

Integrating Investments in HLB and Other Disease Research

By Harold Browning



Almost one year has passed since the two federal funding sources were announced. Projects are now underway in both the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), Specialty Crop Research Initiative, and the USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Multi-Agency Coordinating (MAC) Group programs for citrus disease. At the same time, the Citrus Research and Development Foundation (CRDF) is adjusting its programs to focus grower resources on near-term solutions and to continue to deliver results as soon as they are available.

The table below summarizes current investments (total project costs) of CRDF's research- and product-delivery portfolios, organized by some of the major topics of intervention in managing HLB and other challenges. Along with the CRDF investment, latest commitments from the two federal programs have been inserted to show the complementarity of the efforts and the focus on these important management elements.

While these numbers are not inclusive of all investments from the CRDF or the federal programs, they depict a significant portion of the investment at this time. CRDF and the federal programs are engaging in evaluation of new projects, and additional updates will highlight how this funding picture continues to change.

PREVENTING HLB SPREAD	Research		Delivery	
	CRDF	NIFA	CRDF	MAC
Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) Movement	814,674		211,681	
ACP Management and Citrus Health Management Areas	4,100,103	4,500,000	1,426,265	2,998,000
New Plantings Systems			936,705	2,998,000
Tolerance in Rootstocks and Scions	1,424,649		4,916,042	1,000,003
Engineering Resistance	3,550,894			
REDUCING HLB DISEASE IN TREES	Research		Delivery	
	CRDF	NIFA	CRDF	MAC
Bactericides	1,155,142	6,700,000	1,753,245	1,326,000
Thermal Therapy		3,500,000	927,455	1,266,000
Inoculum Removal				1,000,000
SUSTAINING TREE HEALTH	Research		Delivery	
	CRDF	NIFA	CRDF	MAC
Nutrition			407,500	
Soil/Water Conditions and Treatments	477,576		385,193	173,000
Compost, Microbe Products	187,296		782,078	216,000
Integrating Approaches to Health				1,543,000
FRUIT DROP AND FRUIT QUALITY	Research		Delivery	
	CRDF	NIFA	CRDF	MAC
Influence of Plant Growth Regulators on Infected Trees	470,849		814,144	
Impact of HLB on Fruit Quality			110,000	
REDUCE IMPACT OF OTHER DISEASES	Research		Delivery	
	CRDF	NIFA	CRDF	MAC
Citrus Canker	3,043,544		834,133	
Citrus Black Spot			909,302	
Phytophthora	336,714			
Diaprepes Root Weevil	80,000		134,500	
Citrus Blight	400,000			

Harold Browning is Chief Operations Officer of CRDF. The foundation is charged with funding citrus research and getting the results of that research to use in the grove.



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