

Rancho Bernardo Citrus Quarantine Information

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) have confirmed the first detection of the citrus disease known as [Huanglongbing](#) (HLB) in the City of San Diego and the second detection in the county.

The County of San Diego Department of Agriculture, Weights & Measures (AWM) helps protect California citrus by ensuring consumers, home gardeners, and agricultural producers comply with laws and regulations, including quarantines, to prevent entry and limit the spread of pests and plant diseases in the county.

HLB is spread by the [Asian citrus psyllid](#) (ACP) a tiny insect that may transmit the bacteria from citrus tree to citrus tree as they feed on new growth. The bacteria cause HLB, deadly to citrus and has no cure, but not harmful to other plants, animals, or people.

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- The disease was detected in a plant material sample from one lime tree, collected during a routine state survey for HLB.
- CDFA crews will treat and remove the infected tree and are preparing to conduct mandatory surveying and treatment of residential host plants within 250-meters of the find site. Taking these steps will remove a critical reservoir of the disease and vectors that can spread the disease, an essential tactic in protecting nearby citrus.
- Any plant samples positive for HLB enact a 60-square mile quarantine area. An HLB detection in any property (commercial or residential) initiates additional requirements.
- Commercial citrus operations (growers, packers, shippers, transporters, and fruit sellers) within the quarantine area will need an HLB Compliance Agreement issued by CDFA, and must follow Spray and Harvest procedures to move citrus fruit.
- Visit [CitrusInsider](#) and [CaliforniaCitrusThreat](#) for more information.

Information for Residents

- Now more than ever, we need help from the community to cooperate with agriculture officials and inspect their own trees for signs of HLB and ACP.
- HLB infected trees need to be removed to protect other trees, the community's citrus, and the state's vibrant commercial citrus industry. If you have citrus that is not cared for, remove it in order to prevent it from becoming a reservoir for the bacteria that causes HLB.
- Residential citrus tree owners in the quarantine are restricted from moving citrus fruit off their property.
- HLB symptoms: blotchy yellowing of leaves, yellow shoots, lopsided, small, and rancid-tasting fruit, and premature, excessive fruit drop.
- If you notice symptoms on your citrus trees or would like more information, please contact the CDFA Report-a-Pest Hotline at 1-800-491-1899.
- Visit [CaliforniaCitrusThreat](#) for more information.

Information for Industry Members

- We all must work together in the fight to save California citrus from the Asian citrus psyllid and Huanglongbing (HLB), which has been found in residential areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego counties.
- This detection results in the establishment of an HLB quarantine area with a five-mile radius around the find site. The quarantine prohibits the sale of all outdoor grown host nursery stock and the movement of all host plants.
- This detection will also require any citrus fruit grown in the quarantine area to undergo additional mitigation steps prior to being transported within or from the quarantine. The quarantine applies to residents and commercial operations alike. Visit [CitrusInsider's](#) Map and Quarantines page for more details.
- All citrus growers, packers, shippers and transporters in the county must have an ACP Compliance Agreement from AWM to move any citrus fruit (contact CQP.AWM@sdcounty.ca.gov).
- Commercial citrus growers may contact San Diego County Citrus Pest Control District at 951-334-7611 or CDFA Grower Liaison Sandra Zwaal at szwaal2@gmail.com for more information.
- The interactive citrus quarantine map can be used to determine if you are inside the quarantine: [Active Regional Quarantines Web Application](#)