

Home Citrus Educational Series: How to Install an Individual Protective Cover (IPC)

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The Asian citrus psyllid is the insect known to spread Huanglongbing (HLB; citrus greening). Individual protective covers, also known as IPC, are a method of psyllid management. The small mesh size prevents psyllids from feeding on a young citrus tree when installed properly and maintained.



Step 1: Gather materials

- 6-foot-tall IPC
- 7-foot ¾ inch width PVC pole with cap
- One 10-12 inch zip tie
- One 18-24 inch zip tie or reusable gear tie
- Rubber mallet



Step 2: Assemble pole

- Place cap on PVC pole.



Step 3: Place pole next to tree

- Place PVC pole next to tree.
- Pole should be two finger widths from tree.



Step 4: Install PVC pole

- Using a rubber mallet, gently hammer the pole into the ground 10-12 inches or until stable.



Step 5: Cover tree with IPC.

- Carefully place the IPC over the tree ensuring all branches are kept within the IPC.
- Be careful not to break any new growth.



Step 6: Secure top of IPC

- Using a 10-12 inch zip tie, place the zip tie around the PVC under the cap.
- Tighten the zip tie to secure the IPC.



Step 7: Secure bottom of IPC

- Using a 18-24 inch zip tie or reusable gear tie, secure the base of the bag by looping the tie around the trunk and PVC pipe.
- Tighten the tie to secure the IPC.



Step 8: Maintenance

- Check on IPCs periodically to ensure the IPC remains in good working condition.
- No tears or rips.
- Bottom of bag stays secure.