

The background of the slide is a faded, semi-transparent image of citrus fruit and flowers. It shows two large, bright yellow-orange citrus fruits, likely grapefruit or orange, with green leaves and a single white citrus blossom with a yellow center. The overall tone is light and natural.

# **Post Mechanical Harvesting Production Practices**

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# Mechanical Harvesting Systems



The background of the slide features a close-up photograph of two ripe, yellow-orange citrus fruits, likely oranges, hanging from a branch. The fruits are surrounded by green leaves and a single white flower with a yellow center. The entire image is semi-transparent, allowing the text to be clearly visible.

# Outline

- Irrigation system check
- Debris clean up
- Fungicide application
- Pre Harvest Practices

# Post Harvesting Assessment

- Think of post harvest assessment in terms of:
  - Aesthetic
    - Pertaining to a sense of beautiful
    - Pertaining to, involving, or concerned with pure emotions and sensation
  - Economics
    - Financial considerations; economical significant aspects

Post harvest appearance of any grove is lower after any harvest method, mechanical or hand harvest

# Irrigation System Check

- Check irrigation system:
  - Emitters are in proper position
  - Repair any broken or damaged irrigation lines



# Limb Clean Up

- Remove or mow up limbs after harvest
- Many limbs that are damaged or broken may have previous damage



# Debris Cleanup

- Prune broken or severely damaged limb(s) from tree and remove from grove
- Broken branches are more problematic the first time MH is conducted in the grove
- Proper tree configuration (hedging, topping height, and skirting) minimizes problem



# Exposed Roots

- Trunk shake systems
  - Some roots may be exposed
- Maintain adequate soil moisture prior to and after harvest to aid in water loss/stress after harvesting





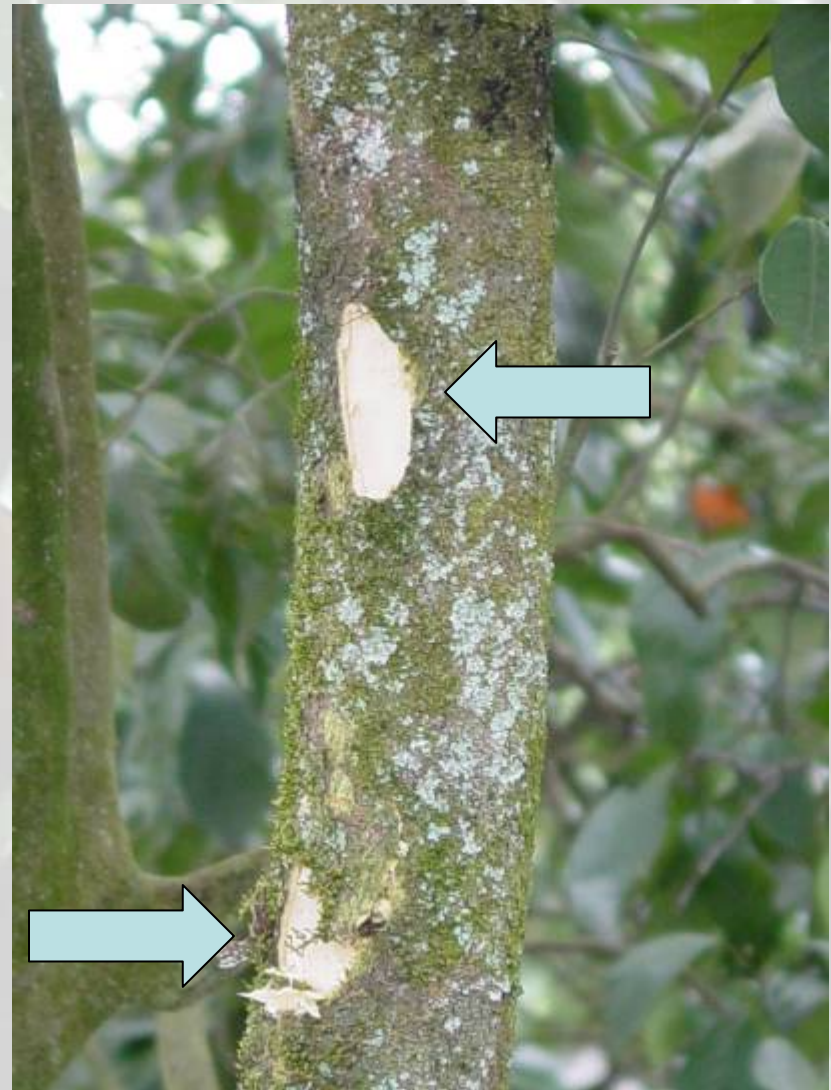
# Trunk Damage

- The questions:
  - To Paint or Not to Paint.
  - Trunk treatment with phytophthora preventive chemicals
    - Ridomil
    - Alliette
    - Phosphites
- The answer to both is:
  - No



# Limb Damage

- The questions:
  - To Paint or Not to Paint
- The answer
  - No
- Remember the freezes of 1983, 1985
  - recommendation was not to paint cut areas within the canopy



# Fungicide Application to Improve Root Health After Mechanical Harvesting

- No recommendations
- For development of phytophthora you need:
  - Warm soil temps
  - Elevated counts
  - Susceptible rootstock
- You would only treat if needed based upon the above regardless of harvesting method

# Pre Harvest Preparation

The background of the slide is a photograph of an orange tree. It shows several ripe, bright orange fruits hanging from the branches, surrounded by green leaves. The image is slightly faded to allow the text to be clearly visible.

- Proper grove preparation
  - Improves harvesting efficiency
  - Minimizes:
    - Broken branches
    - Damage to irrigation system
    - Un harvested fruit
    - Trash in load
      - glass
      - cans
      - limbs

# Grove Preparation

- Tree size control
- Tree skirting
- Leveling soil surface if using pick up machine
- Controlling water in drain middles to allow equipment to operate successfully.

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# Conclusion

- Check irrigation system
- Remove broken or severely damaged limbs
- Aesthetic vs Economics