Two of the most important emerging agricultural diseases in the US are transmitted by two different species from the insect Family: Psyllidae. The Asian Citrus Psyllid (*Diaphorina citri Kuwayama*) is the principal vector of the intercellular, plant-pathogenic bacterium Liberibacter sp. with cause Huanglongbing (HLB), also referred to as Asian Citrus Greening. The Potato Psyllid (*Bactericerca cockerelli*) is the vector of another Liberibacter subspecies which causes Zebra Chip of Potato.

The purpose of the International Psyllid Genome Consortium (IPGC) is to provide a central location for genomic and genetic information to be shared by researchers. Additionally, this consortium has been developed to bring Asian Citrus Psyllid researchers and Potato Psyllid researchers together to share information and cultivate collaborative relationships.

"This disease (HLB) has literally wiped out commercial production in Southeast Asia, in Brazil and now is threatening the Florida citrus industry." Ted Batkin of the Citrus Research Board from ABC30 in Fresno, CA on 8/11/09