A Summary of Virus Diseases of Citrus in Tunisia

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This report summarizes our findings on the incidence of psorosis, cachexia-xyloporosis, stubborn, and exocortis viruses in orchard trees in Tunisia.

Scaly bark psorosis.—This disease affects many varieties of sweet orange (Citrus sinensis Osb.). It was also observed on the willow leaf tangerine (C. reticulata Blanco) variety Arbi.

Concave gum.—This disorder was frequently observed on the Arbi variety of tangerine, on the Algerian tangerine, and to a lesser degree on some varieties of C. sinensis.

Blind pocket.—Certain varieties of C. sinensis, and willow leaf and Algerian tangerine trees are affected by blind pocket. Of all the sweet orange varieties, Oval maltese (Maltaise blonde) is the most susceptible to this disease.

Cachexia-xyloporosis.—This is a common disease of the Arbi variety of tangerine and the Algerian tangerine. The inverse-pitting was also observed on the lemon tree (C. limon Burm. f.).

Stubborn.—This is a serious disease in Tunisia. It affects the Meski and Valencia sweet orange varieties and the Arbi and Algerian tangerine varieties.

Exocortis.—Because of the general use of bitter orange roostock (C. aurantiun L.), exocortis is an uncommon disease in Tunisia. However, a few cases of exocortis affecting Thomson navel grafted on Poncirus trifoliata are noted.