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Oily Specks in Rangpur Lime: A New Graft-Transmissible Disorder from Andhra Pradesh, India

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A graft-transmissible disease of Rangpur lime, characterized by severe reduction in leaf size and dark green, oily spots on the underside of leaves, was noted in the nurseries at Citrus Improvement Project, Tirupati.

Leaves on diseased trees are small and show numerous oil specks with depressions in the center or the lower leaf surface. When viewed against transmitted light, these specks on the veins look like vein-clearing symptoms. Discoloration on the upper surface makes the leaf appear paler than normal, and leaf margins are often distorted.

Buds from an affected plant were used to inoculate Rangpur lime, Sathgudi, acid lime, and Lisbon lemon. Inoculated plants were incubated in the

glasshouse for 1 year. Symptoms were noted only on Rangpur lime, and appeared 6 months after inoculation. Further serial transmissions to Rangpur lime were made and symptoms were again expressed in 6 to 6-1/2 months.

The transmission of the full range of symptoms on Rangpur lime indicates the disease is graft-transmissible. Since Rangpur lime was recently introduced as a rootstock for Sathgudi in the State of Andhra Pradesh, the effect of this new disease on Sathgudi scions under field conditions remains to be studied. From the leaf symptoms, we conclude that this is a new viruslike disease of Rangpur lime, and have tentatively named it "oily specks in Rangpur lime."