



# Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

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Marilyn Kinoshita, Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights and Measures  
Tom Tucker, Assistant  
Commissioner/Sealer

March 30, 2017

To: Pest Control Advisors

## Bloom Waivers

The Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner's office is asking that, when requesting bloom waivers during Citrus Bloom, Pest Control Advisors physically evaluate each field under consideration. Waivers shall meet petal fall requirements on the entire site I.D. requested (no partial blocks allowed). In addition, the bloom status/condition is included on the recommendation as a percent of bloom at the site.

California Code of Regulation 6656. Citrus/Bee Protection Area.

(2) Any pesticide toxic to bees, except those exempted in subsection (g) during a citrus bloom period, unless the need for control of lepidoptera larvae or citrus thrips (*Scirtothrips citri*) has been established by written recommendation of a representative of the University of California, Agricultural Extension Service, or a licensed agricultural pest control adviser. The recommendation shall state either that the citrus planting does not meet the citrus bloom period criteria, or why alternatives less hazardous to bees would not be effective.

Please make sure that recommendations state which exemption you are using and either how the Citrus planting meets the petal fall status or why no alternative pesticide can be used for control of lepidoptera larvae or citrus thrips. When submitting the request, we need the Notice of Intent, Recommendation, and bee clearance before evaluating the waiver. Your cooperation will expedite the application process.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marianna Santos-Gentert".

Marianna Santos-Gentert  
Pesticide Division  
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Phone (559) 684-3350