

2026–2027 Florida Citrus Production Guide: Plant Bugs, Chewing Insect Pests, Caribbean Fruit Fly, and Thrips¹

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Recommended Chemical Controls

READ THE LABEL.

Rates for pesticides are given as the maximum amount required to treat mature citrus trees unless otherwise noted. To treat smaller trees with commercial application equipment including handguns, mix the per-acre rate for mature trees in 250 gal of water. Calibrate and arrange nozzles to deliver thorough distribution and treat as many acres as this volume of spray allows.

Table 1. Recommended chemical controls for chewing pests.

IRAC MOA ¹	Pesticide Trade Name	Rate/Acre ²	Comments	Pests Controlled
1A	Carbaryl			
	4L	3 qt	May increase spider mite populations.	Grasshoppers, crickets, katydids, adult root weevils, scale insects
	Sevin XLR	3 qt		
1B	Malathion			
	5EC	6 pt	Do not apply during bloom.	Plant bugs
	8EC	3.75 pt		
11	Bacillus thuringiensis			
	Bacillus thuringiensis	See label	--	Caterpillars (including orange dog)
--	Fire Ant Baits			
6	Clinch	1 lb	Bearing and nonbearing.	Fire ants
7A	Extinguish	1 lb	Bearing and nonbearing. Labeled for aerial application.	
7B	Award	1 lb	Nonbearing only. Two applications/season — spring and late summer.	

¹ Mode of action class for citrus pesticides from the Insecticide Resistance Action Committee (IRAC) Mode of Action Classification v. 11.4 (2025).

² Lower rates may be used on smaller trees. Do not use less than the minimum label rate.

¹ This document is CG108, one of a series of the Department of Entomology and Nematology, UF/IFAS Extension. Original publication date August 2026. Revised annually. Visit the Ask IFAS website at <https://ask.ifas.ufl.edu> for the currently supported version of this publication. © 2026 UF/IFAS. This publication is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND 4.0](#).

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Use pesticides safely. Read and follow directions on the manufacturer's label.

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