



NCNA Texas Citrus Nursery Tours & USDA/NCNA Stakeholder Meeting

October 20-21, 2026 | Houston - Glen Flora - Beaumont - Orange, Texas

Event focus: Connect nursery observations, technical education, and regulator dialogue to clarify biosecurity expectations, evaluate mitigation and recovery options, and identify practical next steps.

This event is supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), through Plant Protection Act Section 7721 funding.

Tuesday, October 20 - Texas Nursery Tour: Day 1

10:30-10:45 a.m.	Charter bus pickup at Hilton Houston North (12400 Greenspoint Dr, Houston, TX 77060) and Marriott Houston North (255 N Sam Houston Pkwy E, Houston, TX 77060).
11:00 a.m.	Depart Houston for Glen Flora; boxed lunches provided on the bus.
1:00 p.m.	Tour of Everde Growers (1 Tree Town Road, Glen Flora, TX).
2:00-2:30 p.m.	Nursery tour concludes; travel to Beaumont.
Evening	Check in at Holiday Inn & Suites Beaumont-Plaza (3950 I-10 South & Walden Rd, Beaumont, TX 77705) 6:30-9:00 pm NCNA group dinner provided at Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen (4040 I-10 South, Beaumont, TX 77705)

Wednesday, October 21 - Texas Nursery Tour: Day 2 + USDA/NCNA Meeting

8:00 a.m.	Charter bus departs the Beaumont hotel.
8:30 a.m.	Tour of Saxon Becnel & Sons Citrus Nursery (4995 FM 105, Orange, TX 77630)
~11:30 a.m.	Nursery tour concludes; travel to Orange County Expo (11475 FM1442, Orange, TX 77630) for lunch (Provided).
1:00-4:45 p.m.	USDA/NCNA Stakeholder Meeting at Orange County Expo; hybrid participation available via Zoom.
After meeting	Return to Houston, with possible IAH drop-off, followed by Hilton Houston North and Marriott Houston North; final arrival expected about 7:00-7:30 p.m.

Virtual participation: The Zoom option is for the Wednesday afternoon USDA/NCNA Stakeholder Meeting only. [Register for Zoom](#)

USDA/NCNA Stakeholder Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, October 21, 2026 | 1:00-4:45 p.m. Central Time | Orange County Expo | Hybrid

Purpose: Connect field observations with nursery, regulatory, and research perspectives to clarify expectations and identify practical follow-up actions.

Time	Agenda topic	Goal
1:00-1:10	Welcome, objectives, and in-person/remote participation.	Confirm priority questions, participation process, and how follow-up items will be captured.
1:10-1:30	Texas tour feedback and facility-breach interpretation.	Connect tour observations on exclusion, sanitation, inspection, and facility integrity to the technical discussions that follow.
1:30-1:50	Texas Citrus Health Response Activities and Challenges Awinash Bhatkar, PhD - State Entomologist & SPRO, Texas Department of Agriculture	Provide a Texas perspective on citrus plant-health response, nursery regulation, and practical state challenges.
1:50-2:30	Severe-weather plans and pre-mitigation strategies.	Clarify how nurseries can develop voluntary, facility-specific plans with local PPQ staff, obtain advance feedback on safeguards, and document implementation.
2:30-3:10	APHIS/NPB working group update and post-breach movement options.	Receive an update on scope, progress, proposed movement options, and next steps; clarify scenarios under review and opportunities for NCNA input.
3:10-3:20	Break	
3:20-4:00	Commingling, extraneous plant material, and science-based exclusion criteria.	Discuss a practical, science-based approach for housing non-citrus plants with citrus nursery stock while maintaining citrus biosecurity and interstate-movement eligibility.
4:00-4:30	Light Spectral Optimization in Controlled Environment Agriculture Enhances Citrus Rootstock and Bioindicator Production Jonathan E. Meuser, PhD - University of California, Riverside	Share research findings and discuss practical production implications under protective structures.
4:30-4:45	Actions, educational follow-up, responsibilities, and deadlines.	Review conclusions, unresolved requests, responsibilities, and target dates for follow-up.

Note: Agenda topics and speakers remain subject to final confirmation. Final discussion and adjournment will be completed by 4:45 p.m. Agency participation does not imply predetermined decisions or commitments.