

Dated: July 3, 2001.

Norman L. Thompson,

*Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Aging.*

[FR Doc. 01-17116 Filed 7-9-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4154-01-P

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.
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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.*

[FR Doc. 01-17152 Filed 7-9-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163-18-P

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