CITRUS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

QUARTERLY & FINAL PROGRESS REPORT FORM: Control of Citrus Greening, Canker & Emerging Diseases of Citrus

▶PROJECT QUARTER END October 2025 ● *Quarterly Report* ○ *Final*

Proposal Title

Exploring Plant Defense Inducers as Complementary Strategies to Copper Application for Controlling Citrus Canker and Enhancing Citrus Greening Management in Florida Citrus Groves (24-003)

Today's Date	Sponsoring Organization (drop-down)	Category (drop down)
02/04/2026	Citrus Research and Development Foundation	CLas Bacteria

ABSTRACT (Executive Summary-public report-do not disclose proprietary information or intellectual property)

1. Please state project objectives and what work was done this quarter to address them:

This project aims to evaluate the efficacy of integrating plant defense inducers (PDIs) with copper bactericides for managing citrus canker and potentially enhancing citrus greening (HLB) management. The specific objectives are:

1. To assess the efficacy of PDIs, including PDI7 (spray), Isotianil (spray), and Actigard (soil drench or trunk inject) against citrus canker in field conditions.
2. To evaluate the efficacy of combining PDIs with copper bactericides for citrus canker control in field conditions.
3. To evaluate the impact of PDIs alone or combined with oxytetracycline (OTC) on managing HLB disease and improving overall tree health in affected fields.
4. To assess the effectiveness of trunk injections of MagnaBon copper for managing citrus canker and/or HLB.

1. Work completed in the third quarter:

For two ongoing field trials (Immokalee and Punta Gorda), spray, injection, and/or drench applications, all visual evaluations, including HLB symptom ratings, canopy color, and canopy density, as well as monthly citrus canker disease rating (incidence and severity in fruits and leaves) were completed, and fruit drop was monitored (counted) in Hamlin's for the 2025 growing season. Leaf samples collected for CLas titer quantification are now complete and will be thoroughly analyzed in the coming weeks.

There was no serious phytotoxicity in any of the treatments.

2. Please state what work is anticipated for next quarter:

Work anticipated for the next quarter before the harvest includes:

- **Visual Ratings:** Final HLB and canker disease incidences (and severities) in fruits and leaves, and canopy

PI First Name Ozgur

PI Last Name Batuman

Email obatuman@ufl.edu

Phone (239) 658 3408

Organization University of Florida

Sponsor Project Number 24-003

Project Duration (years) 2 *Year of Project* 2025

% Completion of Objectives (FDACS requirement) 6,000.00%

CITRUS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC.