



## Topic: Citrus Greening and Lakeview Jasmine Clash

**Question:** I was told that if you put a 'Lakeview' jasmine near a citrus, it will kill the citrus. Have you heard of that? I planted a Lakeview jasmine very close to my pink grapefruit tree and I sure don't want anything to happen to it.

Karen, email

**Answer:** Citrus greening is a disease that is transmitted from 'Lakeview' and orange jasmines (*Murraya paniculata*) to a wide variety of citrus trees. The disease is a bacterium that is moved around by an insect known as the citrus psyllid, *Diaphorina citri*. Citrus greening is a recent and very serious disease of citrus that has caused the decline of many trees in our area. The insect vectors the bacterium by sucking the sap of infected and healthy plants alike. The psyllid is a flying insect thus movement of the bacterium is quite effective. Citrus trees become symptomatic but 'Lakeview' and orange jasmines remain symptom free.

There are two schools of thought on what to do. Some would propose the removal of nearby 'Lakeview' and orange jasmines so as to reduce incidence of the disease on citrus. Others argue that the citrus greening inoculum is everywhere and destroying the jasmines in ones backyard has little effect on the spread of the disease. Now-a-days, 'Lakeview' and orange jasmines cannot be sold unless they are grown in a quarantined shelter protected from the psyllid. Thus, these once popular plants are now difficult to find. Neither the 'Lakeview' nor orange jasmines are true jasmines. The psyllid does not feed on the many true species of jasmines and those plants are not host to the bacterium.



### Useful Links

[Citrus Greening Disease](#)  
[Stephen's Webpage](#)

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