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MONITORING *Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama (HEMIPTERA: LIVIIDAE) IN SANTA CATARINA STATE / Monitoramento de *Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama (Hemiptera: Liviidae) em Santa Catarina. M.C. CANALE[1]; R.V. CASTILHOS[1]; L.A.C. MARO[2]; E.C. BRUGNARA[1]. [1]Agricultural Research and Rural Extension Company of Santa Catarina State (Epagri), Chapecó, 89803-904, Brazil. [2]Epagri, Itajaí, 88318-112, Brazil E-mail: cristinacanale@epagri.sc.gov.br

The Asian-citrus-psyllid, *Diaphorina citri*, is the insect vector for "*Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus", the main bacterial pathogen associated with *Huanglongbing* (HLB), which is considered the most destructive citrus disease nowadays. Currently, HLB is absent in Santa Catarina state and such condition is recognized by the Agriculture Ministry. Due to the spread of the disease in Paraná and infected citrus plants already reported in Misiones (Argentina), in addition to the previous report of the psyllid in Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul states (South region, Brazil), a monitoring program for *D. citri* population have been performed aiming the eventual detection of "*Ca*. L. asiaticus" in Santa Catarina. Public agencies involved in research (Epagri) and inspection (Cidasc) are periodically checking 18 citrus orchards along Santa Catarina state since November 2016 using yellow sticky traps (ISCA, Ijuí, RS, Brazil), fortnightly from November 2016 till April 2017, or monthly from May 2017. In each orchard, 4 sticky traps are installed in 4 trees located in the grove border, in the superior part of the trees, facing outwards the orchard. Additional traps were installed in other less expressive orchards and in other trees in the groves already been inspected. Yellow traps are addressed to the Laboratory and are examined for the presence of *D. citri* using a stereomicroscope. Hitherto, we analized 1.108 traps and the psyllid has not been detected. We speculate the climate conditions in Santa Catarina are not appropriate for full development of the Asian-citrus-psyllid populations, and perhaps atypical environmental circumstances that hamper the insect capture may be occurring during this study. Surveys are planned to be taken until October 2017; however, given the importance of the disease, the monitoring program shall be continued.

Key words: Citrus greening; Normative Instruction No. 53; Plant vascular-colonizing bacteria; Insect vector.