



December 26, 2000

USDA - APHIS
Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD / APHIS
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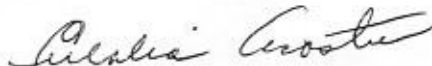
To Whom It May Concern:

I have read Brooks Tropicals December 18, 2000 letter to you regarding the proposed Citrus Canker Compensation Rule and agree with their concerns regarding the compensation model.

I have worked along side my husband in this industry for more than three decades. Over the years I have seen many changes to our company. We were just about to start our recovery from Hurricane Andrew in 1992 this year, but as you know that did not happen due to the citrus canker. This has been one of the toughest years both financially and mentally. I have witnessed perfectly healthy, mature and producing groves being bulldozed because there was an infected tree over 1300 feet away. My grove was negative and it did not matter. It is hard to see the destruction of your life's work and face the employees you need to lay off for lack of work.

I urge you to look at the information provided by Brooks Tropicals. If the models you are using do not include their production and prices, you are unfortunately not including my production and prices.

Respectfully,


Eulalia Acosta
Owner

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JAN 05 2001