PURPOSE OF SCOUTING

The purpose of scouting is to manage greening by:

- Identifying greening infected trees early
- Planning a tree removal program
- Protecting the future of the citrus industry

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 and climate conditions
- Watch for power lines
- Always keep a first aid kit in a readily accessible location
- Employees should be trained on the proper procedures in case of an emergency

FREQUENCY

- Symptoms are most visible during the fall and winter months
- Scouting is recommended every two to three months
- More frequent surveys should be conducted if greening is already present in the grove or has been confirmed nearby
- Spring flush makes scouting more difficult

TAGGING SUSPECT TREES

- Use one color of flagging tape to identify suspect trees
- Use a different color of flagging tape to identify positively confirmed greening 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 greening infected trees for future removal

METHODS

- Tractor or vehicle mounted platforms
- ATV's
- Walking

SCOUT RESPONSIBILITIES

- To locate and identify greening symptoms
- Operators of platforms and ATV's are responsible for transporting survey crews safely
- Follow all company procedures for entering and exiting groves

DIAGNOSTICS

Three PCR testing sites are available.

Southern Gardens Diagnostic Laboratory

111 Ponce de Leon Avenue
Clewiston, Florida 33440
863-902-2249
Contact: Mike Irey
msirey@ussugar.com

UF/IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center

2686 SR 29 N
Immokalee, Florida 34142
239-658-3400
<http://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/hlb/hlblab@ufl.edu>

Florida Division of Plant Industry

Post Office Box 147100
Gainesville, Florida 32614-7100
800-282-5153

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

For more information, please contact the University of Florida, IFAS, Citrus Research and Education Center, Lake Alfred 863-956-1151 or your local county citrus extension agent

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 PCR to determine a greening infected tree.

Trees with a yellow appearance, shoot dieback, sparse foliage and thin canopy

Blotchy mottle leaves

Green islands

Lopsided, misshapen, small fruit

Vein corking and blotchy mottle

Yellow veins and/or off-season bloom

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SCOUTING for CITRUS GREENING

CH201

Scouting today to protect
future profits

UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
IFAS Extension

August 2008