

Citrus black spot inoculum in the canopy

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Citrus Black Spot

- Fungal disease caused by *Phyllosticta citricarpa*
- Without management, can cause severe fruit blemishes
 - 30% yield loss not unusual in minimally managed groves once most trees infected
- Quarantine areas in Florida continue to expand
 - Most recent finds in residential area in Charlotte County
 - Consequences of presence in quarantine areas for growers, harvesters and processors or packers

Dead twigs known to produce spores

- Described by Whiteside (1967) in Zimbabwe
 - Thought to only have asexual spores (conidia) at this time in groves
 - Like Florida
 - Identified fruit stems and ‘recently’ dead twigs as major source of spores
- Spósito et al. (2011) found dead twigs to be important conidia source when no ascospores present
 - The rate of disease increase was slower
 - But by end of season 100% disease incidence found
- No understanding of what occurred in Florida groves

Citrus black spot management

- Dead twigs in canopy reservoir for *P. citicarpa* in wetter winter months
 - Hedging or pruning?
 - Removal of dying trees
- Applications of leaf litter decomposition accelerators
 - Soil Set applied with herbicide boom (see poster in booth)
 - Compost applications
- Clean vehicles and equipment between blocks particularly in quarantine zone
- Fungicide applications
 - Monthly from beginning May to end September

Recommended fungicides

- Found in 2019-2020 Florida Citrus Production Guide
 - All tested in Florida by Drs. Pam Roberts and Henry Yonce
- Strobilurins (FRAC MOA 11)
 - Abound, Gem, Headline
- Strobilurin containing mixes
 - Amistar Top (formerly Quadris Top; FRAC 11+3), Pristine (FRAC 11+7)
- DMI (FRAC 3)
 - Enable
- Coppers (M03)

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Any Questions?

