

Grapes from California – New Requirements

July 16, 2010

The following was released by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and distributed by the Canadian Society of Customs Brokers (CSCB).

As of July 19, 2010, the import of fresh table grapes for consumption that were produced and/or packed in areas of California that are regulated for European grapevine moth (EGVM), *Lobesia botrana*, will be approved, provided that the fruits were produced and/or packaged in a facility that is registered under a compliance agreement for EGVM with the USDA. Vineyards located outside of the regulated areas of California are not targeted by the requirements related to *Lobesia botrana*.

Therefore, the prohibition related to EGVM for the import of fresh table grapes from non-regulated areas within the counties that contain areas regulated for EGVM, will be waived as of July 19, 2010. Please note that the new requirements apply only to fresh table grapes that have been trimmed and packaged for retail sale, and at this time, grapes intended to be shipped in bulk and for crushing, are prohibited from counties of California that contain regulated areas.

In order to determine if a vineyard is eligible to export table grapes to Canada, all vineyards located within regulated areas of California must be monitored for EGVM. Vineyards located within regulated areas of California, where EGVM was detected and within 200 m of this detection are not eligible for export to Canada. Vineyards located within regulated areas of California, where EGVM has not been detected (and at more than 200 m of a detection) will be allowed to export grapes to Canada, provided that they comply with the following:

- Fresh grapes for consumption must be inspected and found free from EGVM
- The consignment must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate that bears the following additional declaration: "The consignment was inspected and found free from European grapevine moth, *Lobesia botrana*."
- Once they have been certified free from *Lobesia botrana*, the grapes have to be handled in a fashion that prevents cross-contamination from commodities that may be infested by the pest.

Please note that the above mentioned import requirements are similar to those recently implemented for other fruits that may be hosts for *L. botrana*, and therefore, it is the responsibility of the USDA to ensure the Canadian import requirements for this pest are satisfied.

The import requirements related to EGVM must be applied in addition to any other existing import requirements for host fruits from California.

Please refer to policy directives D-07-03 (Plant Protection (Phytosanitary) Import Requirements to Prevent the Entry of *Epiphyas postvittana* (Walker) (light brown apple moth)), and D-95-08 (General Import Requirements for Fresh Temperate Fruits from the World) for additional information on these requirements. Please also consult the policy directive D-95-08 for more information about the import requirements for fresh fruits from other countries of the world where EGVM is known to occur.

AIRS and the relevant D-memos will be updated shortly.