

Webinar announcement

International webinar on citrus greening (HLB): experiences and lessons learned in the prevention and control of the disease and its vector in organic citrus production



Picture: Carlos Castillejos Cruz

Date

Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Location

Online (Zoom)

Register here: <https://anmeldeservice.fibl.org/citrusgreening>

Citrus Greening, or Huanglongbing (HLB), is the most important citrus plant disease worldwide. Since 2011, the Citrus Greening FiBL Research Programme, funded by the Coop Sustainability Fund, has been conducting several research activities with partners from Mexico to develop and test different interventions to mitigate and control Citrus Greening in organic production.

Objectives of this Webinar

To disseminate and discuss the current best practices related to HLB treatment, FiBL invites you to the “International webinar on citrus greening (HLB): experiences and lessons learned in the prevention and control of the disease and its vector in organic citrus production.”

Date

Wednesday, February 28, 2024, 4.00 PM – 6.30 PM (CET)

Register here: <https://anmeldeservice.fibl.org/citrusgreening>

Participation

The webinar is aimed at citrus growers, juice and fresh fruit industry, traders, researchers, universities, consultants and institutions working in the management of HLB and its vector in citriculture worldwide.

Admission fees

None

Key topics

- Improving and managing orchard biodiversity to promote the control of *Diaphorina citri*.
- The importance of organic citrus management and monitoring strategies to control the HLB vector.
- Strengthening the nutrition and resilience of citrus trees against HLB using Biochar.
- Selecting HLB-resistant varieties.
- The situation of HLB and its vector in different countries: containment and control measures.

Available languages

Simultaneous translations will be available between English, Spanish, and Italian.

Webinar programme

Time (CET)	Topics	Speaker
4.00 pm	Introduction to the workshop HLB situation in Mexico and worldwide	Hans-Jakob Schärer FiBL Switzerland
4.20 pm	Experiences in Mexico Biodiversity management for the control of <i>Diaphorina citri</i> in organic citrus production.	Carlos Castillejos Cruz UNAM, Mexico
4.40 pm	Monitoring and control of <i>Diaphorina citri</i> in organic orchards.	Alejandro Pérez CP, Mexico
5.00 pm	Improving the nutrition and resilience of organic citrus trees against HLB and other diseases.	Salvador Garibay FiBL Switzerland
5.20 pm	Break (10 minutes)	
5.30 pm	Experiences in Italy The role of genetics as a source of resistance to HLB.	Concetta Licciardello CREA, Italy
5.50 pm	Experiences in Spain Current situation of citrus greening and its vector, and contingency plans for HLB in Spain.	Vicente Dalmau Sorli GVA, Spain
6.10 pm	Discussion round	Hans-Jakob Schärer / Salvador Garibay FiBL, Switzerland
About 6.30 pm	Final	

Programme subject to change

Moderation

Hans-Jakob Schärer (FiBL Switzerland)

Support

Nicoletta Maestrini (FiBL Switzerland)

Invited speakers



Hans-Jakob Schärer MSc
Leader of the Group Plant Protection – Phytopathology
Department of Crop Sciences
Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL, Switzerland



Dr Alejandro Perez Panduro
Research Associate
Colegio de Postgraduados (CP), Mexico



Dr Carlos Castillejos Cruz
Professor of Plant Morphogenesis and Physiology
Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico (UNAM), Mexico



Dr Concetta Licciardello
Permanent Researcher
Council for Agricultural Research and Economics
Research Centre for Olive, Fruit and Citrus Crops (CREA-OFA),
Italy



Dr Salvador Garibay
Senior scientist
Department of International Cooperation
Research Institute of Organic Agriculture FiBL, Switzerland



Vicente Dalmau Sorli
Servicio de Sanidad Vegetal en Generalitat Valenciana, Spain

About the Citrus Greening FiBL Research Programme

The key goals of the Citrus Greening FiBL Research Programme ([see website](#)) are to maximize the supply and quality of organic orange juice for export and to develop practical and viable solutions for organic citrus producers to manage and control HLB and its vector through an integrated approach.

As part of its efforts to disseminate prevention and control measures for HLB, FiBL is working on a video series. The [first video](#) shows how to learn more about the disease and its symptoms and how to reduce damage to citrus production.

The [second video](#) explains how to use alternate cutting to minimise the occurrence of *Diaphorina citri*, one of the main vectors of transmission of Citrus Greening.

Chapter “Organic Citrus Fruits” in the statistical yearbook “The World of Organic Agriculture”

The yearbook "The World of Organic Agriculture", published by FiBL and IFOAM - Organics International, documents recent developments in global organic agriculture. The 2024 edition was published on 13 February and [features a chapter on organic citrus fruits](#) on page 95.

Further information

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