



# Bayer CropScience Citrus Greening

## What is Citrus Greening?

- Citrus greening, also known as Huanglongbing (HLB), is an incurable disease that is ravaging the nation's citrus groves.
- There are three forms of citrus greening disease: Asian, African, and American, however only the Asian form of the disease has been found in the United States.
- The disease is transmitted by Asian citrus psyllid (ACP), a small insect that feeds on the leaves and stems of citrus trees.
- The disease affects all parts of the tree canopy – leaves, twigs and fruit.
- As the disease progresses, trees can yield inedible fruit and can eventually die.
- The Asian citrus psyllid has been present in Florida since 1998 and by September 2000, the pest had spread to 31 of the 32 citrus-growing counties in Florida.
- In September 2005, scientists from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) confirmed the first U.S. detection of citrus greening on samples of pummelo leaves and fruit

## Symptoms of Citrus Greening:

- Citrus greening can initially be difficult to diagnose because it remains latent for some time before expressing itself.
- Symptoms can be found year round, but are most easily seen from September through March.
- The most characteristic foliage symptoms of citrus greening are the blotchy mottling of leaves and leaf yellowing that may appear on a single shoot or branch.
- The disease may also cause small, narrow leaves and short stems that give plant growth a bunched appearance.
- Other symptoms include twig dieback, poor flowering and stunted growth. Fruit from diseased trees is small and often misshapen.
- Typically, some green color remains even on ripe fruit. Affected fruit tastes bitter, medicinal and sour.
- Symptoms vary according to time of infection, stage of the disease, tree species, and tree maturity.

### Sources:

<http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/greening/symptoms.shtml>

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/plant\\_pest\\_info/citrus\\_greening/index.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/citrus_greening/index.shtml)



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