



Texas Department of Agriculture TODD STAPLES, COMMISSIONER

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CITRUS GREENING QUARANTINE IN MISSION, TX

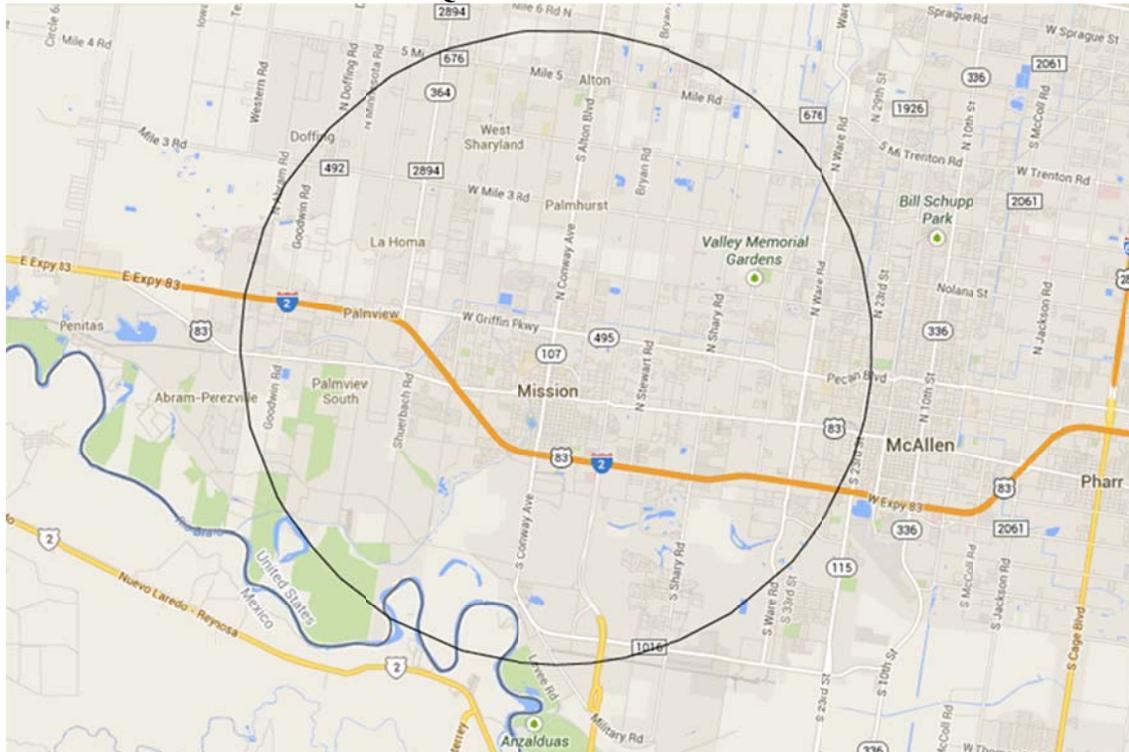
On September 20, 2013, USDA-Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) confirmed the presence of the citrus greening bacterium, *Candidatus liberibacter asiaticus* (*Las*), from a grapefruit tree tissue sample collected in Mission, Texas. Since the sample that tested positive was outside of the current citrus greening five mile quarantine boundary (CG-Quarantine-San Juan), the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) has declared a new and identifiably separate quarantine (CG-Quarantine-Mission), which took effect September 24, 2013. TDA and APHIS will be conducting an intensive door-to-door and orchard survey within this five mile area to obtain more samples to determine the extent of the disease (delimiting survey).

TDA has enacted quarantine regulations that affect many activities that involve any citrus plant including, but not limited to, the sale, growing, transporting or harvesting of these plants within the quarantine areas — both Mission and San Juan. The transportation of citrus plants into or out of either of the quarantined areas, except as permitted by TDA, is **not permitted**.

Citrus greening is a devastating disease that significantly threatens Texas' citrus and nursery industries. Citrus trees of all types and some of the citrus-related varieties are susceptible. **Please note: THE FRUIT FROM THESE TREES IS SAFE FOR CONSUMERS TO EAT.**

It is imperative that you ensure you are in compliance with the quarantine regulations. The following *Frequently Asked Questions* are provided as an overview of what can or cannot be done in accordance with the quarantine. For additional information on the Texas Citrus Greening quarantine requirements, citrus greening management options and other related resources, visit TDA's website at www.TexasAgriculture.gov.

CITRUS GREENING QUARANTINED AREA: MISSION TEXAS



<https://mapsengine.google.com/16733486912059237704-11818951733772850958-4/mapview/>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS CITRUS GREENING QUARANTINE

HOW DO I RECOGNIZE OR LOOK FOR CITRUS GREENING?

Citrus greening is one of the most serious citrus diseases in the world. Trees infected with the disease produce bitter, misshapen, unmarketable and irregularly-colored fruit. The most easily recognized symptom of citrus greening is the small, misshapen green fruit it causes. There are other signs as well, including yellow or blotchy leaves, thinning of leaves or twig dieback. The tree may also be infested with Asian citrus psyllids (ACP).

WHAT ARE THE HOST PLANTS?

Nearly all citrus species and many citrus relatives (e.g., orange jasmine, limeberry, and trifoliate orange) are susceptible to citrus greening. Sweet oranges and mandarin oranges are highly susceptible to the disease; sour oranges, grapefruits and lemons are moderately susceptible. Greening-susceptible citrus plants may serve as reservoirs for citrus greening disease. All citrus plant species are potential hosts for ACP.

RETAIL SALES, NURSERIES, ETC.

Plants that can host citrus greening and are located within the quarantine area must not be moved outside the quarantine area without TDA approval. A nursery must obtain a compliance agreement from TDA to sell citrus trees to anyone who will plant the trees inside the quarantined area. Before selling citrus plants inside the quarantined area, please contact the TDA regional office in San Juan at (956) 787-8866 to obtain information on specific conditions and requirements for the sale of citrus plants inside the quarantined area.

HOMEOWNERS OF CITRUS TREES:

- Inspect citrus plants regularly for disease and insects.
- If you suspect a plant is infected, report it immediately to TDA or USDA.
- Control ACP populations using AgriLife Extension recommended management practices.

CITRUS PRODUCERS: Please contact the TDA regional office in San Juan at (956) 787-8866 to obtain information on specific conditions and requirements for producing citrus fruit inside the quarantined area.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: The following sites provide additional information on the citrus quarantines, management options for mitigating the vector pest, symptoms of an infected tree and contacts.

- [Texas Department of Agriculture - Citrus Greening:](http://www.texasagriculture.gov/RegulatoryPrograms/PlantQuality/PestandDiseaseAlerts/CitrusGreening.asp) <http://www.texasagriculture.gov/RegulatoryPrograms/PlantQuality/PestandDiseaseAlerts/CitrusGreening.asp>
- [USDA - APHIS: Citrus Greening:](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/citrus_greening/index.shtml) www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/citrus_greening/index.shtml
- [Texas Citrus Greening:](http://www.texascitrusgreening.org) www.texascitrusgreening.org
- [Save Our Citrus:](http://www.saveourcitrus.org) www.saveourcitrus.org
- [Texas A&M University Kingsville Citrus Center - Weslaco, Texas:](http://kcc-weslaco.tamu.edu/) <http://kcc-weslaco.tamu.edu/>
- [Texas Plant Disease Diagnostic Clinic:](http://plantclinic.tamu.edu) <http://plantclinic.tamu.edu>
- [Texas A&M AgriLife Extension - Weslaco:](http://weslaco.tamu.edu) <http://weslaco.tamu.edu>

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