Living with the Dragon: Impressions of HLB in South China

Fred Gmitter and Chunxian Chen
UF-CREC
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• 19 provinces reporting citrus production figures in 2006
• Provincial production areas range from 3.4k ha to 313.8k ha
• Total area ha; #1
• Total production = 17.9m ton; #2
• Predominant types are mandarins, oranges, and pummelo
• Primarily a fresh based industry, though changing rapidly!

Citrus Production in China
More than 50% of the top 7 producing areas suffer with HLB!

- Hunan=313.8k ha
- Jiangxi=229.3k ha
- Guangdong=224.5k ha
- Sichuan=215.6k ha
- Fujian=170.2k ha
- Hubei=159k ha
- Guangxi=151.5k ha
How can citrus continue when living with the dragon?
- November 2007: Jiangxi and Guangdong
- April 2008: Guangdong and Guangxi
- November 2008: As above, plus Hainan and Yunnan
Objectives

- FCPRA granted project to find and characterize HLB “escape” trees
- Assess the nature of HLB problem
- Understanding the impact and ways farmers cope with the disease
Disaster
Lemons in Yunnan
Valuable product from Hainan
Hainan, denial!
Family farmer in Guangdong
An unwelcome visitor!
Farmer’s “neighbor”
Hopeless and Hope
Productive and “tolerant” variety
Maximizing economic value
A lone survivor?
Another lone survivor?
Pummelo and seedling variation
Health, with adjacent threat!
Hope and success: Guangxi
Adjacent block: HLB
Success! Beauty!

Recovery in Jiangxi
Professors!!!
Critical part of the plan
Facing the future
Optimism and control
Choices!
A working mosaic!
Factors that influence outcome

- Geography and climate
- Crop value and economics
- Cultivar selection
- Clean nursery stock
- Psyllid control approaches
- Supporting overall tree health
Looking forward with confidence!
Thanks!

Friends in China
FCPRAC
You!