Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry
Office of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Division of Pesticides and Environmental Programs

IMPOSITION OF QUARANTINE

In accordance with the provisions of the Formosan Termite Initiative Act, (LA R. S. 3:3391.1 through 3391.13), the Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry, (Commissioner), by the authority granted to him by La. R. S. 3: 3391.7, hereby issues the following quarantine:

I. FACTS SUPPORTING DECLARATION

On August 29, 2005 Hurricane Katrina devastated the parishes of Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington. The named parishes are known to be heavily infested with Formosan termites. The hurricane has left millions of tons of wood debris, including debris infested with Formosan termites, in the named parishes. Additionally, thousands of structurally unsound buildings and structures, many of which are infested with Formosan termites, are in the named parishes and will have to be destroyed and turned into wood debris. State and federal authorities have developed plans to turn this wood debris into compost and other items for use in these and other Louisiana parishes. Such use of this wood debris will facilitate the spread of Formosan termites into areas of the state that are either not currently infested or have a minor or moderate infestation, thereby causing destruction or substantial damage to houses and other structures.

Many of the houses and structures that will be destroyed contain architecturally significant components, such as beams and doors, which are both salvageable and economically valuable. These articles will be sold for installation in new and remodeled homes and structures in the named parishes and in other parishes. Many of these articles will be infested with Formosan termites. The use of these infested articles in new and remodeled homes and structures will cause the spread of Formosan termites and subsequent destruction or substantial damage to these and other homes and structures.

The devastation left by Hurricane Katrina also requires temporary and permanent housing to be moved into or built in the named parishes. Unless the movable temporary housing is inspected prior to leaving the named parishes, the use or passage of the temporary housing in or through other parishes of the state will cause the spread of Formosan termites and subsequent

destruction or substantial damage to these and other homes and structures. All new construction and reconstruction of permanent housing in the named parishes must be treated for Formosan termites, (and should be constructed or reconstructed with Formosan termite resistant building material) to reduce the extent of infestation and to minimize subsequent destruction and damage to these homes and structures and other homes and structures.

Imposition of this quarantine is required to prevent the spread of Formosan termites and infestation of areas, homes and structures that are not currently infested, or which are to be built or reconstructed. Failure to impose this quarantine will cause severe economic damage and property loss to the citizens of Louisiana.

II. OBJECTIVES OF QUARANTINE

The objectives of this quarantine are to prevent the spread of Formosan termites into areas of the state that are not now currently infested with Formosan termites, to prevent Formosan termites from infesting existing homes and structures that are not currently infested, and to prevent Formosan termites from infesting new and reconstructed homes and structures.

III. GEOGRAPHICAL AREA OF QUARANTINE

The geographical areas of this quarantine are the named parishes of Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington.

IV. PROHIBITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

1. All new construction and reconstruction of houses, buildings and other permanent structures in the named parishes must be treated for Formosan termites according to the Louisiana Structural Pest Control Commission's Rules and Regulations.

2. The movement of any wood or cellulose material from the named parishes is prohibited unless either (1) such wood or cellulose material has been fumigated or otherwise treated for Formosan termites and is approved for movement by the Commissioner or his designee(s), or (2) the Commissioner or his designee(s) gives written authorizations for untreated wood or cellulose material to be moved from the named parishes.

3. All temporary housing to be moved out of the named parishes shall not be removed from the named parishes until written authorization is given by the Commissioner or his designee(s).

4. All architectural components, such as beams, doors, and other wood salvaged from a structure in the named parishes shall not be sold or placed in a new, remodeled, or reconstructed

home, building, or permanent structure located in the named parishes or in any other parish prior to being fumigated or treated for Formosan termites.

5. Although not required under this Quarantine, it is strongly urged and recommended that all new construction and reconstruction of homes, buildings, and structures in the named parishes be performed using Formosan termite resistant building material.

V. EXEMPTIONS FROM QUARANTINE

The following activities shall be exempt from this quarantine.

1. Commercial logging and timber operations related to silvaculture productions.

2. Commercial operations involving the sale or distribution of nursery stock. Nursery stock is defined in La. R. S. 3:1656(B) and means "all trees, shrubs, ornamental plants, grass sod, foliage plants, or marsh plants."

V. TIME LIMIT

This quarantine shall remain in effect until rescinded by my written order. A waiver of any requirement or authorization for anyone to do any of the prohibited acts, whether in whole or in part, by me or my designee(s) shall not be construed as rescinding or modifying this quarantine.

Signed this 3rd day of October, 2005 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

BOB ODOM, COMMISSIONER
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY