



Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

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Plant Protection and
Quarantine

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Dear Mr. Sazo:

On August 18, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and its partners declared eradication of the European grapevine moth from the United States. As the Deputy Administrator of Plant Protection and Quarantine, I wish to recognize your significant contributions to the European Grapevine Moth (EGVM) Cooperative Program and your efforts to eliminate this destructive pest from California.

Eradicating EGVM was one of our Agency's top ten goals for 2016. EGVM was on that list because it threatened California's \$4 billion grape crop, which delivers an economic impact to the State worth over \$57 billion annually. This pest also jeopardized valuable export markets for U.S. grapes as well as stone fruit, another EGVM host.

I am immensely proud of this accomplishment and appreciate the role you played in laying the foundation for success. Your work made a difference in the lives of many people, and for this I am grateful. Please accept the enclosed award as a token of our deepest appreciation.

Sincerely,

Osama El-Lissy
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine