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Survey for Citrus diseases in French Guiana

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Survey for Citrus diseases in French Guiana

The presence on the continent of major threats for Citrus orchards has required a survey to assess the situation of Citrus pathogens in the French territory of Guiana.

Agriculture in French Guiana is located on the coast (about 300 Kms from west to east and 50 Km wide). There are 1200 Ha of Citrus orchards (Ministry of Agriculture). Citrus are grown either for export (Tahiti lime) or for local consumption : sweet oranges, tangerines and hybrids. Trees are grafted on Carrizo citrange, Rough lemon and *C.volkameriana*. The propagative material is issued from certified material from INRA Corsica. Some growers pick budwoods on local trees, probably all infected by CTV. Some trees enter illegally from Surinam.

Because of the situation of the territory in the north of Brazil there are many threats for Citrus production.

Orchards in the different areas of production have been investigated for Citrus pathogens on the basis of field symptoms. There has not been a specific search for insects because the situation has been previously assessed.



Some orchards are planted after destruction of old growth forest



Cracking of the bark due to *Unaspis citri*



Termites on a tree

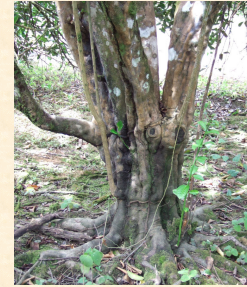
Other Citrus diseases present on the continent have **not been found** in French Guiana : Huanglongbing, Citrus Variegated Chlorosis, Citrus canker, Leprosis, decays such blight or Citrus sudden death. No suspicious decline has been observed except caused by insects : *Unaspis citri*, termites.

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Tree with symptoms of Psorosis



Stem pitting due to CTV



C. hystrix stunted by CTV

Tristeza is present in the whole area where severe symptoms of stem pitting can be observed on Tahiti lime, stunting on Mexican lime and *C. hystrix*.

During the survey **one orchard has been found with symptoms of Psorosis**. The diagnostic of Citrus psorosis virus has not yet been confirmed. It seems that this form of Psorosis did not spread because only one variety shows symptoms (Minneola, trees originated from Surinam).



Scab on tangerines



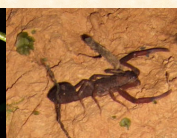
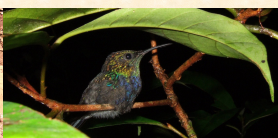
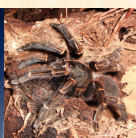
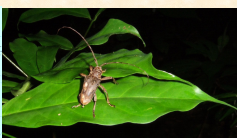
Phytophthora on trunk



Damage of *Corticium*

Cryptogamic diseases

In spite of the wet conditions, *Phytophthora* seems to have very low incidence. Decay probably due to *Corticium salmonicolor* has been found (not active at the time of the survey). The fruit of all the varieties of Tangerines are damaged by scab.



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