

Save Your Citrus

A Deadly Plant Disease and Dangerous Pest Have Been Found in California

The California citrus we all know and love is at risk. A devastating plant disease called Huanglongbing, also known as HLB or citrus greening, has been found in Southern California. HLB kills citrus trees and there is no cure. Diseased trees produce bitter, hard and lopsided fruit, and eventually die. The disease is spread by a pest called the Asian citrus psyllid as it feeds from tree to tree. Psyllids are small, about the size of an aphid, and can be seen on the tender, new growth of citrus trees. The best way to protect California citrus from the disease is to stop the spread of the pest.

We All Play a Critical Role

- Inspect your citrus trees monthly for the pest and disease.
- Do not move citrus plants, or plant material in or out of your area, or across state or international borders.
- Cooperate with agriculture crews placing traps, inspecting trees and treating for the pest.
- Talk to your local nursery or garden center about products that can protect your tree from the Asian citrus psyllid.
- Plant citrus trees from reputable, licensed nurseries in your area, and when grafting trees, only buy registered budwood with source documentation.
- Control ants on your citrus trees. Ants interfere with beneficial insects and actually protect the Asian citrus psyllid. Talk to your local nursery about ant bait that can help.
- If you suspect your tree has the psyllid or the disease, act fast! Call the California Department of Food and Agriculture at 1-800-491-1899, or contact your county agriculture commissioner.

CaliforniaCitrusThreat.org



Citrus Pest & Disease
Prevention Program

