



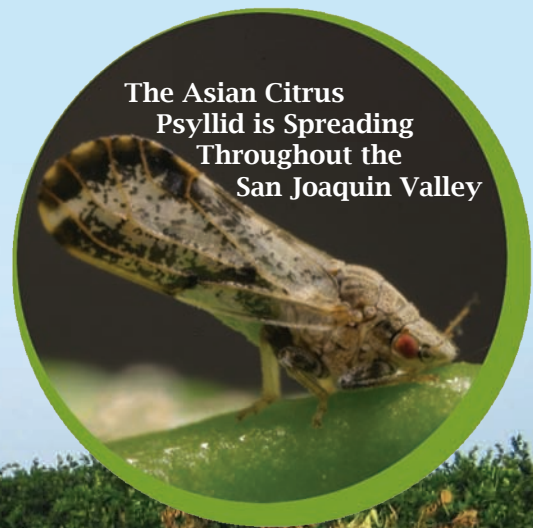
Save Our Citrus!



Citrus Pest & Disease Prevention Program

A Pest is Threatening California Citrus!

Save Citrus to Save Jobs



The Asian Citrus Psyllid is Spreading Throughout the San Joaquin Valley



Florida citrus grove ravaged by the Asian citrus psyllid and the deadly tree disease it can carry, Huanglongbing, also known as HLB or citrus greening disease.



Asian Citrus Psyllid

What is the Asian Citrus Psyllid?

The Asian citrus psyllid is an insect that has been found in the San Joaquin Valley, Southern California and the Central Coast. It can carry a fatal plant disease called Huanglongbing or HLB. There is no cure for HLB and infected trees produce bitter, hard, misshapen fruit and eventually die.



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Why it Matters:

The Asian citrus psyllid and HLB have caused devastation to citrus throughout the world - and we don't want the same fate here in California, where the commercial citrus industry supports more than 20,000 jobs. In addition, the citrus in our yards and around our homes is in jeopardy.

In Florida alone, the insect and disease have caused the loss of more than 8,000 jobs and the industry and the workers it supports are struggling. Backyard citrus trees have also been impacted and are dying at an alarming rate.



Farm Labor Contractors: Our Front Line of Defense

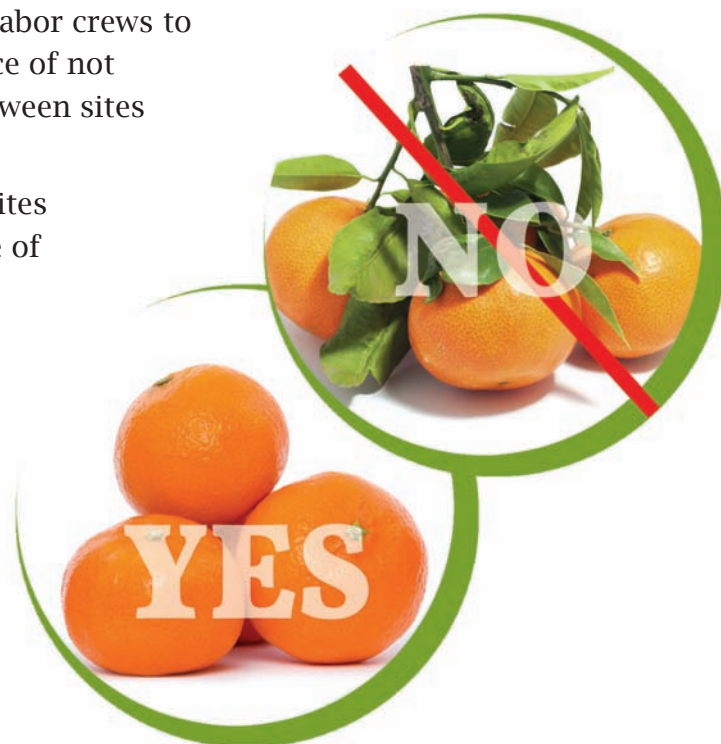
One of the best ways to prevent HLB is to suppress populations of the Asian citrus psyllid. That means taking great care to not transfer citrus leaves, stems and branches between groves, as they could be carrying psyllids.

Farm labor contractors should:

- Remain in compliance with all California Department of Food and Agriculture, county and federal regulations, including quarantines.
- Require that all leaves, stems and branches be removed from equipment every time a crew moves from a harvest site. This means inspecting and brushing off all equipment, including underneath the equipment. Equipment includes but is not limited to:

Bins	Forklifts	Ladders	Tractors
Flatbeds	Portable Restrooms	Hedgers	Trailers
Shade Equipment	Sprayers	Shredders	Skirters
Tree Toppers	Pruning Equipment		

- Require all harvesters to fully open their picking bags, dump and shake them out, and remove any stems, leaves or other debris before leaving the harvesting site.
- Require all harvesters, pruners and other field crews to inspect their clothes, personal items (hats, gloves, sleeves, etc.) and vehicles for plant material and brush them off before leaving a citrus grove.
- Regularly host 15-minute “tailgate trainings” with all crew bosses and farm labor crews to educate them on the importance of not transporting plant material between sites or off the property.
- Display signage at harvesting sites communicating the importance of best practices in managing the Asian citrus psyllid.
- Report any suspected findings of the Asian citrus psyllid to CDFA at 800-491-1899.



Packinghouses & Growers Also Play an Important Role

All stakeholders in the citrus industry must join together in the fight to save California citrus. Whether you are a farm labor contractor, a packinghouse worker, a grower or a local homeowner, we all play an important role.

Packinghouses should:

- Remain in compliance with all CDFA, county and federal regulations, including quarantines. Employ trusted farm labor contractors, transporters and others who also adhere to regulations.
- Require farm labor contractors to follow best management practices for controlling the spread of the Asian citrus psyllid.
- Check deliveries to make sure no leaves or stems have been brought to the packinghouse.
- Ensure bins leaving packinghouses are free of leaves and stems.
- Host or sponsor “tailgate trainings” to educate field labor contractors, crew bosses and harvesters on the Asian citrus psyllid and best management practices.
- Distribute posters, fliers, paycheck inserts or other materials to packinghouse workers.
- Reach out to grower members by including pest and disease information in company newsletters, websites, etc.
- Stay up to date on Asian citrus psyllid and HLB developments by visiting CitrusInsider.org and signing up for the Citrus Alert e-newsletter.

Growers should:

- Remain in compliance with all CDFA, county and federal regulations, including quarantines. Employ trusted farm labor contractors, transporters and others who also adhere to regulations.
- Search for the Asian citrus psyllid. Inspect your trees at least monthly using tap sampling and visual searches whenever there is new flush on the trees. If you think you have the pest, contact your local agricultural commissioner.
- Talk to your pest control adviser and ensure he or she is on the lookout for the psyllid.
- Cooperate with areawide Asian citrus psyllid treatment programs.
- Stay up to date on Asian citrus psyllid and HLB developments by visiting CitrusInsider.org and signing up for the Citrus Alert e-newsletter.
- Get to know your regional liaisons. Industry liaisons have been identified by CDFA to keep growers and industry members up to date, and help growers coordinate treatments using accepted protocols.

Learn More:

Visit CitrusInsider.org for more information or to identify your local industry liaison. Still have questions? Contact Victoria Hornbaker, citrus program manager, at 916-403-6652.