

# DETERMINACIÓN DE UN ÁREA LIBRE DE *CERATITIS CAPITATA* EN EL CANTÓN MEJÍA, ECUADOR

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Ingresado: 8/05/2015

Aceptado: 14/08/2015

## DETERMINATION OF AN AREA FREE OF *CERATITIS CAPITATA* AT THE CANTON MEJIA, ECUADOR

### Abstract

*Ceratitis capitata* is a fruit fly of quarantine importance for many countries, because of its potential to harm fruits, to cause economic losses and for being highly polyphagous specie. Therefore the access of host products is restricted for international markets or severe phytosanitary measures are imposed, which restrict or limit imposed trade markets. The determination of a free *Ceratitis capitata* area in the Valley of Canton Mejía were used Jackson traps with sexual attractant (*Trimedlure*) and McPhail traps baited with hydrolyzed protein, located in production farm of golden berry (*Physalis peruviana*); in fruit trees near the roads, every 2.5 km. The service of the traps was performed every 7 days. So far and after analyzing the information generated during two years (2013 and 2014), it has been determined that the Valley located in Cantón Mejía does not have the presence of *C. capitata*. The determinants factors for the plague absence are the current land use, altitude about 2700 m.a.s.l; temperature ranging from 11-12° C and the presence of sporadic fruit orchards.

**Keywords:** *Ceratitis capitata*, Taxonomic identification, quarantine significance.

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