

## Current Research Objectives

Dr. Larry Duncan, Professor, Nematology, CREC ([lwduncan@ufl.edu](mailto:lwduncan@ufl.edu))

**Research topic:** Diaprepes root weevil management with entomopathogenic nematodes

**Primary Research Objective(s):** Understanding if HLB is a limiting factor to root health management or whether HLB interacts in an additive or synergistic manner with citrus root weevil.

**Research Goal:** Determine whether the application of entomopathogenic nematodes is profitable in trees with HLB.

**Outcomes to date:** Due to an intensive outreach program, growers and distributors have discontinued use of products containing ineffective nematode species and are now applying a product containing the nematode species *Steinernema riobrave* to kill weevil larvae in the soil. We are now working with the product to measure tree response and optimize frequency of use.

**Funding source for this objective(s):** USDA-SCRI and BASF