

PEST: Citrus Greening (“Huanglongbing”) (*Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus*)

BASIC PROFILE: CG is a bacterial disease of citrus that is spread through grafting and is vectored (transmitted) by an insect called a ‘psyllid’. CG does not spread through rain or equipment. The disease was first found in Florida in 2005; in 2008 it also was found at limited sites in Louisiana. Infested areas in both states are under federal quarantine. Symptoms include leaf mottling that often ignores the leaf veins. New leaves may show symptoms resembling zinc deficiency; older leaves have green, asymmetrical mottling. Other symptoms are yellow shoots, twig die-back, poor flowering, and stunting. Fruit is inedible (sour), small, poorly colored, and/or lopsided.

LDAF ACTIVITY: We continue to conduct intensive survey jointly with USDA for CG in residential areas, citrus groves and nurseries. We also look during routine marketplace inspections and at nursery grower / NSD locations (examining citrus stock for symptoms and checking plant origin paperwork). Louisiana citrus nurseries are under compliance agreements. Parishes infested with CG are not allowed to ship citrus nursery stock outside of those disease-infested parishes. Fruit and plants from Florida bear a Limited Permit stamp indicating that the material is prohibited entry into citrus-producing states. When prohibited fruit or plants are found, stop sales are issued and material is destroyed or may be returned to origin.



Psyllid Vector Adult