

Citrus  
Canker  
in  
Hendry  
Co.  
1999

Report CCRAG-7-Hendry Co.  
from the  
Citrus Canker Risk Assessment Group Meeting  
Lake Alfred, Florida  
19 March 1999

A Cooperative Program of the  
Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, Division of Plant Industry  
and the  
USDA Animal & Plant Health Identification Service, Plant Protection &  
Quarantine

19 March 1999

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Richard Gaskalla, Director  
Division of Plant Industry

**FROM:** Wayne N. Dixon, Ph.D., Chief  
Bureau of Entomology, Nematology, and Plant Pathology

**SUBJECT:** Risk Assessment Report: CCRAG-7-Hendry Co.

---

Richard, please find attached two copies of **CCRAG-7-Hendry Co.** which was prepared by the Citrus Canker Risk Assessment Group after meeting on 19 March 1999 in response to a request from Siboney Citrus Inc. to review a previous risk assessment recommendation of 12 March 1999 which was a re-visitation of a recommendation of 4 March 1999. Since the risk assessment group was in attendance at the Citrus Canker Technical Advisory Task Force Meeting at the Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred on 19 March 1999, we were able to conduct the risk assessment after the task force meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our report.

xc: Dr. Jim Graham  
Dr. Tim Gottwald  
Mr. Leon Hebb  
Dr. Tim Schubert  
Mr. Michael Hornyack  
Mr. Ken Bailey  
Mr. Richard Clark  
Dr. Steve Poe  
Dr. Xiaoan Sun

19 March 1999

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Richard Gaskalla, Director  
Division of Plant Industry

**FROM:** Wayne N. Dixon, Ph.D., Chief  
Bureau of Entomology, Nematology, and Plant Pathology

**SUBJECT:** Risk Assessment Report: CCRAG-7-Hendry Co.

---

Richard, please find attached two copies of **CCRAG-7-Hendry Co.** which was prepared by the Citrus Canker Risk Assessment Group after meeting on 19 March 1999 in response to a request from Siboney Citrus Inc. to review a previous risk assessment recommendation of 12 March 1999 which was a re-visitation of a recommendation of 4 March 1999. Since the risk assessment group was in attendance at the Citrus Canker Technical Advisory Task Force Meeting at the Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred on 19 March 1999, we were able to conduct the risk assessment after the task force meeting.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our report.

xc: Dr. Jim Graham  
Dr. Tim Gottwald  
Mr. Leon Hebb  
Dr. Tim Schubert  
Mr. Michael Hornyack  
Mr. Ken Bailey  
Mr. Richard Clark  
Dr. Steve Poe  
Dr. Xiaolan Sun

### Introduction

PURPOSE: The Citrus Canker Risk Assessment Group met on 19 March 1999 in Lake Alfred Florida to re-examine the recommendation formulated on 12 March 1999 in regards to Siboney Citrus Grove, Hendry Co.

Members of the Risk Assessment Group were:

Dr. Wayne N. Dixon, Group Leader	Chief, Bureau of Entomology, Nematology, and Plant Pathology, Division of Plant Industry, FDACS
Dr. Timothy R. Gottwald	Plant Pathologist, Horticultural Laboratories, USDA, Agricultural Research Service
Dr. James H. Graham	Soil Microbiologist, Citrus Research and Education Center, IFAS, University of Florida
Mr. Leon Hebb	Co-director, Citrus Canker Program, Manatee Co., // Chief, Bureau of Pest Eradication and Control, Division of Plant Industry, FDACS
Dr. Xiaoan Sun	Plant Pathologist, Plant Pathology Section, Division of Plant Industry, FDACS
Dr. Timothy S. Schubert	Plant Pathologist, Plant Pathology Section Administrator, Division of Plant Industry, FDACS
Dr. Stephen R. Poe	Plant Pathologist, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine

In addition to the members, the following members of the Science Issues Working Group, Citrus Canker Technical Advisory Task Force were present and participated in the group's mid-afternoon discussion:

Mr. Peter Masanow, grove manager for Siboney Citrus Grove

The following schedule and agenda was planned for the Risk Assessment Group:

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda</u>
12:30 PM	<b>1. Presentation and Discussion of Movement of Sunburst Mandarins Fruit and Flame Grapefruit from Siboney Citrus Grove, Hendry Co.</b> Auditorium, Ben Hill Griffin Bldg. Citrus Research and Education Center, UF/IFAS Lake Alfred, Florida
1:00 PM	Adjournment

### **Recommendations by the Risk Assessment Group**

1. Fresh fruit from blocks E-1 and F-1 (Sunburst Mandarins) for "pick-and-can" and C-2 (Flame Grapefruit) for juice, Siboney Citrus Grove, Hendry Co., shall be allowed to move with adequate safeguards in place during harvest, transportation, and processing and as monitored by department. A compliance agreement shall be established that will include conditions including, but not limited to, (a) fruit and transport vehicles will be debris-free; (b) department personnel will be present and monitoring all activities at all times; (c) access will be limited to the harvest block; (d) trucks and harvesting equipment will be decontaminated when leaving the grove; (e) picker's clothes and pick sacks will be decontaminated each day; (f) new gloves will be issued to pickers that will be collected at the end of each day; (g) a complete paper trail from grove to processing site will be maintained; (h) transportation vehicles will be decontaminated before leaving the processing site; (i) people and equipment will not move from the harvest block into control action blocks; (j) control action in the adjacent canker-infected blocks (E-2, F-2) shall have achieved the pushing and piling of trees before the start of fruit picking in blocks E-1 and F-1. For blocks E-2 and F-2, tree removal shall begin in the north end of rows and proceed south leaving two rows (with negative survey for citrus canker) against blocks E-1 and F-1 (mandarins) as a temporary windbreak. The resulting burn pile of canker-infected trees shall be located to the eastern edge of blocks E-2 and F-2.

Motion: Dr. Wayne Dixon

Second: Dr. Steve Poe

Vote: Approved unanimously.

### **Summary**

The issue of movement of commercial fruit from groves is dependent on ensuring the risk of moving the citrus canker pathogen is sufficiently mitigated to not pose a biological risk to the citrus resources of Florida. A prior recommendation of 12 March 1999 for the Siboney Citrus Grove was re-examined due to the presentation of another request from Siboney Groves, Inc. It is important to know that mature disease-free citrus fruit should not be considered an unreasonable biological risk. Additional mitigating strategies were formulated by the citrus canker risk assessment group to allow movement of the Sunburst mandarins and Flame grapefruit three blocks in the Siboney Citrus Grove to suitable processing sites while concurrent control action proceeded or was completed in other blocks in the grove. Also, control action was completed in Block C-2 with the removal of infected Cara-cara's and an exposed tree buffer of 125 feet. It should be recognized that diligent observation by the Siboney grove owners and personnel

---

of all conditions of the compliance agreement and supervision by department personnel will facilitate this disease management plan's goal of mitigating the risk of moving citrus canker.

Report approved and respectfully submitted by Citrus Canker Risk Assessment Group on 19 March 1999.

---

Wayne Dixon, Ph.D.

and for:

Dr. Tim Gottwald  
Dr. Xiaoan Sun

Dr. James Graham  
Dr. Stephen Poe

Mr. Leon Hebb  
Dr. Tim Schubert