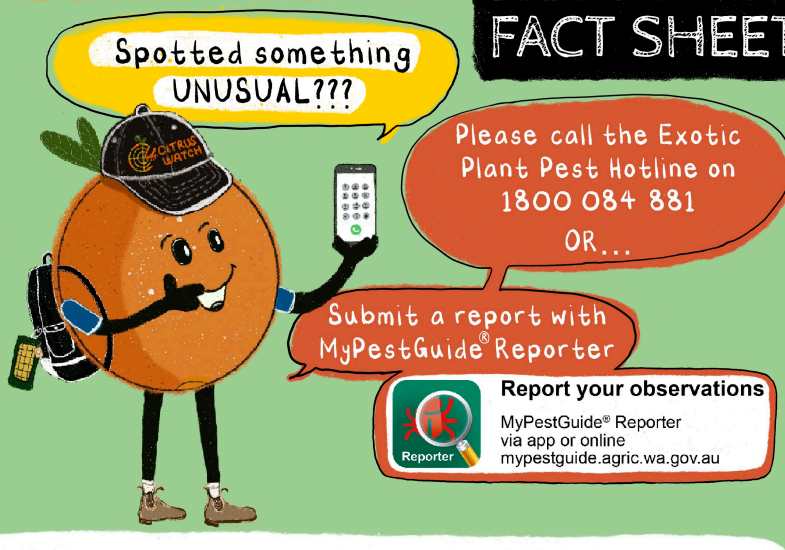
CITRUSWATCH

FACT SHEET

REPORT EXOTIC CITRUS PESTS:

What are we most worried about?



Asian citrus psyllid (ACP)

Image credit: David Hall, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Bugwood.org

What is it? A sap-sucking insect that can spread the disease, huanglongbing (HLB; also known as 'citrus greening') by feeding on plants' leaves and stems (refer to Page 2).

What does it look like? Adults are small (3-4 mm), brownish with mottled brown patches on forewings. Nymphs are dull orange with red eyes, and eggs are yellow-orange and almond shaped.

Which plants are affected? All commercial citrus; native and ornamental mock orange (*Murraya* spp.), and curry tree.

African citrus psyllid (AfCP)

Image credit: S.P. van Vuuren, Citrus Research International, Bugwood.org

What is it? Like the ACP, it is also a sap-sucking insect that can spread the disease, huanglongbing (HLB; also known as 'citrus greening') by feeding on plants' leaves and stems (refer to Page 2).

What does it look like? The adults are small (4 mm) with large, transparent forewings that have distinct veins. Nymphs vary from yellow, olive- green to dark grey and are flat with distinct marginal fringe of white, waxy filaments. Eggs are yellowish orange, cylindrical with sharp points.

Which plants are affected? All commercial citrus; native and ornamental mock orange (*Murraya* spp.), and curry tree.

Glassy-winged sharpshooter (GWS)

Image credit: Russ Ottens, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org

What is it? Large leafhopper that causes direct damage through its feeding activities, and excrement 'showers'. It is also highly efficient at spreading a bacteria which causes citrus variegated chlorosis (refer to Page 2).

What does it look like? Adults are 12-14 mm long with a large flat head that have yellow dots, prominent eyes, and translucent wings with reddish veins. Nymphs are dark grey to grey, and eggs are 'sausage' shaped.

Which plants are affected? Over 100 plant species including commercial hosts like citrus.

REPORT EXOTIC CITRUS DISEASES: What are we most worried about?

FACT SHEET

Please call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on 1800 084 881 if you've spotted something UNUSUAL OR..

Submit a report with MyPestGuide® Reporter

Report your observations
MyPestGuide® Reporter
via app or online
mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au

Huanglongbing (citrus greening disease)

What is it? Huanglongbing (HLB; also known as 'citrus greening') is a bacterial plant disease which is spread by Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) and African citrus psyllid (AfCP) (refer to Page 1). It is important to note that HLB can cause severe decline of a tree and there is currently no cure.

What symptoms should I look for? Symptoms can vary depending on season and type of citrus (including varieties). Common symptoms observed are complete yellowing of leaves, zinc deficiency or blotchy mottling. Fruit sizes also become smaller as the disease progresses.

Which plants are affected? All commercial citrus; native and ornamental mock orange (*Murraya* spp.), and curry tree.

Image credit: H.D. Catling, Bugwood.org

Citrus canker

What is it? A disease that is highly contagious caused by a bacteria that is spread by wind-driven rain. Citrus canker infections occur via wounds and natural openings on all parts of the plant as well as fruit. While citrus canker does not have a vector, symptoms of this disease can be exacerbated by leaf miners. It is important to note that there is currently no cure for citrus canker.

What symptoms should I look for? Lesions (approx. 2-10 mm in diameter) on leaves, stems, thorns and fruit that are characteristically thick and spongy, tan to brown or grey in colour with margins that are surrounded by a yellow halo.

Which plants are affected? All commercial citrus plants.

Image credit: Jonas Janner Hamann, Universidade Federal de Santa Maria (UFSM), Bugwood.org

Citrus variegated chlorosis

What is it? A serious disease caused by a bacteria which lives in the sap of plants blocking water uptake. It is spread by sap-feeding leafhoppers, particularly the Glassy-winged sharpshooter (GWS; refer to Page 1). It is important to note that there is currently no cure for citrus variegated chlorosis.

What symptoms should I look for? Severe chlorosis (loss of green colouration) between veins on leaves, and lesions that are light to dark brown (corresponding to yellow chlorotic areas on upper side of damaged leaves). Stems are not affected, but affected plant can exhibit reduced growth with defoliation. Fruits also reduce in size and change colour.

Which plants are affected? Most commercial citrus with variable severity of symptoms.

Image credit: Alexander Purcell, University of California, Bugwood.org

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Visit citrusaustralia.com.au/biosecurity/ or send us an email at biosecurity@citrusaustralia.com.au

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