

Current Research Objectives

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Research topic: Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) Management

Primary Research Objective(s):

1. Evaluating biological and insecticidal control
2. Psyllid sampling and monitoring procedures
3. Economic thresholds for bearing trees with high incidence of HLB
4. Establishment and management of solid set plantings
5. Monitoring and management of insecticide resistance

Research Goals:

1. Optimize and integrate biological and chemical control of ACP
2. Rapid and accurate evaluation of ACP populations
3. Develop system to determine cost benefit ratio of insecticidal control based on ACP populations and citrus yield
4. Develop and optimize tools for protecting new citrus plantings.

Outcomes to date:

1. Concept of dormant sprays, efficacy ratings for diverse insecticides, potential of biological control have been developed. Dormant (winter) sprays for ACP universally adapted by CHMAs and individual growers alike. Growers using recommended insecticides. Interest in enhancing biological control increasing.
2. Tap sample developed and compared to other sampling techniques. Tap sample have been adopted by the CHRP program as well as many growers and consultants.
3. System for determining economic thresholds developed. However, adoption by growers is not widespread.
4. Value of UV reflective plastic mulch demonstrated. To date, at least one grower has adopted the technology on several thousand acres of citrus.
5. Resistance to neonicotinoids documented and recommendations made to alleviate based on field experiments.

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