DIVISION of PLANT INDUSTRY

LYCHEE ERINOSE MITE
RESIDENTIAL AND NURSERY CONTROL ACTIONS

The lychee erinose mite is a pest of lychee fruit trees. The pest causes erineum galls (hairy, abnormal growths) to form on the leaves of the tree. Without treatment, an infestation of mites can severely damage the tree, fruit and flowers.

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), Division of Plant Industry (DPI) has developed the following control actions to eliminate the mite and will perform these activities at no expense to the owner.

CONTROL ACTIONS FOR POSITIVE TREES

- **TREE DEFOLIATION**
  - » **TREES BELOW 6 FEET TALL**
    - Tree(s) will be defoliated.
    - All stems/branches less than one half inch in diameter will be removed.
  - » **TREES BETWEEN 6 FEET AND 12 FEET TALL**
    - Tree(s) will be defoliated.
    - Branches and stems with hardened wood (bark) will be allowed to remain.
    - Green (non-hardened) wood will be removed.
  - » **TREES TALLER THAN 12 FEET**
    - Tree(s) will be defoliated.
    - Tree(s) will be reduced to a height (8-10 feet) determined by the FDACS-DPI.
    - Branches and stems with hardened wood (bark) will be allowed to remain.
    - Green (non-hardened) wood will be removed.

- **MITICIDE TREATMENTS**
  - A sulfur-based miticide treatment will be applied to lychee trees at each site at the time of defoliating.
  - A second application of sulfur-based miticide will occur within 48 hours of the onset of bud break/leaf flush.
  - Up to six additional applications of sulfur-based miticide will occur every 15 days.

DO NOT ALLOW PEOPLE OR PETS TO COME IN CONTACT WITH TREATED SURFACES FOR 24 HOURS AFTER APPLICATION.

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- **DEBRIS REMOVAL METHODS**
  - Branches and leaves will be chipped and taken to an approved disposal site.
  - Branches unable to be chipped on-site will be taken to an approved disposal site.
  - All debris from the immediate treatment area will be removed from the location.
  - Sites will be left clean and free of trash in the work area.

- **DECONTAMINATION PRACTICES**
  - All equipment used to defoliate and chip affected trees and debris must be disinfected with a 10% bleach solution before being used on other trees.
  - Decontamination activities will occur daily or upon completion of defoliating activities.
  - Clean, unexposed clothing including shoes, gloves and personal protective equipment will be worn.

- **MONITORING**
  - Once treatments are completed, trees will be monitored monthly for the presence of lychee erinose mite for 3 months.

CONTROL ACTIONS FOR NEGATIVE TREES

- **TREATMENTS**
  - One sulfur-based miticide treatment will be applied to lychee trees identified as negative for lychee erinose mite.
  - The treatment will be applied at the same time as the initial treatment is applied to positive trees in the surrounding area of the negative tree.

- **MONITORING**
  - Negative trees will be monitored throughout the positive tree treatments for the presence of lychee erinose mite.
  - If a negative tree becomes positive for lychee erinose mite, the tree will receive the positive tree treatment process.
  - Once treatments are completed, trees will be monitored monthly for the presence of lychee erinose mite for 3 months.

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS
CONTACT THE DPI HELPLINE

1-888-397-1517

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