

Maintenance Schedule for Citrus Growing in USDA Hardiness Zone 8b

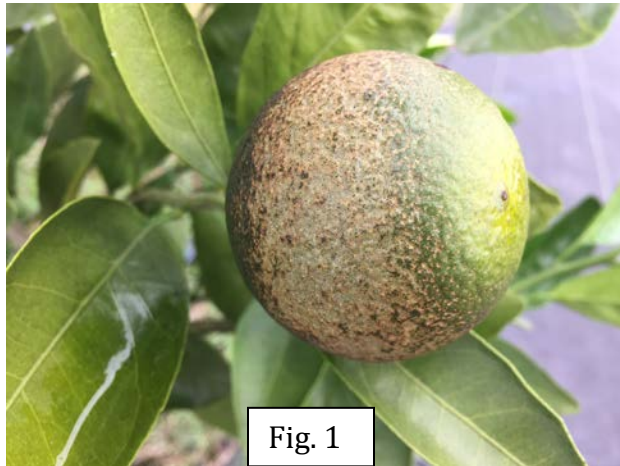


Fig. 1



Fig. 2

FOR NON-FRUITING TREES

Month	Pre-Emerge Herb.	Fertilize	Citrus Leaf-miner	Tissue Analysis	Post Emerge Herb.	Citrus Rust Mites	*Soft-Bodied Pests	Spider Mites	Irrigation	Prune Low branches & sprouts
Feb.	X									
March		X					X	X	X	X
April							X	X	X	X
May		X	X			X	X	X	X	X
June		X			X	X	X	X	X	X
July	X	*X	X	X		X	X		X	X
August				X			X		X	X
Sept.			X				X		X	X
Oct						X	X			X
Nov						X	X	X		
Dec								X		
Jan.					X					

Pre-Emergence Herbicides – Useful for weed control and can be applied once trees have settled in. Use will decrease the use of post-emergence herbicides.

***Fertilization** – In Georgia, split applications into three parts, mid-March, May 1, & mid-June

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using a complete fertilizer. *In more southern parts of zone 8b, fertilization can be split into four applications and a late July application applied. Do not fertilize after July!*

Citrus Leafminer - Drench young trees before new growth flush in May for up to 2 months of control or spray new growth mid-flush for 2 weeks of control. Leafminers should be controlled on young trees as they will slow growth. The first flush is usually not significantly attacked.

Tissue Analysis – Take sample in July to early August to make sure nutrients are at proper levels. Sample 100 mature spring leaves from about 20 trees.

Post-Emergence Herbicides –Monthly applications may be needed if pre-emergence herbicides are not used. Use of glyphosate after July can cause fruit drop.

Rust Mites –Rust mite populations increase in May-July and again in October-November and can damage fruit (*Fig. 1*). Scout and treat if necessary. Require a hand lens to see.

Spider mites - Prefer dry weather and low humidity and can occur throughout the year but populations peak in spring and early winter. Scout and treat if necessary. Rotate miticides.

***Soft bodied insects-** Scales, aphids, whiteflies, and mealybugs can sometimes be a problem but are *not considered key pests* when developing a pesticide program.

Irrigation – Begin irrigation in spring as trees begin growth and throughout the summer. Do not over-water as this can lead to root diseases. Decrease water in late September until harvest to prevent puffiness in satumas. Do not water late fall and winter except for freeze protection.

Pruning –Remove limbs near the ground beginning in early March, remove vertical sprouts, and rootstock sprouts on a regular basis throughout the growing season.

FOR FRUITING TREES ALSO BE AWARE OF THESE ISSUES

<i>Month</i>	<i>Leaf-footed bugs & Stink bugs</i>	<i>Fruit Sunburn</i>	<i>Citrus Scab</i>
<i>Feb.</i>			
<i>March</i>	X		X
<i>April</i>			X
<i>May</i>			
<i>June</i>	X	X	
<i>July</i>	X	X	
<i>August</i>		X	
<i>Sept.</i>		X	
<i>Oct.</i>		X	

Leaf-footed and Stink Bugs – These insects tend to congregate on certain trees and can damage developing fruit if not treated. They are sometimes found on blooms in the spring.

Fruit Sunburn – More of a problem on young bearing trees (*Fig. 2*). In the summer, exposed fruit can yellow prematurely and the fruit will have dry cells and be disfigured when mature.

Citrus Scab – Can be a problem on fruit as it causes warty scabs on fruit. Infection occurs in the spring from infected foliage and may require treatment.

Carefully scout foliage for Asian Citrus Psyllids & Nymphs and for Citrus Canker. Refer to the UF publications (#EENY-033) <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in160> and (#CH199) <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ch199>. If found maintenance will change.

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