



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT of
AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY

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Commissioner

PEST: Citrus Tristeza Virus (*Closterovirus*)

BASIC PROFILE: Tristeza (CTV) is a virus that attacks citrus plants. Strains vary from mild to severe, causing symptoms ranging from reduced tree size and health to lowered fruit yields to tree decline and death. Wilting, dieback, leaf curling and yellowing may occur. CTV is vectored (transmitted) by several aphid species. Most citrus-producing states, including Louisiana, have a mild CTV strain present and resistant rootstocks help control it. Spread of the disease occurs through movement of infested stock.

LDAF ACTIVITY: LDAF conducts routine visual inspections for CTV at marketplace locations, nursery grower and NSD locations (looking for citrus trees from other states, which are prohibited entry into Louisiana; and examining citrus stock for symptoms and checking paperwork to confirm Louisiana origin). We also look for the aphid vector. When prohibited plants are found, stop sales are issued and material is destroyed or may be returned to origin. Citrus stock from out of state is prohibited entry.

