

Research update



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The people who actually do the work

Prof Judy Brown, University of Arizona, Tucson



Dr Weiqi Luo, NC State University/USDAARS Ft Pierce



Dr Sandra Olkowski



Victor Alves



Dr Bodil Cass



What are we doing?

Weiqi, Judy and Neil are mining data collected at Ft Pierce by Dr Greg McCollum to understand what role CLas infection in citrus plays in persistence of CLas

Judy and Bo are collaborating on trying to understand how CLas titre in ACP in California fluctuates throughout the year in a project funded by Farm Bill PPA7721 funds.

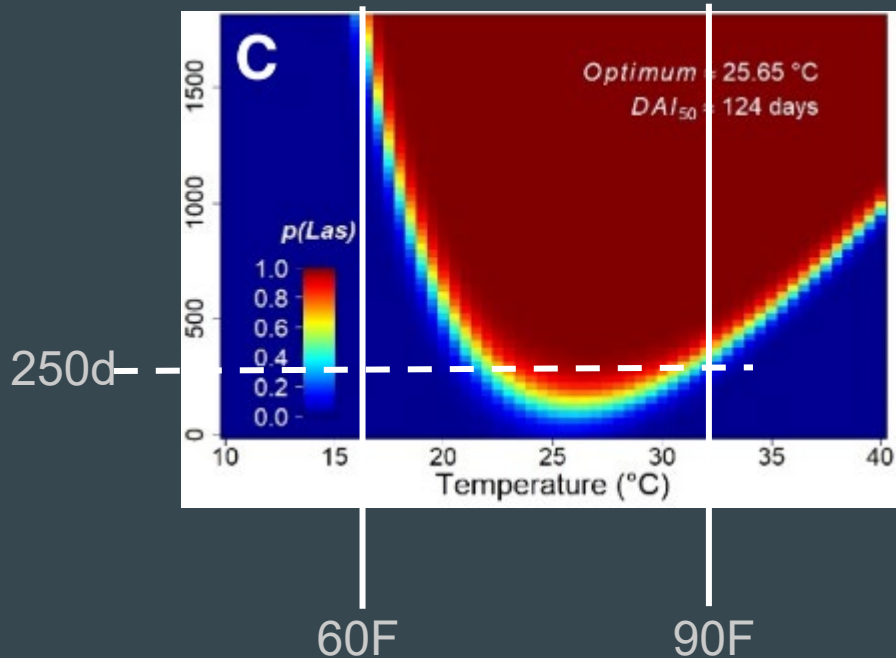
Neil, Sandra and Victor are integrating research on ACP and CLas into practical advice for California (and other) citrus growers

Experiments with caged ACP on potted citrus in FL

- When trees become infected and remain in the experiment:
 - After a few generations almost all ACP are infected with CLas
 - Average Ct values are in the low to mid 20's (high CLas load)
- When infected trees are removed and ACP moved to healthy trees:
 - A high proportion of ACP are free of CLas
 - Average Ct values are >30 (low CLas load)

Trying to understand why HLB is “slow” in California

Working hypothesis: ACP doesn't like temperature fluctuations, neither does CLAs

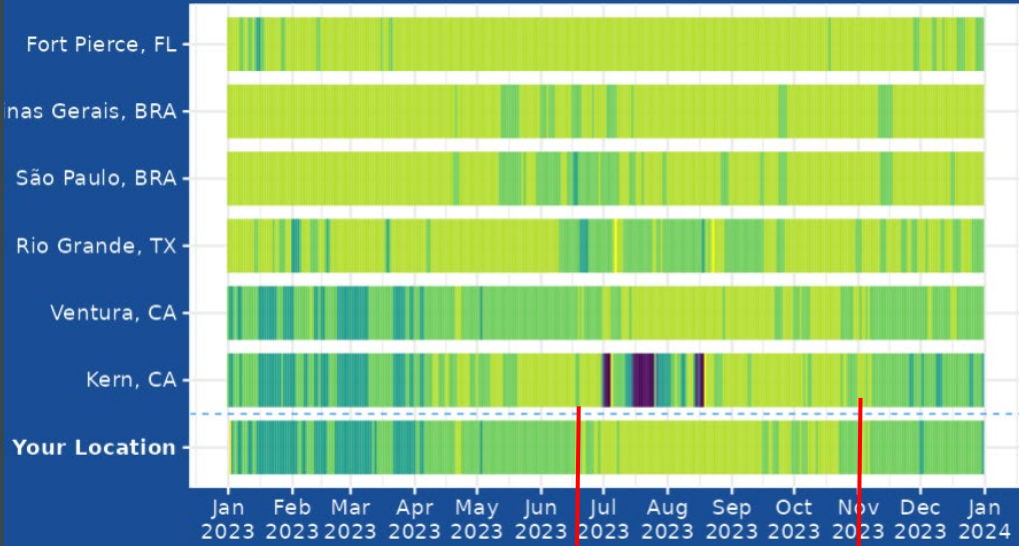


CLAs not observed to move in plants below 60F

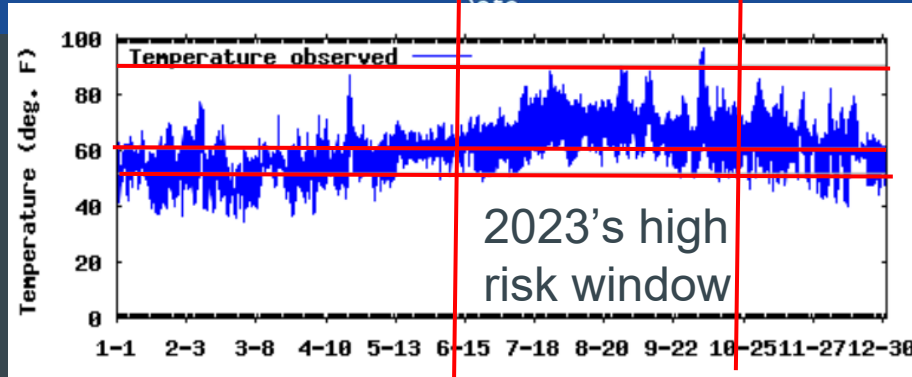
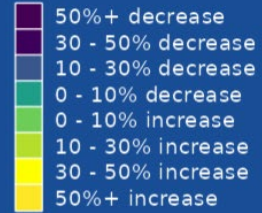
90F movement occurs but is slow compared with optimum.

CLAs inhibited by cold and slowed down by heat.

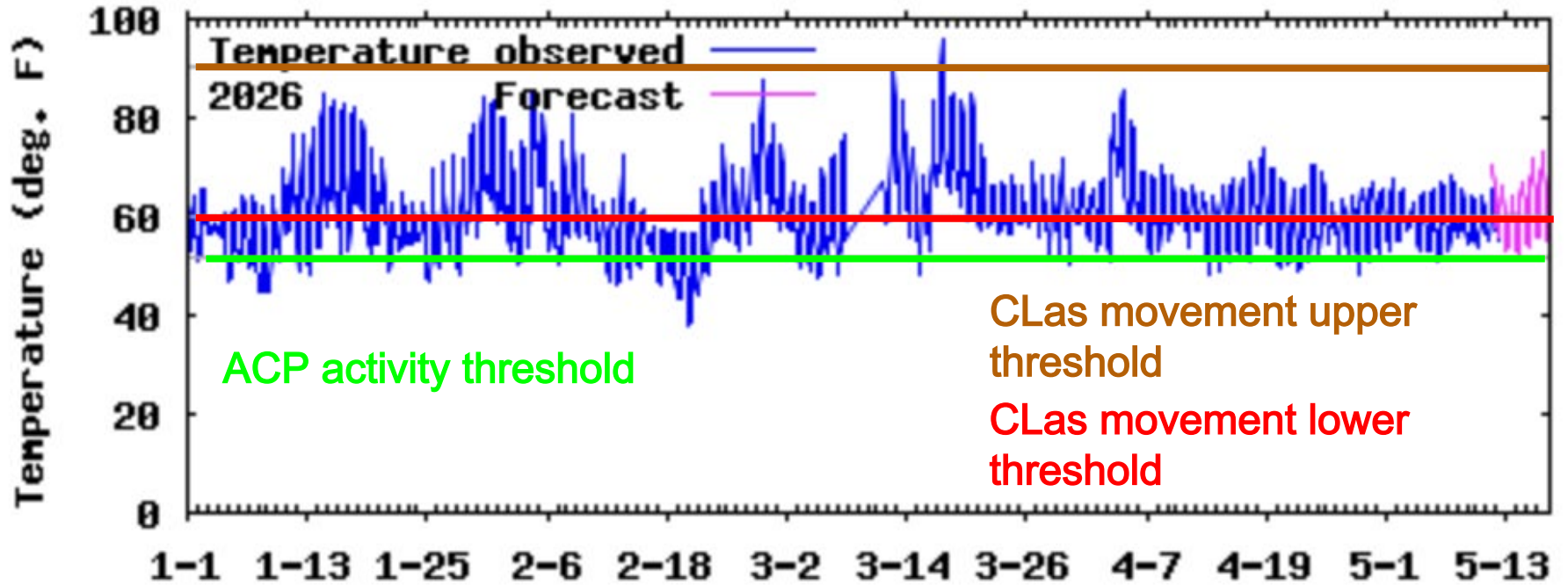
Risk



DPGI



2026 Provisional HLB risk (Saticoy)

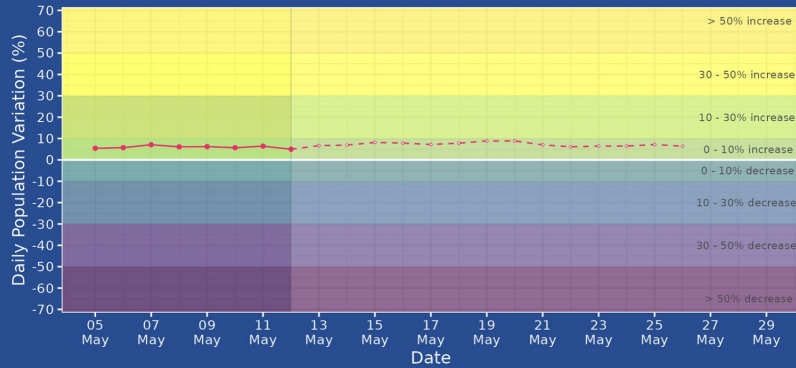


Current ACP suitability



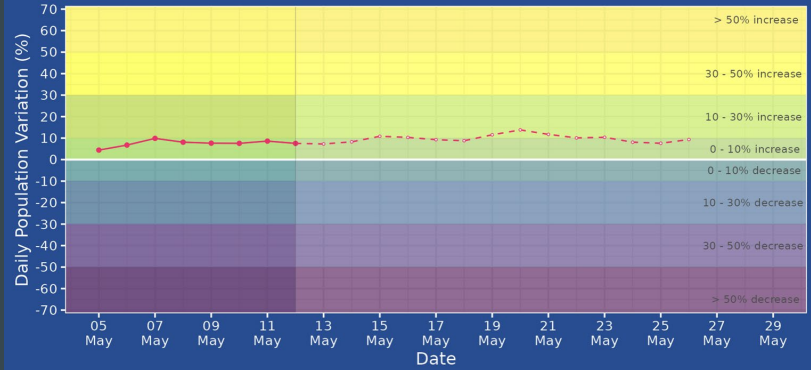
14-day DPGI projection

Camarillo



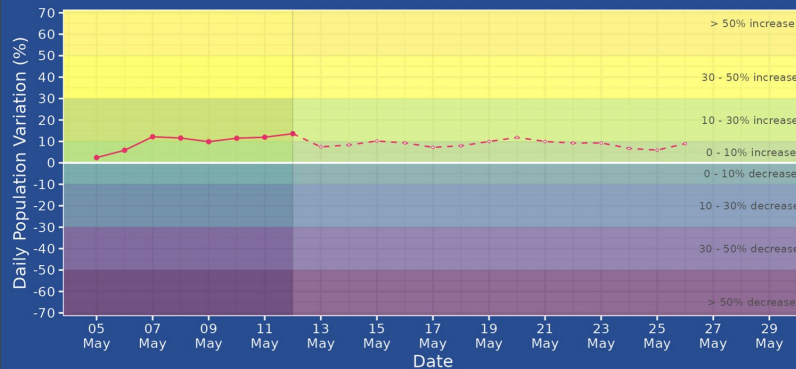
14-day DPGI projection

Santa Paula



14-day DPGI projection

Piru



Other news



Canine Detection Services: ACP detector canines project funded in the APHIS FY26 spending plan. The project is focused in AZ



HLB Research and
Extension Outputs Network

HLB REON project (UF, UC Davis, Texas A&M, Purdue) working on summaries of all federal HLB projects. >700 projects captured so far. Grower summaries are a priority