

# YELLOW DRAGON (HLB) & AGRUMES

THE SOLUTION  
BARBARY PLANTE  
Evolution  
BY GIE AFRICA AGROBIO



**Agriculture**  
*du Maghreb*

AGRIMAG  
10/15/2022

## **THE ORANGES OF SEVILLE THREATENED BY YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE**

According to an article on Fresh Plaza, producers in the Seville region must take preventive measures to protect their 48,000 orange trees from the deadly bacteria that have already devastated citrus crops in Asia, Latin America and the US.

The European campaign “Life for Citrus”, which involves Spain, Portugal, France and Italy develop strategies to stem the spread of Huanglongbing (HLB). Caused by the bacterium *Candidatus liberibacter*, it is spread by certain insects and can completely destroy a citrus fruit in five years.

The infestation has already reached epidemic levels in 48 countries

Asian and 53 African states, as well as Brazil and the U.S. It was detected in China in 1943. in Africa in 1947 and, by 2005, it had begun to devastate the orange groves of Florida. It has not yet arrived in Europe, but the vector insect has already landed.



IDENTIFIER / CONNAÎTRE / MAÎTRISER



Inscription Connexion

Rechercher

INRAE

Cultures : Identifier, connaître, contrôler / Tropifruit / Fiches maladies et ravageurs / Bactéries / Greening / HLB (Candidatus

Liberibacter)



Greening / HLB (*Candidatus* Liberibacter)

Last modified: 12/09/2023  
Author: M Negri (CIRAD)

## Greening, HLB (Huanglongbing)

*Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus, *Ca. L. africanus* et *Ca. L. americanus*



### Sensitive crops: Citrus

#### General

Greening or HLB is due to three species of intracellular bacteria Gram of the genus *Candidatus* *Liberibacter* that colonize the phloem of plants. It is a non-cultivable bacterium on semi-synthetic, and therefore not fully characterizable, which is why its name is preceded by the term *Candidatus*.

It is widespread worldwide and the most important threat to citrus fruits. The bacterium is transmitted by two species of psyllium and during grafting. African psyllium (*Trioza erytreae*) Transmits *Ca. Liberibacter africanus* in Africa, Mauritius and Reunion and is found preferentially in altitude in cool and wet areas. On the other hand, Asian psylla (*Diaphorina citri*) transmits *Ca. Liberibacter asiaticus* in its origin area (South-East Asia) and its introduction areas (America, Reunion, Mauritius), it is adapted to the warmer and drier areas of the coast. It does not seem there is no strict vector preference.

#### Affected production areas:

Guadeloupe	Martinique
Polynésie-française	La Réunion
Madagascar	Comores
Maurice	

#### Organs affected

Feuilles	Fruits
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## LEMON TREE CONTAMINATED WITH YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE IN PUERTO RICO



## HUANGLONGBING (HLB) OR YELLOW DRAGON

Huanglongbing (HLB), also known as Yellow Dragon Disease, is a serious bacterial disease that affects citrus fruits such as orange trees, lemon trees, and other members of the Rutaceae family.

It is caused by bacteria of the genus *Candidatus Liberibacter*, mainly *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus*, *africanus*, and *americanus*.

## FRUIT DEFORMATION



## SYMPTOMS AND IMPACT

### **Asymmetrical yellowing of the leaves**

The leaves have a partial or total yellowing that is not uniform.

### **Premature leaf drop**

Affected leaves drop prematurely.

### **Fruit deformation**

Fruits produced by infected trees are often small, deformed, and may have irregular ripening with green and ripe parts simultaneously.

### **Bitter taste of fruit**

Affected fruits may have a bitter taste, making them unsafe to eat.

### **Death of the tree**

Over time, the tree may decline and die if the disease is not controlled.

## INSECT VECTORS OF YELLOW DRAGON HUANGLONGBING (HLB) CONTAMINATION



## MODE OF CONTAMINATION

Contamination by Huanglongbing (HLB) or YELLOW DRAGON occurs in two main ways

### By insect vectors

- Asian citrus psyllid (*Diaphorina citri*)
- The African citrus psyllid (*Trioza erytreae*)
- The African citrus psyllid (*Candidatus Liberibacter americanus*)

These insects feed on plant sap by biting leaves and young shoots, thus transmitting bacteria from infected plants to healthy plants.

### By grafting infected plant material

Using cuttings or scions from infected plants can introduce the disease to new areas.

## EARLY SIGNS OF THE DISEASE



## PREVENTION AND CONTROL

The management of Huanglongbing is based on several strategies

### Surveillance and early detection

- Regular inspection of orchards for early signs of the disease.
- Use of diagnostic tests to confirm the presence of bacteria.

### Vector management

- Control of psyllid populations through the use of insecticides.
- Introduction of natural enemies of psyllids for biological control.

### Healthy plant material

- Use of certified disease-free plants.
- Avoid grafts with potentially infected materials.

### Eradication of Infected Plants

- Pulling up and destroying infected trees to prevent the spread of the disease.

## IN SUMMARY

### PLANTING LEMON TREES CONTAMINATED WITH YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE IN PUERTO RICO



Huanglongbing (HLB) or Yellow Dragon is a serious threat to citrus plantations around the world and the fight against this disease requires an integrated approach combining surveillance, vector management, use of healthy plant material, and continuous research to find new solutions.



## **RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS**

### The **Fertilizers Hydro-Retentive BARBARY PLANTE Evolution**

represent a major innovation for the regeneration of citrus fruits affected by Yellow Dragon Disease.

These fertilizers have demonstrated their effectiveness through numerous contaminated plantations, allowing the trees to return to their normal production cycle.

# RESEARCH AND INNOVATIONS

Successful trials have been carried out on orange and lemon trees in Florida, California, Brazil and Puerto Rico.

## **Innovation**

A water-retaining fertilizer technology that promotes the regeneration of diseased trees.

## **Efficiency**

Allows you to restore the citrus production cycle.

## **Test areas**

Successfully tested in Florida, California, Brazil and Puerto Rico.

# RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

**Patent filed in 1987**

after 6 years of research by  
Dr. Salah Barbary, Mineral  
Technology Engineer

**Gold medal**

at the International Exhibition  
of Inventions and New  
Techniques in Geneva in 1987

**Approved**

by the World Intellectual  
Property Organization

**Hydro-retentive Fertilizer**  
**BARBARY PLANTE Evolution**

Find out how they can transform the  
fight against Yellow Dragon Disease  
and revitalize your citrus groves.

# WHAT IS A FERTILIZER HYDRO-RETENTIVE?

The " **Hydro-Retentive Fertilizer BARBARY PLANTE Evolution** " combine two concepts:  
that of Fertilizer and that of Hydro-Retentive.

## Fertilizer

A fertilizer is a substance added to the soil or directly to plants in order to provide them with nutrients essential for their growth and health.

The **Hydro-Retentive Fertilizer BARBARY PLANTE Evolution** are special products that combine conventional fertilizers such as Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K) in powder form, with trace elements.

These nutrients are encapsulated in a biodegradable super-absorbent water retainer.

This ensures optimal nutrient uptake by the plants, thus promoting their growth and protection.

## Hydro Retentive

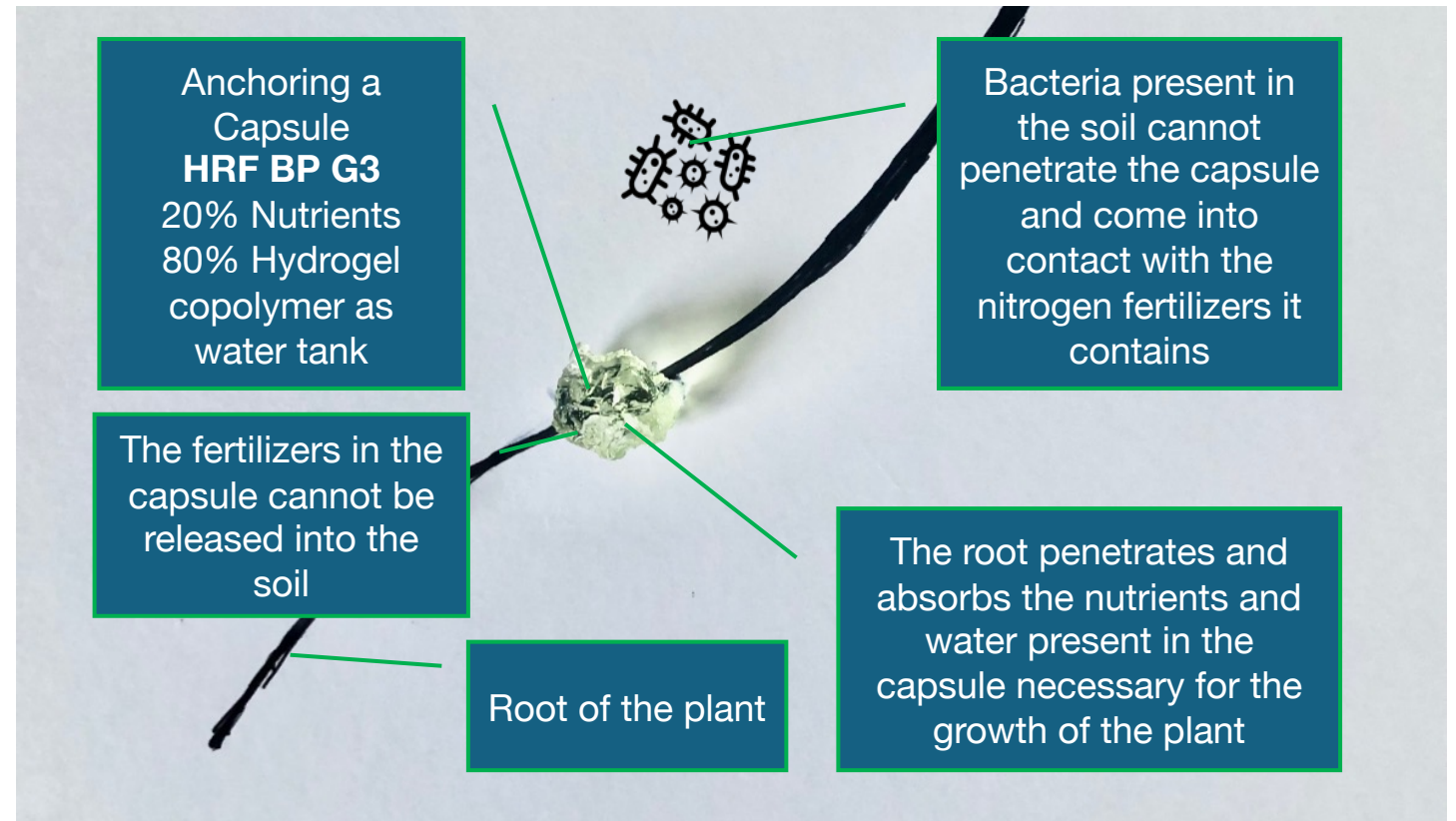
A water retentive is a substance that has the ability to absorb and retain water. These substances are often used in agriculture and gardening to help retain moisture in the soil, allowing plants to have access to water for longer periods between waterings.

The **Hydro-Retentive Fertilizer BARBARY PLANTE Evolution** use the latest generation of biodegradable agricultural superabsorbent copolymers developed specifically by Barbary Plante to optimize water management and soil quality.

# HOW DOES THE FERTILIZER HYDRO-RETENTIVE?

The live seed germinates and creates roots in order to actively search for water and nutrients, attracted they graft into the **BARBARY PLANTE** capsules present in the soil.

During its growth process, the young plant will continuously draw nutrients and water from **BARBARY PLANTE**'s capsules to nourish its development and establish a robust root system that will maximize its growth.



# The principle of anchoring Hydro-Retentive Fertilizer BARBARY PLANTE Evolution on the roots of a plant



Capsules

Hydro-Retentive Fertilizer  
BARBARY PLANTE G3

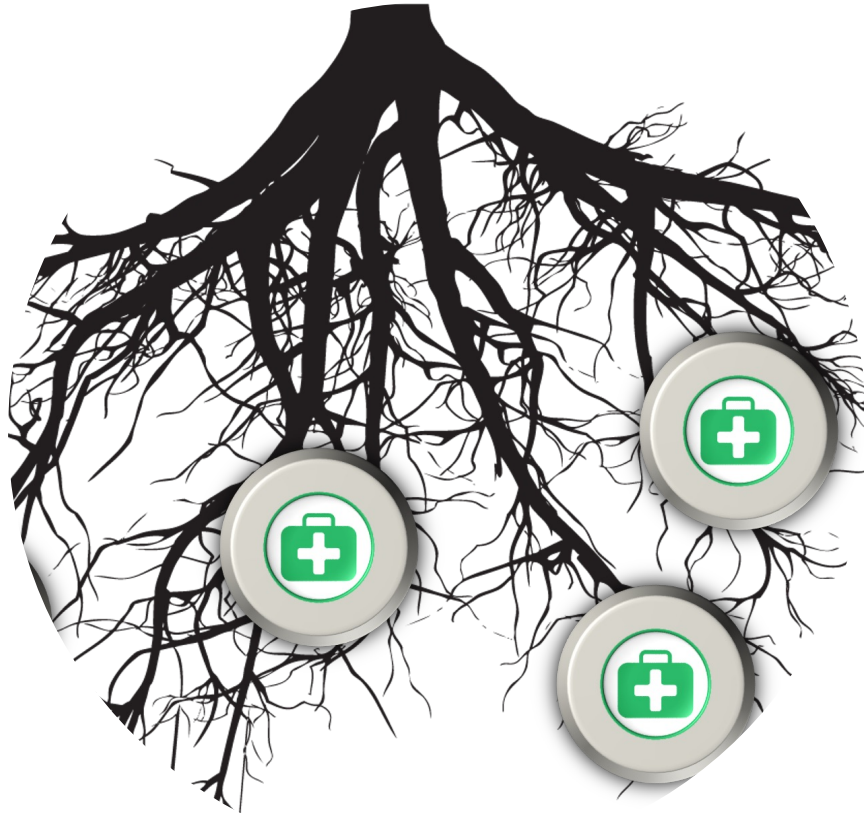


# WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

## THE BENEFITS ARE MULTIPLE OF USING Hydro-retentive Fertilizer **BARBARY PLANTE Evolution**

- **Optimization of irrigation**  
Their high capacity to hold water in the soil allows for a more efficient use of water resources.
- **Improved plant health**  
By providing plants with more consistent access to water and nutrients, they promote their growth and development. Plants are healthier, more vigorous and less sensitive to water stress.
- **Reduced fertilizer losses**  
The encapsulation of fertilizers and trace elements in the hydrogel makes it possible to limit losses due to leaching. Nutrients are released gradually as the plant needs it, reducing waste and maximizing fertilizer effectiveness.
- **Environmental sustainability**  
They meet the objectives of sustainable and responsible agriculture by minimizing the environmental impact.

# PREVENTIVE & CURATIVE IMMUNIZER



The  
**Hydro-Retentive Fertilizer**  
**BARBARY PLANTE Evolution**

act as a vaccine and increases the  
immune system of plants



# METHODOLOGY

## CURATIVE TREATMENT

The objective of this method is to regenerate diseased fruit trees.

To do this, we use Fertilizers Hydro-Retentive BARBARY PLANTE Evolution.

These are applied in a perimeter extended to the circumference of the tree's foliage and to a certain depth, thus allowing the roots to be grafted onto it.

Cette approche vise à enrichir le sol autour des arbres fruitiers, facilitant ainsi la régénération des arbres affectés par des maladies.



Regeneration of date palms in Burkina Faso

# METHODOLOGY

## PREVENTIVE TREATMENT

The objective of this method is to protect the fruit tree shoots in nurseries against the risk of disease.

To do this, we use **Hydro-Retentive Fertilizers BARBARY PLANTE Evolution**.

These are mixed in the substrate and then bagged or trayed for nursery cultivation.

This approach aims to enrich the soil around the sprouts of future fruit trees, thus facilitating their growth and strengthening their resistance to diseases.



# CURATIVE & PREVENTIVE TREATMENT IN PUERTO RICO



## HATCH - 477

"Effects of cover crops and precision agriculture management on large lime (*Citrus aurantifolia*) grown on contrasting soil types"

PI : Dre Rebecca Tirado Corbalá  
Co-PI : Jonathan Muñoz Barreto, Dr  
Elite Valencia-Chin et Dr Elvin Román  
Paoli

# HATCH - 477



**"HATCH"** is an agricultural research funding program in the United States, known as the "Hatch Act". This program supports agricultural research conducted by agricultural experimental stations.

**477** : indicates the number of the specific funded project that focuses on the effects of cover crops and precision agriculture management on the cultivation of large limes, particularly on different soil types.

# CURATIVE TREATMENT OF YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE ON LEMON TREE



Identification  
contaminated trees  
by the disease of the  
Yellow Dragon  
About the plantation

# CURATIVE TREATMENT OF YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE ON LEMON TREE



Trench preparation  
all around the tree contaminated  
with Yellow Dragon disease.

The diameter of this trench  
corresponds to the span of the  
foliage.

The depth depends on the size of  
the tree, between 10 and 30 cm,  
right down to the roots.

# CURATIVE TREATMENT OF YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE ON LEMON TREE



The  
**Hydro-Retentive Fertilizer  
NPK BARBARY PLANTE G3**  
is ready to use.

In this application, it is used on  
average from 10 to 20 kg per  
contaminated or uncontaminated  
tree.

# CURATIVE TREATMENT OF YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE ON LEMON TREE



The  
**Hydro-Retentive Fertilizer  
NPK Barbary Plante G3**  
is placed at the foot of the  
trees.



# CURATIVE TREATMENT OF YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE ON LEMON TREE



The trench was closed in order to cover the  
**Hydro-Retentive Fertilizer  
NPK Barbary Plante G3**  
at the foot of the trees.

# CURATIVE TREATMENT OF YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE ON LEMON TREE



Treated trees are monitored to evaluate and validate their treatment.

# CURATIVE TREATMENT OF YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE ON LEMON TREE



The treatment of the lemon trees took place in 2019 on this plot.

Several lime trees were treated during this curative treatment campaign for Yellow Dragon disease.

The photo shows one of the treated lemon trees blooming a few weeks after the curative treatment  
**BARBARY PLANTE**

After a few months, the results showed that the treated lime trees returned to normal lime production.

# PREVENTIVE TREATMENT OF YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE OF THE LEMON TREE



The scientific team prepares the lime seed trays.

The substrate was mixed with the **Hydro-Retentive Fertilizer NPK BARBARY PLANTE G3**

(visible in the shovel)  
then distributed among the trays containing the seeds  
(Blue Bag).

# PREVENTIVE TREATMENT OF YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE OF THE LEMON TREE



The tray presents some of the lime seeds **without** the

**Hydro-Retentive Fertilizer  
NPK BARBARY PLANTE G3**

(Left)

and some of the lime seeds **with** the

**Hydro-Retentive Fertilizer  
NPK BARBARY PLANTE G3**

(right).

This demonstrates the impact on growth  
and development.

# PREVENTIVE TREATMENT OF YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE OF THE LEMON TREE



The difference in size between the two sheets of this tray illustrates the benefits of the

**Hydro-Retentive Fertilizer  
NPK BARBARY PLANTE G3**

on the growth of lime seeds.

This fertilizer, rich in organic nutrients and trace elements, strengthens plant health and makes them immune to diseases such as the yellow dragon.

# CURATIVE & PREVENTIVE TREATMENT OF YELLOW DRAGON DISEASE



Several citrus groves, including orange and lemon trees, have benefited from this innovative technology to reduce the impact of Yellow Dragon disease:

In CALIFORNIA  
In FLORIDA  
In BRAZIL  
And  
In DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

# PROTECTING YOUR CROPS



**CONTACT US  
TO PROTECT YOUR ABORICOL CROPS**

**FOR TREATMENT  
PREVENTIVE  
OR CURATIVE  
WITH  
BARBARY PLANTE EVOLUTION**

[contact@africa-agrobio.com](mailto:contact@africa-agrobio.com)

[www.africa-agrobio.com](http://www.africa-agrobio.com)