November 19, 2002

INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM: R&D-02-050

TO: All Reinsured Companies
    All Risk Management Agency Field Offices

FROM: Tim B. Witt /s/ Tim B. Witt
      Deputy Administrator

SUBJECT: Florida Fruit Tree Pilot Crop Insurance Updated Listing of Counties with Established Asiatic Citrus Canker (ACC) Quarantine Zones

BACKGROUND:

Asiatic Citrus Canker (ACC) is an insurable cause of loss for the Florida Fruit Tree Pilot Crop Insurance program. The policy provisions state that if a quarantine zone has been established in a county by either the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Plant Industry (DPI) or the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), then applicants for insurance, carryover insureds who did not have ACC coverage the previous year, and insureds who wish to increase coverage must obtain an acceptable ACC Underwriting Certification from DPI to be eligible for ACC coverage. Applicants or insureds who fail to submit an acceptable certification form will still be eligible for coverage against the other perils listed in the policy.

ACTION:

1. This memorandum serves as notice that DPI and/or APHIS has added Highlands County, Florida to the list of counties with established ACC quarantine zones.

2. Effective immediately, an acceptable ACC Underwriting Certification inspection, as specified in the crop provisions, is required for all insurable citrus trees in Highlands County. Carambola trees, a non-citrus species, are insurable but do not require an ACC Underwriting Certification inspection.
3. ACC Underwriting Certification inspections may be obtained by sending a request to DPI at:

   Citrus Canker Project Office  
   Attention: Mr. James Turnbull  
   3397 US Hwy 27S  
   Avon Park, Florida 33825  
   Phone: (863) 314-5900  
   Fax: (863) 314-5911

4. DPI has removed Hillsborough County as an ACC quarantine zone.

5. The requirement to submit ACC Underwriting Certifications continues in effect in the following counties: DeSoto, Collier, Broward, Miami-Dade, Hendry, Manatee and Martin.

If you have any questions, please contact Robert Vollmert, Director, Research and Evaluation Division (816) 926-6343.

DISPOSAL DATE:

This Informational Memorandum will remain active until incorporated into the Underwriting Certification Guidelines for Insuring Citrus Trees Against Asiatic Citrus Canker (ACC). The estimated disposal date is December 31, 2002.