

# **THE *CANDIDATUS LIBERIBACTER*-CITRUS PATHOSYSTEM**

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“*Candidatus Liberibacter*” species are associated with economically devastating diseases of citrus, potato, and many other crops. The importance of these diseases as well as the proliferation of new diseases on a wider host range is likely to increase as the insects vectoring the “*Ca. Liberibacter*” species expand their territories worldwide. Here, I will present the progress on understanding the biology and pathogenesis mechanisms of “*Ca. Liberibacter*” species with focus on “*Ca. L. asiaticus*” (Las). Las causes citrus Huanglongbing in Asia, USA and Brazil. I will discuss the *Liberibacter* virulence traits, including secretion systems, putative effectors, and lipopolysaccharides (LPSs), as well as other important traits likely to contribute to disease development, e.g., flagella, prophages, and salicylic acid hydroxylase. I will also discuss what we can learn on disease control from those virulence traits.