

## Current Research Objectives

Dr. Ozgur Batuman, Assistant Professor, Plant Pathology, SWFREC  
(obatuman@ufl.edu)

**Research topic:** HLB Management

**Primary Research Objective(s):** Identify antimicrobial compounds that might be effective to suppress or kill CLAs in citrus plants.

**Research Goal:** We are screening antimicrobial compounds that might inhibit growth of bacteria (i.e., CLAs) in citrus plants. Such antimicrobial compounds together with combination of other control practices might could provide improved HLB control.

**Outcomes to date:** We are now focusing on how to effectively deliver antimicrobial compounds to citrus phloem tissues where the CLAs bacterium resides in citrus plants. We have developed techniques that allow us to deliver chemicals to phloem tissues in citrus more effectively than that conventional foliar spray method.

**Funding source for this objective(s):** Private Industry