

Dated: July 3, 2001.

Norman L. Thompson,

Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aging.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Embargo on Importation of *Dracaena* Shipments in Standing Water

AGENCY: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), HHS.

ACTION: Notice of embargo on importation of *Dracaena* shipments in standing water.

SUMMARY: Shipments of *Dracaena* ("lucky bamboo") in standing water and infested with mosquitoes are currently being imported into the United States. Because of potential public health threats posed by exotic species of mosquitoes, CDC is implementing an immediate embargo on the importation of *Dracaena* that has been shipped in standing water. This embargo only affects importation of *Dracaena* shipments in standing water.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. David Kim, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road, NE., National Center for Infectious Diseases, Division of Global Migration and Quarantine, Mailstop E-03, Atlanta, Georgia, 30333; (404) 498-1600; E-mail ddk5@cdc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On June 14, 2001, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), was notified by the Los Angeles district office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that it had identified maritime cargo containers of "lucky bamboo" (*Dracaena* species), an ornamental plant, that were infested with mosquitoes. CDC subsequently identified the Asian tiger mosquito, *Aedes albopictus*, a species previously not seen in California, and other species of mosquitoes associated with these cargo containers. The *Dracaena* in the infested cargo containers was shipped in small boxes with two to three inches of standing water. Shipments of *Dracaena* with no standing water or associated mosquito infestation have been arriving in the United States from China, Taiwan, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Costa Rica and other countries

as air and maritime cargo for at least 3 years.

Public Health Risks

Dracaena shipments in standing water appears to pose a considerable risk of importing exotic mosquitoes into the United States. Although previously introduced and widely established in the eastern half of the United States, *Aedes albopictus* has not established a population in California. *Aedes albopictus* is capable of transmitting serious human diseases such as western equine encephalitis, St. Louis encephalitis, and dengue viruses. Introduction of new *Aedes albopictus* populations from China, Taiwan, Indonesia, and other countries might include genotypes that are more efficient vectors of human diseases than the genotypes that are currently present in the United States. There have been precedents of accidental introduction of mosquito species of public health importance into the United States by a similar mechanism, i.e., by importation of materials containing standing water.

Immediate Action

Introductions of exotic species of mosquitoes, such as *Aedes albopictus* in California and other species in different parts of the United States, through the importation of *Dracaena* shipments in standing water, pose potentially serious public health threats. Accordingly, pursuant to 42 CFR 71.32(c), CDC is implementing an embargo on the importation of *Dracaena* shipments in standing water, effective immediately. This embargo only affects importation of *Dracaena* shipments in standing water.

Dated: July 3, 2001.

Joseph R. Carter,

Associate Director for Management and Operations, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Program Announcement 01098]

Well-Integrated Screening and Evaluation for Women Across the Nation (WISEWOMAN); Notice of Availability of Funds

A. Purpose

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 2001

funds for a cooperative agreement program for Well-Integrated Screening and Evaluation for Women Across the Nation (WISEWOMAN). This program addresses the "Healthy People 2010" focus areas of Nutrition and Overweight, Physical Activity and Fitness, Tobacco Use, Heart Disease and Stroke, Diabetes, and Access to Quality Health Services.

The purpose of this program is to use scientifically rigorous methods to test the effectiveness of a behavioral or lifestyle intervention aimed at preventing cardiovascular disease (CVD) and other chronic diseases. The target population consists of women participating in the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP). The major long-term goal is to demonstrate a successful behavioral or lifestyle intervention for the population targeted by the NBCCEDP. Recipients are also expected to work with existing health care systems to identify free or discounted medication for women who require such therapy.

B. Eligible Applicants

Assistance will be provided only to the health departments of States or their bona fide agents, including the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, federally recognized Indian tribal governments, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. NBCCEDP grantees who are currently receiving grants under Program Announcements 99135 and 00115 are not eligible.

C. Availability of Funds

Approximately \$2,000,000 is available in FY 2001 to fund two awards. It is expected that the average amount per award is between \$750,000 to \$1,250,000. It is expected that the awards will begin on or about September 30, 2001, and will be made for a 12-month budget period within a project period of three years. Funding estimates may change.

Continuation awards within an approved project period will be made on the basis of satisfactory progress as evidenced by required reports and the availability of funds.

1. Use of Funds

In accordance with Public Law 101-354, an award may not be made unless the State/Territory/Tribe involved agrees that:

a. At least 60 percent of cooperative agreement funds will be expended for screening, lifestyle intervention, public