



**Fiscal Year 2017
Appropriations Wins**

**Congressman Henry Cuellar
28th Congressional District, TX**

FY '17 Agriculture Appropriations Bill

1. Funding for Fruit Fly eradication and facilities.

“\$1,500,000 for fruit fly exclusion and detection”

“Facilities for Fruit Fly Eradication.-In Section 743, the Committee provides \$30,000,000 for the improvement and repair of facilities and infrastructure related to the research and production of fruit fly eradication initiatives. Recent fruit fly contaminations have cost producers more than \$1,100,000,000 in economic loss. The Committee directs APHIS to provide a report and consult with the Committee on plans for construction and location of the new facilities.”

2. Increase of \$5 million for CHRP under Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. Combined with funding from the Farm Bill this totals \$53.8 million.

“\$5,000,000 for Citrus Health Response Program.

3. \$5.5 million for Huanglongbing Multi-Agency Coordination Group under the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

“\$5,500,000 for Huanglongbing Multi-Agency Coordination Group”

4. Language supporting the Citrus Industry and the response to citrus greening disease.

“Huanglongbing Emergency Response - The Committee encourages APHIS to allocate sufficient resources in order to continue vital management, control, and associated activities to address citrus greening. The disease, for which there is no cure, has caused a reduction in citrus production by over 60% since 2007 in Florida alone. All citrus producing counties in Texas are under quarantine, and California has found the Asian Citrus Psyllid, the vector of the disease, in some backyard trees. The spread of this disease has called the domestic citrus industry’s future into question, costing thousands of jobs and millions in lost revenue. In addition, the agency is encouraged to support priorities and strategies identified by the Huanglongbing Multi-Agency Co-ordination group which will benefit the citrus industry. The agency should appropriately allocate resources based on critical need and maximum effect to the citrus industry.”

“Citrus Greening Disease Research - The Committee commends the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) on its’ research efforts on citrus greening disease and encourages the agency to continue working to develop methods to reduce transmission and enhance immunity in citrus trees and to work with industry, universities, growers, and other partners to develop effective control mechanisms. The Committee also encourages ARS to coordinate its efforts with the Multi-Agency Coordination group.”

“Citrus Health Response Program (CHRP) - CHRP is a national effort to protect the U.S. citrus industry from the ravages of invasive pests and diseases. These funds are designed to partner with state departments of agriculture and industry groups to address the challenges of citrus pests and diseases. In addition to the funds provided in this account, the Committee encourages APHIS to utilize the funds available in the Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Programs account to the

greatest extent possible in an attempt to sustain the economic viability of the citrus industry.”

“Citrus Disease Research Program - The 2014 farm bill established the Emergency Citrus Disease Research and Extension Program, which is intended to discover and develop tools for early detection, control, and eradication of diseases and pests that threaten domestic citrus production and processing, and provided \$25,000,000 per year in mandatory funding for the program through the Specialty Crop Research Initiative. The Committee believes research projects funded under this authority should be prioritized based on the critical threat of citrus greening and encourages National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), to the maximum extent practicable, to follow the recommendations of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Advisory Board’s citrus disease subcommittee and to collaborate with the Huanglongbing Multi-Agency Coordination group.”