

## CITRUS PEST DETECTION PROGRAM SERVICES

The Citrus Pest Detection Program (CPDP) has been serving the survey and diagnostic needs of the San Joaquin Valley's citrus industry since 1963, and has responded to current industry needs by switching its survey emphasis from *Citrus tristeza virus* (CTV) to Huanglongbing (HLB).

In recent years, the CPDP has established a state-of-the-art PCR laboratory. Successful completion of laboratory proficiency testing, per USDA guidelines, led to receipt of a CDFA permit to test non-regulatory plant and insect samples in California. During the same period, field personnel received intensive training in visual inspection for HLB symptoms and Asian citrus psyllid presence. Standard seasonal field survey (spring and fall) now focuses on visual inspection of perimeter trees for HLB symptoms and Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) presence, as well as spot sample collections.

The CPDP is able and authorized to test for multiple pathogens. The ability to test for *S. citri* (the bacterium causing CSD, or Citrus Stubborn Disease, which is endemic in California) is important, since CSD symptoms are very similar to those of HLB. In a symptomatic situation, testing for both CSD and HLB may be advisable.

Within the San Joaquin valley, the CPDP can both collect and test non-regulatory screening samples for HLB, CSD, and CTV. From other regions of California, the CPDP may receive samples for testing if the sender follows the appropriate sampling and handling protocols. For details about sampling protocols and grower costs or any other questions, please call the CPDP at (559) 686-4973.