




# Maricopa County

Air Quality Department

## INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Date:** February 3, 2010  
**To:** Air Quality Department staff  
**From:** Lawrence Odle, Director   
**Subject:** Exemption of Flame Cultivation Equipment and Activities from Rule 200, Permit Requirements, and Rule 314, Open Outdoor Fires and Indoor Fireplaces at Commercial and Institutional Establishments

### 20. RULE EXEMPTION – 200 and 314

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#### 20.1 EFFECTIVE DATE:

This policy is effective February 3, 2010.

#### 20.2 GENERAL PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to formalize permit and prohibitory exemptions for flame cultivation in agricultural activities.

#### 20.3 DEFINITION:

Flame Cultivation uses a flame to expose weeds to 2000° F for approximately 1/10<sup>th</sup> second to vaporize the water in the plant cells destroying the photosynthesis process. The process is not intended to burn the plant material.

#### 20.4 EXEMPTION

Equipment and processes meeting the provisions will be exempt from requiring a permit to operate (burn, stationary, or portable) and exempt from the requirements of Rule 314.

##### Provisions:

- a. The equipment has an aggregated input capacity of less than 2,000,000 BTU per hour;
- b. The fuel used is liquefied propane;
- c. The resulting flame desiccates and does not combust the plant material without continued application of the flame.

#### 20.5 EXCEPTION TO POLICY

This Exemption does not apply where plant material is burned or combusted.

#### 20.6 QUESTIONS:

Questions concerning implementation of the policy are to be directed through division managers to the Office of the Director.