



Citrus Health Response Program Overview

September 2009



A publication of the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, Charles H. Bronson, Commissioner

Citrus Health Response Program Mission ... Working together to produce healthy citrus

- Ensure security and maintenance of citrus germplasm and citrus budwood foundation stock
- Implement citrus nursery clean stock program
- Provide systematic surveys in support of defensible phytosanitary protocol that allows fresh fruit movement to all markets
- Support effective disease / disease vector management



Resources for the Industry ... Tools to support citrus

- Compliance agreements and business plans designed to provide guidance, protect citrus production and allow fresh fruit movement to important export markets
- Grower Assistance Program – decontamination training, survey assistance, self-survey and business plans
- Best Management Practices
- Participate with growers in the Business Plan Share Program
- Identification and support for abandoned grove abatement



Citrus Germplasm Introduction Program ... Important disease-free start

- Ensures citrus germplasm is free from any known graft-transmissible pathogens
- Each variety undergoes an intensive testing regime before release
- Provides approved germplasm to citrus budwood registration program
- New 20,000 sq ft facility at future Alachua County budwood site



Citrus Budwood Registration ... Responding to disease pressures

- Provides clean budwood to citrus industry
- Facilities located outside of citrus-growing area
- 80,000 sq ft facility in Levy County
- Redundant 60,000-sq-ft location planned in Alachua County



Citrus Nursery Guidelines ... Providing clean stock for nurseries

- Rules and regulations to protect industry, 5B-62
- Geographic separation of new nurseries and groves
- Citrus nursery stock is propagated and housed in approved insect-proof structures
- All citrus nurseries are on 30-day inspection cycle
- Compliance agreements are required



Biocontrol Initiatives ... Natural solutions to pests and diseases

- FDACS/DPI, with support from USDA, is modifying the facilities at Dundee to work out the methods necessary to begin the mass rearing of Asian citrus psyllid parasites for release throughout the citrus-producing counties of Florida