



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

OFFICIAL NOTICE – LOS ANGELES COUNTY

FOR COMMUNITIES OF ALHAMBRA, ALONDRA PARK, ALTADENA, ARCADIA, ARTESIA, AVOCADO HEIGHTS, AZUSA, BALDWIN PARK, BELL, BELL GARDENS, BELLFLOWER, BRADBURY, CARSON, CERRITOS, CHARTER OAK, CITRUS, CLAREMONT, COMMERCE, COMPTON, COVINA, CUDAHY, DEL AIRE, DIAMOND BAR, DOWNEY, DUARTE, EAST LOS ANGELES, EAST PASADENA, EAST RANCHO DOMINGUEZ, EAST SAN GABRIEL, EAST WHITTIER, EL MONTE, FLORENCE-GRAHAM, GARDENA, GLENDORA, HACIENDA HEIGHTS, HAWAIIAN GARDENS, HAWTHORNE, HUNTINGTON PARK, INDUSTRY, INGLEWOOD, IRWINDALE, LA HABRA HEIGHTS, LA MIRADA, LA PUENTE, LA VERNE, LADERA HEIGHTS, LAKEWOOD, LAWDALE, LENNOX, LOMITA, LONG BEACH, LOS ANGELES, LYNWOOD, MAYFLOWER VILLAGE, MAYWOOD, MONROVIA, MONTEBELLO, MONTEREY PARK, NORTH EL MONTE, NORWALK, PALOS VERDES ESTATES, PARAMOUNT, PASADENA, PICO RIVERA, POMONA, RANCHO PALOS VERDES, ROLLING HILLS, ROLLING HILLS ESTATES, ROSE HILLS, ROSEMEAD, ROWLAND HEIGHTS, SAN DIMAS, SAN GABRIEL, SAN MARINO, SAN PASQUAL, SANTA FE SPRINGS, SIERRA MADRE, SIGNAL HILL, SOUTH EL MONTE, SOUTH GATE, SOUTH MONROVIA ISLAND, SOUTH PASADENA, SOUTH SAN GABRIEL, SOUTH SAN JOSE HILLS, SOUTH WHITTIER, TEMPLE CITY, TORRANCE, VALINDA, VERNON, VIEW PARK-WINDSOR HILLS, VINCENT, WALNUT, WALNUT PARK, WEST ATHENS, WEST CARSON, WEST COVINA, WEST PUENTE VALLEY, WEST RANCHO DOMINGUEZ, WEST WHITTIER-LOS NIETOS, WESTMONT, WHITTIER, WILLOWBROOK

PLEASE READ IMMEDIATELY

PROCLAMATION OF EMERGENCY PROGRAM FOR ASIAN CITRUS PSYLLID AND HUANGLONGBING

On December 29, 2023, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) confirmed the presence of *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus* (CLas), the causative bacterial agent of the citrus disease huanglongbing (HLB), in plant tissue and/or the insect vector Asian citrus psyllid (ACP), *Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama. CLas-positive plant tissue and/or insect vectors that was located in San Gabriel. These detections require expansion of the emergency program area for ACP and HLB in Los Angeles and East Los Angeles. The current emergency program area now includes the communities of Alhambra, Alondra Park, Altadena, Arcadia, Artesia, Avocado Heights, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bell, Bell Gardens, Bellflower, Bradbury, Carson, Cerritos, Charter Oak, Citrus, Claremont, Commerce, Compton, Covina, Cudahy, Del Aire, Diamond Bar, Downey, Duarte, East Los Angeles, East Pasadena, East Rancho Dominguez, East San Gabriel, East Whittier, El Monte, Florence-Graham, Gardena, Glendora, Hacienda Heights, Hawaiian Gardens, Hawthorne, Huntington Park, Industry, Inglewood, Irwindale, La Habra Heights, La Mirada, La Puente, La Verne, Ladera Heights, Lakewood, Lawndale, Lennox, Lomita, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Lynwood, Mayflower Village, Maywood, Monrovia, Montebello, Monterey Park, North El Monte, Norwalk, Palos Verdes Estates, Paramount, Pasadena, Pico Rivera, Pomona, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Rose Hills, Rosemead, Rowland Heights, San Dimas, San Gabriel, San Marino, San Pasqual, Santa Fe Springs, Sierra Madre, Signal Hill, South El Monte, South Gate, South Monrovia Island, South Pasadena, South San Gabriel, South San Jose Hills, South Whittier, Temple City, Torrance, Valinda, Vernon, View Park-Windsor Hills, Vincent, Walnut, Walnut Park, West Athens, West Carson, West Covina, West Puente Valley, West Rancho Dominguez, West Whittier-Los Nietos, Westmont, Whittier, Willowbrook in Los Angeles County.

HLB is a devastating disease of citrus and is spread through feeding action by populations of ACP. HLB/ACP present a significant, clear, and imminent threat to California's commercial citrus production, residential citrus plantings, natural resources, and economy. Unless emergency action is taken to disrupt the ACP life cycles, there is high potential for sudden future detections in Los Angeles County.

To determine the extent of the infestation and to define an appropriate response area, CDFA conducts delimitation surveillance. Unless the survey area triggered by a detection overlaps with an existing survey area, each survey takes place within a 50 to 250-meters radius area, centered on the detection site(s). Based on pest and disease surveillance, implementation of the CDFA's ACP and HLB response strategies are necessary for eradication and control.

In accordance with integrated pest management principles, CDFA evaluated possible treatment methods and determined that there are no cultural or biological control methods available to control the immediate spread of HLB/ACP in this area. The Proclamation of Emergency Program is valid until December 29, 2025. The two-year period past the date of the last detection is the minimum amount of time necessary to allow bacteria titers in any undiscovered asymptomatic HLB-infected host plants to build up to a detectable level, which allows for an assessment of the effectiveness of the treatment.

The detections of HLB/ACP described above require immediate action to address the imminent threat to California's commercial citrus production, residential citrus plantings, natural resources, and economy. More specifically, in addition to a variety of commercial citrus crops, HLB/ACP threatens loss and damage to native wildlife, private and public property, and food supplies. Due to ACP being a vector for the bacteria, CLas, that causes HLB and the rapid reproductive rate of ACP, there is a high potential for ACP to establish and spread, resulting in sudden future detections of HLB/ACP in the cities and communities listed above. Therefore, the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture is invoking Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(4) to carry out immediate emergency action to prevent the aforementioned loss and damage to California's resources.

The emergency program area is the entirety of the HLB quarantine area within Los Angeles County, which became effective on January 11, 2024. The emergency program area encompasses all properties within a 5-mile radius of all HLB-positive host plants. Scientific literature has shown that ACP can fly continuously for 2.4 kilometers in an unassisted controlled environment. In actuality, ACP dispersal distance can be significantly greater with human and environmental assistance such as wind. This fact, along with the severity of the HLB disease, justifies the establishment of the 5-mile radius emergency program area around all HLB detections. Within the emergency program area, the surveillance and treatment plan for the HLB/ACP infestation will be implemented as follows:

- ACP and HLB Survey. All host plants will be inspected for ACP and for HLB symptoms within a 50 to 250-meters radius around each ACP/HLB detection site and future detection sites, at least twice a year, unless the survey areas triggered by these detections overlap with existing survey areas. ACP and host plant tissue will be collected and forwarded to a USDA accredited laboratory for identification and analysis.
- ACP Treatment. CDFA will pursue treatments for all host plants on properties within a 50 to 250-meters radius around each current and future HLB detection site and CLas-

positive ACP detection site. Treatments within 50 to 250 meters of CLAs-positive ACP detection sites are voluntary. Treatments will convert from voluntary to mandatory if HLB infected host plants are detected within 50 to 250 meters of properties undergoing treatment based on CLAs-positive ACP. Treatments within 50 to 250 meters of HLB detection sites are mandatory. All treatments shall be conducted according to the following protocol to control ACP:

- Tempo® SC Ultra (cyfluthrin), a contact insecticide for controlling the adults and nymphs of ACP, will be applied from the ground using hydraulic spray equipment to the foliage of host plants; and
- Merit® 2F or CoreTect™ (imidacloprid), a systemic insecticide for controlling the immature life stages of ACP, will be applied to the soil underneath host plants. Merit® 2F is applied from the ground using hydraulic spray equipment. CoreTect™, which is used in place of Merit® 2F in situations where there are environmental concerns about soil surface runoff of liquid Merit® 2F, is applied by inserting tablets into the ground and watering the soil beneath the host plants.
- Physical Control. All host plants found to be positive for HLB (infected with *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus*) will be removed and destroyed using mechanical means to stop the spread of the disease.

Public Notification:

Residents of affected properties shall be invited to a public meeting or contacted directly by CDFA staff. Consultation with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, and the county agricultural commissioner's office will be provided at the public meeting or upon request to address residents' questions and concerns.

Residents are notified in writing at least 48 hours in advance of any treatment in accordance with the Food and Agricultural Code sections 5771-5779.

Following the treatment, completion notices are left with the residents detailing post-treatment precautions.

The following treatment information and additional resources are posted on CDFA's website:

- Emergency Program Area Maps: http://cdfa.ca.gov/plant/acp/treatment_maps.html
- ACP Pest Profile: https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/citrus/pests_diseases/acp/PestProfile.html
- ACP/HLB Work Plan:
https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/citrus/pests_diseases/ACP_HLB_Work_Plan.pdf
- Integrated Pest Management Analysis:
https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/citrus/pests_diseases/ACP_HLB_IPM_Analysis.pdf

Press releases, if issued, are prepared by the CDFA information officer and the county agricultural commissioner, in close coordination with the program leader responsible for treatment. Either the county agricultural commissioner or the public information officer serves as the primary contact to the media.

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Information concerning the HLB/ACP program shall be conveyed directly to local and State political representatives and authorities via letters, emails, and/or faxes.

For any questions related to this program, please contact the CDFA toll-free telephone number at 800-491-1899 for assistance. This telephone number is also listed on all treatment notices.

Attachments