

Connecting Research to Get Better Huanglongbing Management Results

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Effort Statement: Evaluation of data sources provided to date that will be contained within the database and development of the underlying architecture of the database.

Summary: Growers need to know about and understand the findings from huanglongbing (HLB) research that is currently available to make informed management decisions. However, the delivery of research results to growers is often fragmented and results can be difficult to find. Furthermore, what information is available to growers can be highly technical and difficult to easily absorb. To help improve the communication between researchers and growers, the Coordination Network aims to make it easier for growers and researchers to find information about management and research funded and/or carried out by USDA agencies. The project will develop a database

that will make the information more easily searched in part by including keywords used by growers. Short, non-technical summaries of research projects and findings will be available that will be linked to relevant technical documents if there is interest in the details. Since all summaries cannot be completed at the beginning of the project, we will be bringing together an advisory committee of growers to help prioritize what research areas to focus on first. We will employ social techniques (interviews, surveys, etc.) to gain insight into the priorities of citrus growers from around the United States to inform our priorities. From the information gathered from growers, we will develop two decision-making tools based on the available research results to help growers make the most informed management decisions. If you are interested in participating in our surveys or on an

advisory committee, please contact our program manager Ulianova Vidal at vidalgomez@ufl.edu or 863-956-8657. This cannot be a success without input from the citrus industry.

Take Home Message:

- A web-based tool (website, database) for growers to find information about USDA funded research from across agencies like the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), and the Animal Plant Health Inspection Services is in development.
- High quality Extension products (e.g. decision-tools) that allow growers, industry, and public to access critical information about USDA-funded research findings to make connections leading to practical and sustainable HLB management solutions will be developed based on grower priorities.

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