

## What to Expect when CDFA is Inspecting, Trapping and Treating In Response to a Confirmed Positive Huanglongbing Detection

Huanglongbing (HLB), also known as citrus greening is caused by bacteria (*Candidatus Liberibacter* spp.) which can be transferred to plants in the citrus family (Rutaceae) by an infected Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) (adult or nymph). HLB-infected trees bear small, asymmetrical fruit which are partially green, bitter and inedible. Once infected, the tree will decline in health and die. HLB is considered to be one of the most serious plant diseases in the world and currently there is no cure.

As a resident in the community near an HLB confirmed find you can expect to see California Department of Agriculture (CDFA) and Los Angeles County Department of Agriculture staff (County) surveying citrus trees in the area, placing and servicing ACP traps, conducting insecticidal treatments to kill any ACP and removing confirmed HLB diseased trees.

The CDFA, Division of Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services has authority under the Food and Agricultural Code and the California Code of Regulations to inspect and treat for invasive pests and diseases that cause harm to plants.

All activities associated with this project are offered free of charge to residents in the project area.

### Activities that CDFA may conduct on your property:

#### 1. Visual Survey and Sample Collection

- Every property within 800 meters of the initial find will be surveyed for host plants.
  - Host plants include all citrus varieties and hybrids, including kumquat, mandarin, grapefruit, orange, lemon and lime; also including closely related plants like curry leaf and ornamental orange-jasmine.
- Surveyor will make contact with the property owner to request access to the yard.
  - Surveyors may work alone or in pairs.
  - Surveyor will **never** ask to enter your home.
  - Surveyor will be identified by a CDFA issued identification badge and/or a uniform shirt that clearly identifies the surveyor with a patch or with the words “Department of Agriculture” or “State Agriculture.”



CDFA Surveyors

- If the property owner is not home, the surveyor will return at a later time to initiate contact.

- If trees are in the front yard and unfenced, the surveyor will conduct the survey of the trees which are accessible.
- The surveyor will collect leaf samples, approximately 20 leaves from each host plant on the property and any life stages of the ACP that they find.
- All samples are bagged and shipped to the CDFA Laboratory in Sacramento California for analysis.
- If the sample is confirmed positive for the HLB disease, the resident will notified.

## 2. Detection Survey

- The resident may be asked to allow CDFA or County staff to place a trap for ACP in their tree.
- If the tree is in an unfenced area, traps may be placed without making contact with the property owner. (If a trap is placed a note will be left for the homeowner)
- The trap used for ACP detection is the yellow panel trap, which is 6" x 9" paper panel coated with sticky glue to catch adult ACP. The glue does not drip onto the tree or the ground.
  - ACP becomes entangled on the sticky glue and cannot fly away.
  - Traps **DO NOT** contain pesticides and are not dangerous to children or pets.
- Traps will be periodically reinspected by agricultural inspector or surveyor.



Yellow Panel Trap



Trapper Servicing Trap

## 3. Treatment for the ACP

The ACP is a very small insect, about the size of an aphid; it is the vector for the deadly citrus disease, HLB. It is important to reduce the ACP population to help prevent the spread of the HLB disease. In any area where ACP and HLB have been detected (e.g. San Gabriel, Los Angeles County), CDFA will conduct residential treatments to suppress ACP populations.

The treatment protocol consists treating only ACP host plants with both a foliar and a systemic insecticide. Foliar insecticides are useful for immediate reduction of the adult population in order to eliminate dispersal, while systemic insecticides are used to provide long term protection against reinfestation. The CDFA will act very quickly in these **emergency** situations to suppress ACP populations, because the ACP can carry the HLB disease.

- An open house public meeting will be held prior to initiating any treatment activities in the area.
  - Residents will be notified about the public meeting via mailed or hand-delivered invitations to attend, generally 3-4 days prior to the meeting.
  - Host plants on the find site and adjacent properties may be treated with homeowner permission prior to the public meeting.



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

**OFFICIAL NOTICE**

**ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF INSECTICIDE TREATMENT**

An infestation of the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) has been detected in your neighborhood. To prevent the spread of this pest, it will be necessary to apply the insecticides Tempo® SC Ultra (cyfluthrin), a pyrethroid, and Merit® 2F or CoreTect™ (imidacloprid) to all citrus trees and host shrubs located on your property. These insecticides kill adult and/or immature ACP present on your citrus trees or host shrubs. The insecticides are applied using ground-based equipment.

**This treatment is free of charge.**

Your property is scheduled for treatment on \_\_\_\_\_. Unfavorable weather conditions, such as rain or wind, may cause the treatment to be rescheduled.

You do not need to be present during the treatment as long as treatment staff have access to your property, including the backyard. The treatment takes only a few minutes if you take the following steps:

- Leave your gates unlocked.
- If possible, temporarily secure any pets and their food and water dishes indoors.
- Close your doors and windows. They may be opened after treatment is complete.
- Move items such as barbecues, lawn furniture, toys, etc. away from your trees and shrubs.

It is **not** necessary to harvest all of the citrus fruit from your trees before the treatment begins. Any fruit to be picked on or after the treatment date can be left on the tree and harvested after the area has dried.

**After the treatment is completed:**

- Avoid contact with treated area until the treated area is dry.
- Contact our project office before moving any citrus plant material from your property.

Please visit our website to learn more about this pest <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/acp/>

If you have any questions or a situation that requires special attention, please call

**(800) 491-1899.**

Thank you for your cooperation.

Block Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please refer to this block number when contacting our office)

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- Treatment notices will be hand-delivered to each residential property in the treatment area 48-hours prior to treatment.
- CDFA staff will work with the resident to address special concerns and will schedule appointments for treatment dates and times if requested.
- Residents do not have to be present for the treatment.
- If not present, the resident is asked to leave gates unlocked and to secure pets on the date indicated on the treatment notice.

- CDFA will conduct an insecticide application that consists of two commercially available insecticides; Cyfluthrin (Tempo) and Imidacloprid (either Merit or CoreTect). These or similar products are available for purchase at most home and garden centers. A health questions and answers for both pesticides is available on the CDFA ACP/HLB website <http://cdfa.ca.gov/plant/acp/index.html>

• **Foliar Treatment**

Tempo® SC Ultra (cyfluthrin) is a pyrethroid contact insecticide. Treatment will initially occur once and subsequent applications may occur for up to six times annually if additional psyllids are detected. This material will be applied to the foliage of all host plants using hydraulic spray or hand spray equipment.

• **Soil Treatment**

A systemic soil application will be made using either Merit® 2F or CoreTect™.

- Merit® 2F (imidacloprid), is a neonicotinoid systemic insecticide. Treatment will initially occur once and a subsequent application may occur annually if additional psyllids are detected. This material will be applied to the soil within the root zone of host plants.

- CoreTect™ (imidacloprid) is a neonicotinoid systemic insecticide. It is used in place of Merit® 2F in situations where there are environmental concerns about soil surface runoff of the liquid Merit® 2F formulation, such as host plants growing next to ponds and other environmentally sensitive areas. Treatment will initially occur once and a subsequent application may occur annually if additional psyllids are detected. This material is a pelletized tablet and is inserted into the soil and watered in within the root zone of host plants.



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

**NOTICE OF INSECTICIDE TREATMENT  
FOR ASIAN CITRUS PSYLLID**

On \_\_\_\_\_ at approximately \_\_\_\_\_ A.M. / P.M., your property was treated with the insecticide(s) checked below. If you have any questions, please call the Project Office at (800) 491-1899.

To learn more about the Asian citrus psyllid, please visit the CDFA website:  
<http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/acp/>

- Tempo® SC Ultra (cyfluthrin) is a formulation of a pyrethroid contact insecticide for controlling Asian citrus psyllid adults and nymphs. This material will be applied a minimum of one time to the foliage of host plants on designated residential properties.
- Merit® 2F (imidacloprid, a systemic insecticide) applied to the soil of all host plants at designated residential properties. The material is taken up into the plant via the root system and provides approximately 12 months of protection against the pest, depending on the soil conditions.
- CoreTect™ (imidacloprid, a systemic insecticide) tablets were applied below the soil surface of host plants at designated residential properties. The material is taken up into the plant via the root system and provides approximately 12 months of protection against the pest, depending on the soil conditions.

- Once the area has dried, you may use your property as you normally would.
- To prevent the spread of this pest, please do not move plant material off your property without contacting our project office.
- For best results, please irrigate the plants that were treated within 24 hours of treatment.

If you are experiencing health problems after this application, call the California Poison Control System hotline at (800) 222-1222(voice), or consult with your physician.

Thank you for your cooperation.

BLOCK NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please mention the block number when contacting our office)

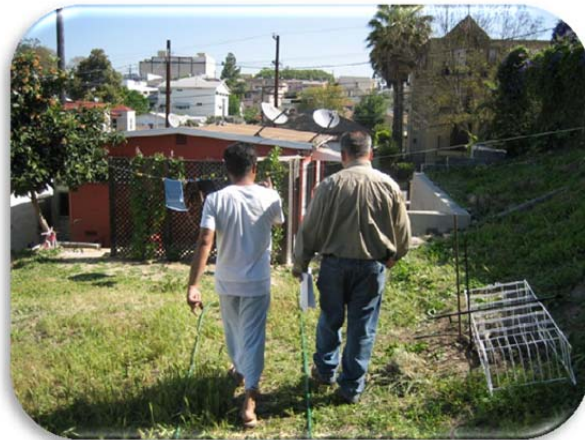
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- CDFA will leave a post treatment notice once they have completed the application.
- This will include information about the treatment, which pesticides were used and directions about safe consumption of residential fruit.



CDFA Surveyor Contacting Homeowner



Residential Survey





Tarping Residents Property



CDFA Treatment Truck



Soil Treatment



Foliar Treatment

#### 4. Response to HLB Positive Tree

- A tree that is confirmed by CDFA as positive for the bacteria that causes HLB will decline in health and die.
  - It might appear healthy now, but the disease is damaging the trees vascular system and causing the tree to starve for nutrients.
  - The diseased tree is considered a nuisance as it poses a threat to citrus trees in the surrounding community.
- There is no cure for HLB and all confirmed positive trees must be removed.
  - CDFA will seek permission from the homeowner to remove and dispose of the diseased tree.
  - CDFA will take great care with the residential property while conducting the tree removal.
- If the resident is unwilling to allow the removal of the diseased tree. CDFA will use their authority to abate the nuisance and remove the tree.



CDFA Crew Removing Infected Tree