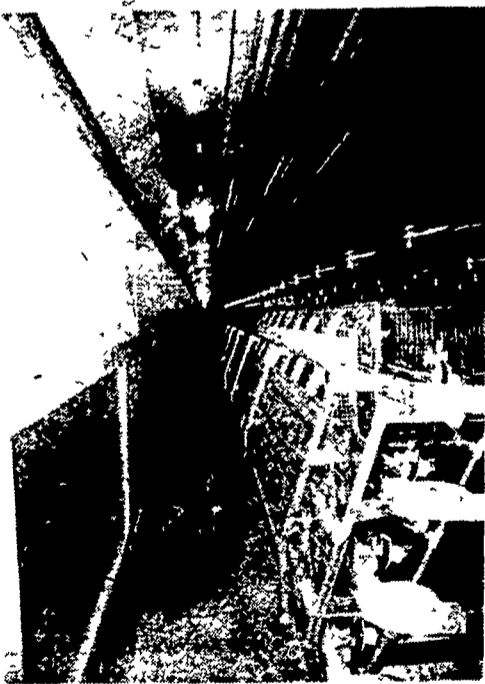
Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc., the regional trade association which sponsored the banquet, presented each producer with an engraved silver bowl to mark their accomplishments. The banquet was also the climax of the 1981 DPI Fund Drive which concluded with a record member "investment" of \$289,100. Recipients of the 1981 Outstanding Poultry and Hatching Egg

Producer awards were: DELAWARE - Hazel E. Bunting, Selbyville; Jesse & Evelyn Burks, Millsboro; George & Mary Daisey, Frankford; Fred & Betty Davis, Georgetown; Paul J. Homlish, Jr., Greenwood; and Norman G. Hudson, Millsboro; MARYLAND - Joseph & Rhoda Blagus, Parsonsburg; Frank & Faye Hudson, Fruitland; Donald & Shirley Insley, Tyaskin; Irvin & Eunice Knauer, Trappe; Mrs. Lina Marine, Rhodesdale; Floyd & Betty Lou Outten, Pocomoke; Roland & Michael Trice, Preston; Mr. & Mrs. Jake Weber, Cambridge; and, Albert & Mary Willey, Parsonsburg; VIRGINIA - Stella A. Lewis, Saxis.



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