

8.7 The Citrus Greening Bibliographical Database, a New Tool for Researchers Students and Growers

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The citrus industries in Brazil, the United States (Florida, Louisiana, Texas, and California), and in all major citrus producing countries are in a state of emergency due to the presence of Huanglongbing (HLB), a bacterial disease transmitted by psyllids that has no known cure or management techniques aside from prevention. For this reason, research on managing methods and better understanding the disease is being conducted all over the world. The initial step in any research project is locating and compiling information that has been published on the subject. In the case of HLB, this process can be time consuming since there is not a centralized database on the topic. If the relevant information were in one easy to access database, the time that is currently being invested in searching multiple general databases could be used more effectively in the field or laboratory.

Existing public databases related to entomology and pest management include: Formis [<http://www.ars.usda.gov/saa/cmave/ifahi/formis>] with over 38,000 references related to ants of the world: The Electronic Data Information Source EDIS with 4,000 publications related to agriculture and ecology from the University of Florida / IFAS [<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/index.html>] and the Plant Management Network (PMN) [<http://www.plantmanagementnetwork.org/partners/profile/default.asp#university>], a cooperative effort of 37 universities, several non-profit organizations, and country wide agricultural companies, to disseminate information related to crop management.

Presently, information related to HLB can be accessed through general non-specialized data bases. However, much of the accessed information may be irrelevant or overlapping. Sifting through the many references may be both time consuming and frustrating for researchers and students. For this reason we created and are managing a non-commercial, user-friendly database that contains bibliographical information related to all topics of citrus greening. This database can be accessed online from any computer at [<http://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/hlb/database>]. We have begun the process of mining information from several sources, uploading the information into our database and organizing it in the website, where it can be accessed by the public. The database presently contains 870 references and is growing daily. It includes links to the most relevant papers and extension publications. If papers cannot be linked directly, an email to Greening.Database@ufl.edu will initiate an attempt to provide the entire document. Our objective is to facilitate acquisition of scientific information and reduce hours spent looking for information on-line as well as to provide hard-to-obtain documents such as Kuwayama (1908), the original description of the Asian citrus psyllid, *Diaphorina citri*, as well as the most recently published papers on Integrated Pest Management and genetic work. We plan to have close to 1,000 references by the end of the year and to keep continually adding references. To this end we invite researchers to send us information about publications and presentations that we might have missed, so we can include them in our database. This database is managed by the Southwest Florida Research and Education Center entomology group at the University of Florida, but requires the participation of the international research community to ensure that it contains the most current and relevant information.