

## DIAGNOSTIC LABS

### Southern Gardens Diagnostic Laboratory

111 Ponce de Leon Ave.  
Clewiston, FL 33440  
(863) 902-2249  
Contact: Mike Ireys  
[msirey@ussugar.com](mailto:msirey@ussugar.com)

### Florida Division of Plant Industry

PO Box 147100  
Gainesville, FL 32614-7100  
(800) 282-5153

### UF Plant Diagnostic Center

Building 1291, 2570 Hull Rd.  
Gainesville, FL 32611  
(352) 392-1795

Before sending samples, contact the testing facility to obtain proper sampling procedures, submission guidelines, and fees.

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2. Jamie D. Burrow, Extension program manager; Stephen H. Futch, Extension agent IV (retired); Tripti Vashisth, assistant professor, Horticultural Sciences Department, Citrus Research and Education Center; and Timothy M. Spann, former associate professor, Horticultural Sciences Department, CREC; UF/IFAS Extension, Gainesville, FL 32611.

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### UF/IFAS Extension Offices with Citrus Agents

Desoto, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Lake, Polk,  
St. Lucie, Sumter

#### Websites

UF/IFAS Extension Citrus Agents  
<http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu>

UF/IFAS Citrus REC  
<http://crec.ifas.ufl.edu>

UF/IFAS Southwest Florida REC  
<https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Local UF/IFAS Extension Office  
<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/find-your-local-office/>

## SCOUTING FOR HUANGLONGBING (HLB; Citrus Greening)<sup>1</sup>



Scouting today to protect  
future profits

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UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

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## PURPOSE OF SCOUTING

The purpose of scouting is to aid in managing HLB by:

- Identifying HLB-affected trees
- Planning a management program



## WHEN TO SCOUT

- Symptoms are most visible during the fall and winter months
- Survey frequency would be determined by incidence and HLB management plan
- Spring flush makes scouting more difficult



## METHODS

- Walking
- ATVs
- Tractor- or vehicle-mounted platform



## SCOUT RESPONSIBILITIES

- To locate and identify HLB symptoms
- Operators of platforms and ATVs are responsible for transporting survey crews safely
- Follow all company procedures for entering and exiting grove

## TAGGING SUSPECT TREES

- Use one color of flagging tape to identify suspect trees
- Choose colors or designs that cannot be confused with other commonly used flagging tapes
- GPS or grove map should be used in conjunction with flagging tape to identify positive HLB-affected tree



## GROVE CONDITIONS

Grove conditions which can hinder a scouting program include:

- Unmaintained grove middles, tree size, and/or canopy
- Nutrient deficiencies
- Non-hedged rows
- Disease or insect damage



## SAFETY CONCERNS

- Safety is a priority when scouting
- Follow re-entry intervals for chemical applications
- Be aware of weather, climate conditions, and grove conditions
- Watch for power lines
- Always keep a first aid kit in a readily accessible location
- Employees should be trained in the proper procedures in case of an emergency

## WHAT TO SCOUT FOR

### BLOTCHY MOTTLE = GREENING

Yellow veins, vein corking, and green islands are not diagnostic alone. These symptoms should be coupled with blotchy mottle symptoms and a positive diagnostic test to determine a HLB-affected tree.



Trees with a yellow appearance, shoot die-back, sparse foliage, and thin canopy



Green islands



Lopsided, misshapen, small fruit



Blotchy mottle leaves

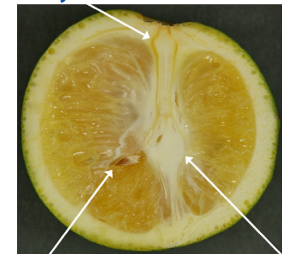


Vein corking and blotchy mottle



Yellow veins and/or off-season bloom

Yellow stain beneath the calyx button



Aborted seeds

Curved central core