NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PANHANDLE ZONE BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION PROGRAM

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SYLVIA GUERRERO CLERK COURT HEMPHILL COUNTY TEXAS

In accordance with the Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 74, Subchapter D, §74.118 (Vernon Supp. 1999) and 4 Tex. Admin. Code §3.73, the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation hereby provides notice to growers in the Panhandle Boll Weevil Eradication Zone that they are required to participate in the eradication program established by referendum for the Panhandle Zone.

The Panhandle Boll Weevil Eradication Zone consists of all of Carson, Dallam, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Potter, Roberts and Sherman counties.

Participation includes: (1) timely reporting to the Foundation of information requested regarding acreage and location of all commercial cotton fields and of noncommercial patches of cotton grown for ornamental, research or other purposes, as provided in the Texas Agricultural Code, §74.121; (2) payment of the assessment established by referendum ending on December 9, 1998, in the amount and manner approved for the Panhandle Zone, and (3) compliance with any rules or procedures established by the Texas Department of Agriculture or the Foundation for implementation of the eradication program in the Panhandle Zone. Upon notification by the Foundation of a producer's failure to timely comply with participation requirements stated above, the Department may assess an administrative penalty in accordance with 4 Tex. Admin. Code §3.74, or take other appropriate remedial action as provided by Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 74, Subchapter D. Any questions regarding the participation requirements may be directed to Texas Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 12847, Austin, TX 78711, (512) 463-3285.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER FIELDS

In accordance with the provisions of the Texas Agriculture Code, Chapter 74, Subchapter D, Sec. 74.117 as amended, the Texas Department of Agriculture and the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation hereby notify cotton growers in the Panhandle Boll Weevil Eradication Zone of the schedule to enter fields or premises for the purposes of carrying out the boll weevil eradication program in the zone, including mapping of fields, insect monitoring, inspection and treatment functions.

The Foundation will enter fields or premises during reasonable daylight hours for the purposes of mapping, trapping and monitoring for the cotton boll weevil. These activities will be initiated on or about January 1, 2026, and the trapping and monitoring function will continue weekly throughout the year. Treatment for the cotton boll weevil with ultralow-volume malathion or other registered insecticides by air and/or ground equipment will begin on or about March 31, 2026. Inspection and treatment activities will continue during reasonable daylight hours throughout the year, as indicated by trap captures and crop stage, until there is no hostable cotton in the zone.

The Panhandle Eradication Zone includes: all of Carson, Dallam, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Potter, Roberts and Sherman counties.

To mitigate risk, beekeepers should notify the Foundation of beehive locations near cotton fields. The Foundation will monitor treatments in these locations where bees are present to ensure the security of hives.

For more information regarding this program, please call the Texas Boll Weevil Eradication Foundation at 1-800-687-1212.

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