Good morning,

We know that our work is central to U.S. agricultural health; safe, streamlined trade; and food security. To that end, we are doing all we can to ensure the health and safety of our employees while still delivering the services you need.

At this time, we continue to provide all of our regular services, such as certifying exports, issuing import permits, inspecting imported plant shipments, helping to clear cargo held at foreign ports, identifying intercepted pests, rearing sterile fruit flies and biocontrol wasps, surveying for damaging plant pests and diseases, responding to pest outbreaks, carrying out domestic pest programs, and opening new export markets, to name just a few. Should we have to make any changes to our service delivery, we will work directly with affected stakeholders and customers to minimize disruptions.

We appreciate your cooperation during this time. If you have any questions related to our services or operations, please contact your state PPQ office (www.aphis.usda.gov/planthealth/sphd).

Osama

Osama A. El-Lissy Deputy Administrator USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine Office: 202-799-7163 Fax: 202-690-0472 Cell: 240-475-1396