

CALIFORNIA DOG TEAMS

California Dog Teams operate in these counties:

Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Bernardino, Santa Clara, San Diego, and San Joaquin Counties.

Each dog in the Program has been rescued through animal shelters, breed rescue groups, etc. Dogs selected for the Program have been screened for high food drive, sociability, intelligence, physical soundness and low anxiety levels. Dogs and handlers must complete an intensive 10-week training through the USDA National Detector Dog Training Center (Newnan, Georgia) prior to beginning inspections in California.

Interceptions by the California Dog Teams have demonstrated that unmarked parcels present a high-risk pathway for harmful pests to enter California. To find out more about the Dog Team Program, visit:

California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)
www.cdfa.ca.gov



Inspector Lauren Eckert and Canine Sedona

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



Department of Agricultural Commissioner / Weights & Measures

acwm.lacounty.gov

AGRICULTURAL DETECTOR DOG PROGRAM (562) 622-0426

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This information is available
in alternative formats.

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November 2020

Department of Agricultural Commissioner/ Weights & Measures



AGRICULTURAL DETECTOR DOG PROGRAM



Canine Sedona and Canine Agent



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Agricultural Detector Dog Program safeguards residents, our environment, and the local and statewide agricultural industry by identifying unlabeled or smuggled plant materials that can harbor exotic insects and other invertebrates entering Los Angeles County through truck, airfreight, and parcel delivery operations.

We have seen an increase in the number of newly-introduced exotic insects, such as Asian citrus psyllid, light brown apple moth, and Mediterranean fruit fly. An infestation of such pests could cost California many millions of dollars in crop and job losses, increased pesticide use, and quarantines that impact trade. Detector dog teams throughout the state have detected numerous pests and diseases, demonstrating their effectiveness in the work of pest detection and exclusion.



Canine Agent “marks” a box during practice training at the office.

ABOUT THE DETECTOR DOGS

Our agricultural detector dogs, Sedona and Agent, have been trained to detect packages containing fruits, vegetables, firewood, and other plant material that can be infested with damaging insects and diseases. They inspect air cargo shipments and parcels on sorting belts and trucks.



Inspector Lauren Eckert and Canine Sedona



Inspector Diana Eckert and Canine Agent

HOW YOU CAN HELP

PLEASE:

Do not import or ship uninspected or uncertified fruits, plants, or other products that pose a threat of carrying pests or diseases.

If you receive a package with any such items, report it to the Agricultural Commissioner’s office for inspection.

WHEN THE DOGS ARE WORKING:

- Do not pet, whistle or distract the detector dog.

Detector dogs are highly focused on their important tasks, enjoy their jobs, and perform best without distractions.

- Notify the inspector of any fear of dogs.

We appreciate your cooperation and want to ensure your comfort with the program.

- Do not feed a detector dog at any time.

Detector dogs operate under a program of food rewards provided by the handler and we work diligently to ensure their health through a strict, highly nutritious diet.

DO NOT PET!

DO NOT FEED!

