



Government of Trinidad and Tobago
Ministry of Food Production, Land & Marine Affairs

PEST ALERT

Haunglongbing disease of citrus NOT PRESENT IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

What is it?

Huanglongbing disease of citrus (also called citrus greening or yellow dragon disease) is a bacterial disease that affects all above ground parts of the plant: leaves, branches and fruits.

What do I look for?

Leaves are smaller with characteristic blotchy yellow mottling and yellow veins (Fig 1 and 2).



Photo: Susan Halbert, Florida Dept. Agric.

Shoots turn yellow (Fig 3).



Photo: J. Bove, INRA Centre de Recherches de Bordeaux

Fruits are smaller, lopsided with aborted seeds (Fig 4), taste sour and ripen unevenly (Fig 5).



Photo: Beth Grafton-Cardwell, Univ Calif

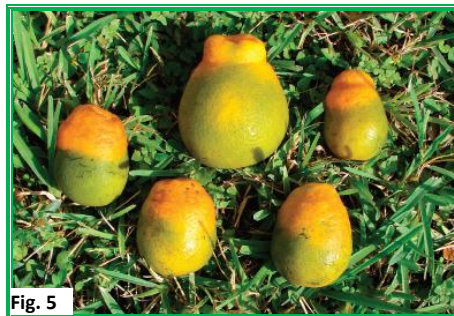


Photo: Hilda Gomez, USDA

Why should I care?

Huanglongbing disease is a major limiting factor for citrus production. In Asia where Huanglongbing disease is endemic, citrus trees may live for 5-8 years and never produce usable fruit. There is no known cure for citrus greening.

How is it spread?

The Huanglongbing disease bacterium is transmitted by:

- an insect – the Asian citrus psyllids, *Diaphorina citri* (Fig 6 and 7)
- parasitic vines like dodder
- grafting
- possibly by seed.

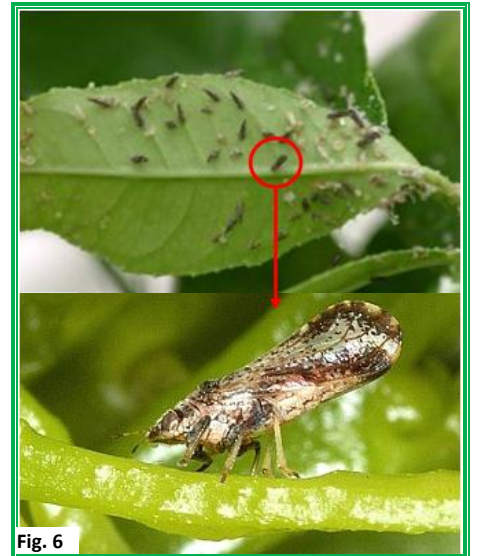


Photo: David Hall, USDA

What can I do?

1. Avoidance is the best strategy. Check with Plant Quarantine Services before bringing any Citrus into Trinidad and Tobago.
2. Report suspicious symptoms to 646-6284 or email reportpest@gmail.com