Scouting today to protect future profits

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Websites
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http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu
UF/IFAS Citrus REC
www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu
UF/IFAS Southwest Florida REC
http://www.imok.ufl.edu
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http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/map/index.shtml

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**PURPOSE OF SCOUTING**

The purpose of scouting is to aid in managing greening by:

- Identifying greening-infected trees
- Planning a management program

**GROVE CONDITIONS**

Grove conditions which can hinder a scouting program include:

- Unmaintained grove middles, tree size, and/or canopy
- Nutrient deficiencies
- Non-hedged rows
- Disease or insect damage

**FREQUENCY**

- Symptoms are most visible during the fall and winter months
- Survey frequency would be determined by incidence and citrus greening management plan
- Spring flush makes scouting more difficult

**METHODS**

- Walking
- ATVs
- Tractor- or vehicle-mounted platform

**SCOUT RESPONSIBILITIES**

- To locate and identify greening symptoms
- Operators of platforms and ATVs are responsible for transporting survey crews safely
- Follow all company procedures for entering and exiting grove

**WHAT TO SCOUT FOR**

**BLOTCHY MOTTLE = GREENING**

Yellow veins, vein corking, and green islands are not diagnostic alone. These symptoms should be coupled with blotchy mottle symptoms and a positive PCR to determine a greening-infected tree.

**TAGGING SUSPECT TREES**

- Use one color of flagging tape to identify suspect trees
- Choose colors or designs that cannot be confused with other commonly used flagging tapes
- GPS or grove map should be used in conjunction with flagging tape to identify positive greening-infected tree

**SAFETY CONCERNS**

- Safety is a priority when scouting
- Follow re-entry intervals for chemical applications
- Be aware of weather and climate conditions
- Watch for power lines
- Always keep a first aid kit in a readily accessible location
- Employees should be trained in the proper procedures in case of an emergency

For more information, please contact the UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center, Lake Alfred 863-956-1151