Citrus Greening HLB

HLB is also known as citrus greening disease because it causes fruit to stay green and not fully ripen.

Can be downloaded from http://warnerstreesurgery.com/Citrus-Greening-Identification-Under-PDF-Files
Citrus Greening (HLB) is caused by the bacterium, Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus, which infects the phloem system.

The phloem system of the plant transports sugars, which are the food source of the plant, bidirectionally through the plant. The phloem system of the plants transports the products of photosynthesis (sugars) from sources of photosynthetic activity (leaves) in the plant to sinks (flowers, fruits, roots, seeds).

HLB is transmitted by the Asian citrus psyllid.

1 Asian citrus psyllids feed on citrus leaves and stems, and can infect trees with deadly Huanglongbing disease. Seen here are adults and young nymphs.

2 Inspect for Asian citrus psyllids monthly. Look for small, brown pests that feed on citrus leaves with their body at a 45-degree angle.

3 Check new flush, the smallest, tender new leaves sprouting on your citrus tree, for the Asian citrus psyllid. This is a favorite spot for the pest to feed and lay eggs.

4 Young Asian citrus psyllids, called nymphs, produce a white, waxy substance to direct honeydew away from their bodies.

5 Asian citrus psyllids are small – no more than 1/8th of an inch long – brown, winged insects that feed on citrus tree leaves and stems.

6 Asian citrus psyllids can cause a sooty mold to form on citrus tree leaves.

7 When Asian citrus psyllids feed on citrus tree leaves, they can cause a twisting damage to the leaf.

8 Ants actually protect Asian citrus psyllid nymphs, therefore it is important to apply ant bait around your tree.

9 A symptom of Huanglongbing is yellow discoloration on leaves that is asymmetrical, meaning not the same on both sides of the leaf.

10 Huanglongbing causes uneven yellowing in citrus tree leaves because nutrients are being restricted.

11 This blotchy yellowing of citrus tree leaves is an early sign of Huanglongbing and will worsen as the disease develops in the tree.

12 Huanglongbing seen here in a pomello tree. All varieties of citrus are at risk of contracting and dying from the disease.