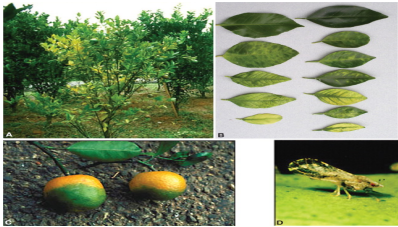


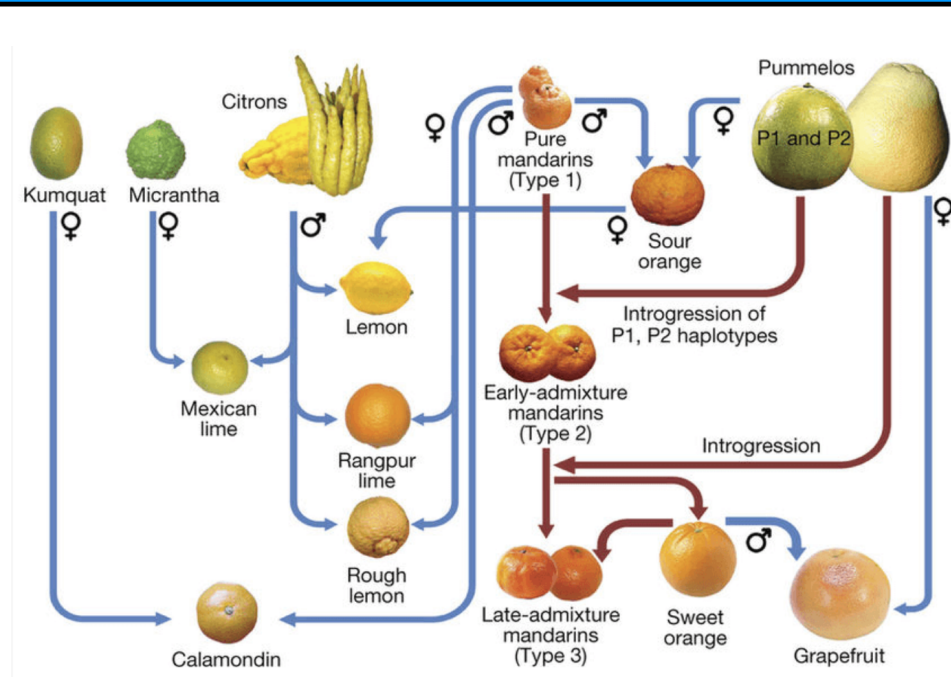
# The Benefits of GMO Citrus Crops by: Kayla Siguenza for BIO 214 (Environmental Problems)

## Threat Close To Home

Citrus greening disease, also known as Huanglongbing (HLB), or yellow dragon disease is the most serious plant disease out there.



The disease is spread by disease-infected insects. The insects that carry this disease are the Asian citrus psyllid, also known as *Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama or ACP.



Fruits that everyone loves today such as, oranges, limes, lemons, and grapefruits are all around due to ancient genetic modification. Genetically modifying fruits has many benefits such as, bacteria resistance, seedless citrus, sweeter fruits, & scab-tolerance.

## Threat Close To Home (Cont...)

Once a tree is infected, there is no cure. Most trees that are infected die within a few years. Symptoms of the disease include: fruit that remains green even when ripe & hard/bitter fruit. This makes the fruit inedible/unusable. The modifying would make them resistant to the disease.



80% of Florida's orange trees are infected with CGD. Almost every orchard in the state has been infected. The only hope for oranges is genetic modification. They are going to try to genetically modify the trees to be resistant to the disease. The fate of our oranges depend on it

