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**News Release**

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**ASIAN CITRUS PSYLLIDS DETECTED IN MANTECA / LODI, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY**

STOCKTON, CA, October 13, 2014 – The San Joaquin County Agricultural Commissioner, in cooperation with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), is beginning an extensive survey in response to the first detection of two Asian citrus psyllids (ACP) in the county; one in the City of Manteca and one in the City of Lodi.

The ACPs were detected in residential neighborhoods in Manteca near N. Main Street and E. North Street, and in Lodi near Chestnut Street and Church Street. In response to the detections, an increased number of traps have been deployed and a visual survey was initiated in the surrounding properties in an attempt to determine if there is an infestation. Treatment activities will be carried out on all citrus plants surrounding the sites where the insects were trapped. Residents in the treatment area will be notified in advance of any activity.

*“The Asian citrus psyllid is a dangerous pest of citrus,” said Tim Pelican, San Joaquin County Agricultural Commissioner. “We are working to determine the full extent of this infestation so that we can protect our State’s vital citrus industry as well as our backyard citrus trees. Working together we can prevent the harm this invasive species can cause.”*

Background: The ACP is an invasive species of grave concern because it can carry the disease huanglongbing (HLB), also known as citrus greening. All citrus and closely related species are susceptible hosts for both the insect and the disease. There is no cure once a tree becomes infected, the diseased tree will decline in health and produce bitter, misshaped fruit until it dies. The citrus is safe to eat and the disease is not harmful to human health. HLB has been detected just once in California – in 2012 on a single residential property in Hacienda Heights, Los Angeles County.

Residents in the area who think they may have seen the pest are urged to call the Pest Hotline at 1-800-491-1899. For more information on the Asian citrus psyllid and huanglongbing disease, visit: [www.cdffa.ca.gov/plant/acp](http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/plant/acp).

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# Asian Citrus Psyllid

