COOPERATIVE RED IMPORTED FIRE ANT (RIFA) PROJECT

Orange, Los Angeles, and Riverside County Agricultural Commissioners - CDFA - USDA
Address: California Department of Food and Agriculture - RIFA Program
PO. Box 2017 Los Alamitos, CA 90720
PH: (562) 795-1100 FAX: (562) 795-1117

TO ALL CONCERNED WITH SOIL MOVEMENT IN ORANGE COUNTY AND THE QUARANTINE AREAS OF RIVERSIDE AND LOS ANGELES COUNTIES:

There are quarantines established against the red imported fire ant (RIFA) in all of Orange County and parts of Los Angeles and Riverside Counties (California Code of Regulations 3432 and Code of Federal Regulation 301.81). Articles and commodities regulated include soil; baled hay and baled straw stored in direct contact with ground; plants and sod with roots and soil attached; used soil moving equipment, unless free of all non-compacted soil and any other product, article, or means of conveyance when it is determined by the department or county agricultural commissioner to present hazard of spreading live red imported fire ant and the person in possession has been so notified. It is unlawful to move within or from the quarantine area a commercial shipment of any commodity mentioned, except when certified by the department or county agricultural commissioner in accordance with the regulations.

RIFA Project would certify movement of soil from or within the quarantine area. The inspections are free. Please contact at least 3 days in advance to schedule an inspection, by sending a fax of this document and attached RIFA Form CA-1 (Notification of Intent to Move Soil). Inspection consists of determining if RIFA are present by visual survey or by trapping the area using protein baits (canned lunch meat). Certification for movement of soil within the quarantined area will be based on the severity of RIFA in the general area where the soil is being excavated in conjunction with where the soil is to be moved. RIFA Form CA-1 (attached) may be faxed to RIFA Project office with the appropriate information each time you have soil-moving project. If no RIFA are found at the site of origination, movement is permitted and a certification will be provided stating that the site found negative for RIFA. If RIFA are found at the origination site, movement is prohibited until a pesticide treatment plan is established as required by Project personnel.

The certification requirement for movement of soil would apply to persons dealing in soil movement such as grading, digging, landscaping, and other building projects. If you are unsure as to whether or not your project is subject to these requirements, please fax a copy of RIFA Form CA-1 to (562) 795-1117. We will respond within 3 to 4 business days (Mon-Thu).

Thank you for your cooperation and help in this matter.

I have read and understand this document:

RIFA Compliance Agreement No*: _____

_____ (PRINT NAME)

_____ (SIGNATURE)

Company: _____ Phone Number:(_____)_____

Address _____ Date: _____

Job Site Address: _____

It is the responsibility of each person involved in the movement of soil to report sightings of ants. *We will assign you an identification number (RIFA Compliance Agreement Number) when you fax or mail in your request for an inspection.

Revised 3/11/08