

2026–2027 Florida Citrus Production Guide: Citrus Canker¹

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Application Timing Recommendations

- Managing citrus canker where it is endemic has three main methods:
 - Slow the wind speed with windbreaks.
 - Manage citrus leafminer to minimize wounding of the leaves (see chapter 22 of booklet 1, “[Citrus Leafminer](#),” and [chapter 5](#) of booklet 2).
 - Protect canopy with copper or an integrated program of copper with plant immune system activators.
- Copper applications should be made every 21 days on average. Copper residue levels can be assessed with the [Citrus Copper Application Scheduler](#).
 - For early processing oranges, applications should start early April and go to late June or early July.
 - For late hanging or midseason processing oranges, applications should start mid-April and continue until late May or early June.
 - Fresh-market grapefruit applications should start on the mostly expanded spring flush until fruit are completely grown in October.
 - Copper applications for scab, melanose, and greasy spot will also manage citrus canker.
 - Detailed timing information is given in booklet 1.
- Plant immune stimulators can reduce the amount of inoculum and make copper more effective.
 - Actigard: Nonbearing trees (drench applications)
 - Make the first application once trees have recovered from transplant shock.
 - Adjust doses based on tree age and size (Table 2), starting with the lowest for category.
 - Continue applications at 60-day intervals throughout the spring, summer, and fall.
 - Actigard: Bearing trees (drench applications)
 - Make the first application post-bloom but prior to weather favorable for canker.
 - Adjust doses based on tree age and size (Table 2), starting with the lowest for category.
 - Continue applications at 45- to 60-day intervals throughout the spring, summer, and fall, depending on tree size and planting density.
 - Aura Citrus: Foliar applications
 - Only recommended for canopy management of citrus.
 - Recommended to apply with a copper hydroxide product.
 - Apply during the major flush events of spring, summer, and fall.

The rules and regulations regarding canker are changeable. For current information on disease status and regulations, see the website of the [Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services](#) or the [UF/IFAS CREC website](#).

Contact your local UF/IFAS Extension citrus agent for additional information, training materials, and programs at <https://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/>.

Web Addresses for Links

Citrus Copper Application Scheduler:
<http://agroclimate.org/tools/citrus-copper-application-scheduler/>

Citrus Health Response Program, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services website:
<https://www.fdacs.gov/Agriculture-Industry/Pests-and-Diseases/Plant-Pests-and-Diseases/Citrus-Health-Response-Program/CHRP-Resources-for-Industry>

UF/IFAS publication FOR227, “Windbreak Designs and Planting for Florida Agricultural Fields”:
<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/fr289>

UF/IFAS publication PP289, “A Web-Based Tool for Timing Copper Applications in Florida Citrus”:
<https://doi.org/10.32473/edis-pp289-2012>

UF/IFAS CREC website:

<https://crec.ifas.ufl.edu/research/citrus-production/disease-identification/citrus-canker/>

Recommended Chemical Controls

READ THE LABEL.

See Table 1.

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 125 gal of water. Calibrate and arrange nozzles to deliver thorough distribution and treat as many acres as this volume of spray allows.

For applications of Actigard (drench or chemigation), use rates are expressed as the amount of Actigard per tree. Recommended drench water volume is 8 to 16 fl oz/tree.

Table 1. Recommended chemical controls for citrus canker.

Pesticide	FRAC MOA ¹	Mature Trees Rate/Acre ²
Actigard 50WG (formerly Blockade)	P 01	See Table 2.
Aura Citrus	P 09	25.6 fl oz/100 gal. Use of a non-ionic surfactant (NIS) is recommended.
Copper fungicide	M 01	Use label rate.
¹ Mode of action class for citrus pesticides from the Fungicide Resistance Action Committee (FRAC) 2025. Refer to chapter 4, “ Pesticide Resistance and Resistance Management ,” for more details.		
² Lower rates can be used on smaller trees. Do not use less than the minimum label rate.		

Table 2. Recommended rates and use patterns for Actigard 50WG/100 trees.

Number of Applications/Year ¹	Tree Age and Rate ^{2,4} (oz)/100 Trees			
	< 1 year ³	1–2 years	2–3 years	>3 years
4 or fewer	0.125–0.25	0.25–0.50	0.50–0.75	0.75–1.5
5 or more	0.125	0.25	0.50	0.75–1
¹ Minimum interval between applications is 30 days. If tree stunting, yellowing, or other symptoms of possible phytotoxicity are observed, reduce the use rates in subsequent applications to the low end of the recommended rate range and increase the application interval to 60 days.				
² Do not use more than 12.8 oz/acre/year and no more than 3.2 oz/acre/application.				
³ For newly planted trees, delay applications until trees become established and overcome transplant shock. Then initiate treatment at 0.125 oz/100 trees.				
⁴ As tree size increases during the season, dosages should be adjusted toward the upper end of the recommended rate range.				

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

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