

## Current Research Objectives

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**Research topic:** Cover crops and nematicides: comprehensive nematode IPM across the grove landscape

**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 sting nematode.

**Research Goal:** Determine whether reducing sting nematodes in row middles using non-host cover crops and/or in the tree row with nematicides is profitable in trees with HLB.

**Outcomes to date:** We worked with a commercial grower to document the response of sting nematode to the non-host sunn hemp as a fallow crop and responses of young trees planted after sunn hemp or conventional weed fallow. We are preparing to work with two commercial growers on large scale experiments that evaluate the profitability of planting the non-hosts sunn hemp, velvet bean, or perennial peanut in row middles combined with the use of various chemical nematicides in the tree rows. A proposal to CRDF is pending.

**Funding source for this objective(s):** CRDF