

PEST: Citrus Black Spot (*Guignardia citricarpa*)

BASIC PROFILE: CBS is one of the most important fungus diseases known on citrus. It first appeared in the U.S. in Florida in 2010. Fruit symptoms are variable, but start as orange or red spots with black margins that enlarge into hard, dark-colored or speckled necrotic lesions, making fruit too unsightly to sell. Symptoms may not appear until fruit is mature. Severe infestation may cause premature fruit drop. CBS may also cause inconspicuous leaf spots. It spreads onto fruit through rain splash from dead leaves on the ground or by irrigation. The most likely means of long-distance spread is through man-assisted movement of infected fruit or citrus nursery stock. Florida is the only state known to be infested and portions of the state are under a federal quarantine for CBS.

LDAF ACTIVITY: We conduct routine visual inspections of citrus fruit and citrus nursery stock at marketplace locations (looking for plants from Florida which are prohibited or for diseased fruit symptoms) and at nursery grower / NSD locations (examining citrus stock for symptoms and checking plant origin paperwork). When prohibited plants or diseased fruit are found, stop sales are issued and the material is usually destroyed or may be returned to origin. Citrus stock from out of state is banned. LDAF may also conduct specific surveys for CBS as part of a larger, citrus-producing state survey.

