

WINDOW ON AGRICULTURE

Office of the Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner

Lisa Correia
Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

<http://www.sonoma-county.org/agcomm>

133 Aviation Blvd., Ste. 110
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
Phone (707) 565-2371
Fax (707) 565-3850

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Suzanne Ostrom and Dan Curtin

NEW INFORMATION ON DISINFECTANTS FOR USE IN POULTRY FACILITIES



United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has posted a new page on its web site that provides a list of antimicrobial products to disinfect poultry and other facilities against avian (bird) influenza. Currently, more than 90 disinfectant products are registered for use against avian influenza A viruses on hard non-porous surfaces in poultry houses, veterinary premises, farm premises and equipment, and other industrial and institutional settings. The website also includes background information and additional sources of information on the virus.

Viruses are the cause of Avian influenza, which is sometimes called bird flu. Avian influenza is an infection that occurs naturally in birds. The viruses occur mainly among birds and usually do not infect humans; however, public concern has been increasing based on recent human cases in Asia and Europe.

The new web page is located at:

www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/avian.htm

World Health Organization (WHO) is coordinating the global response to human cases of avian influenza and monitoring the corresponding threat of an influenza pandemic. Guidelines and useful information for the general public can be found on their website:

www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/en/

GLASSY-WINGED SHARPSHOOTER UPDATE



Sonoma County Agricultural Inspectors have found one viable Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) egg mass on an incoming plant shipment this year. All of the infested plants were returned to the shipping nursery. The wet weather this spring has led to a decrease in the number of shipments being received by nurseries in the county. However, we expect to see an increase in shipments when the sun finally breaks through.

Currently we have five seasonal employees inspecting plant shipments for our GWSS program, they are: Senior Agricultural Program Assistant Gail Carter, and Agricultural Program Assistants April Golterman, Dennis Haydon, David Burtis, and Paul Lasker. At the end of this month David and Gayle will be shifting from the GWSS program to our Exotic Pest Detection Trapping program.

In the first week of April we began our urban GWSS trapping program. We will be deploying approximately 450 traps in urban areas and servicing these traps every two weeks. Agricultural Program Assistant Richard Opbroek will be doing the trapping.

GLASSY-WINGED SHARPSHOOTER UPDATE CONTINUED

Additionally our office continues to trap receiving nurseries, and also survey them.

Growers throughout Sonoma County will be deploying and servicing their own yellow sticky traps. We have given the Sonoma County Grape Growers Association a supply of traps that growers may pickup for this purpose. Their office is located at 420 Aviation Blvd. Suite 106 in Santa Rosa.

The Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner's Office remains committed to keeping Sonoma County Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter free.

CERTIFIED PRODUCER'S CERTIFICATE RENEWAL



If you are planning on selling at a certified farmer's market in 2006 and you have not yet renewed your Certified Producer's Certificate (CPC), remember you must have it renewed prior to selling at the market. Please allow one to two weeks for processing your CPC.

If you have no changes or agreements to provide us, simply phone our office to renew for 2006. Otherwise, you need to do the following:

- If you are a certified producer with a partnership or lease agreement, you must provide us with a notarized copy of the partnership or written lease agreement. If you have already submitted these agreements, there is no need to resubmit unless there are changes to the agreements or the agreements have expired. If there are any changes to either agreement, a notarized copy of the agreement with the changes, must be submitted.

- Please carefully review your 2005 certificate and make any necessary changes, additions or deletions on the copy of your 2005 CPC. If you are growing a commodity on more than one production site, each site along with the commodity, amount grown, harvest season, and estimated production must be listed on a separate line on your CPC. After reviewing and amending the copy of your 2005 CPC; mail, fax, or bring it to our office along with any required agreements.

Certificates will not be issued without the proper notarized agreements. Please allow one to two weeks for processing your CPC. After your renewal request is complete, you will receive a phone call from our office stating that your new certificate is ready to be issued. The person whose name is on the CPC must come in to our office to complete a questionnaire, sign the CPC, and pay a fee of \$50.



You may sell products for other certified producers if you have written authority from the other certified producer to sell on their behalf and provide our office with the information. A certified producer can only sell for two other producers in a 12-month period. If you have authorized other CPC holders to sell for you, you must list them on your CPC.

Remember – please allow one to two weeks for processing your CPC. Keep in mind all scales that will be used at the farmers' markets must be sealed by our Weights & Measures Division.

