

# Arizona Citrus Grove Protocol

Regenerative soil health for established citrus groves. Improve water-use efficiency, nutrient uptake, and fruit quality while keeping trees balanced and productive.

# The Citrus Opportunity

Citrus rewards consistency: steady moisture, steady nutrition, and steady soil biology. In arid and alkaline conditions, irrigation efficiency and micronutrient availability often become the limiting factors.

**15–22%**

WATER REDUCTION\*

**50+**

YEAR GROVE POTENTIAL

**+30%**

INFILTRATION

**Quality**

PACKOUT + BRIX

\*Targets depend on soil texture, water quality, and irrigation system. Results vary by site.

## Program Objectives



### Water Efficiency

Better soil function so irrigation runs do more work



### Nutrient Access

Improve uptake of micronutrients in alkaline soils



### Soil Structure

Reduce crusting and compaction near the wet zone



### Fruit Quality

Support Brix, peel quality, and consistent sizing

## Expected Performance Improvements

### Water Efficiency

15–22%

### Micronutrient Availability

Up

### Soil Organic Matter

+1–2 pts

### Infiltration

+20–35%

**Plain-English Summary:** We improve the root zone so trees can access water and nutrition more reliably. That usually shows up as steadier growth, fewer stress swings, and better fruit consistency.

# The Biology Protocol

Citrus performs best with a balanced-to-fungal soil biology. The goal is efficient roots and consistent fruit—without stimulating unnecessary canopy flush.

**~1.2:1**

FUNGAL : BACTERIAL

**AMF**

MYCORRHIZAE TYPE

**Regulate**

NOT "PUSH"

## Year 1: Three-Step Foundation

1

### Compost Band (Under Canopy)

Stabilized compost to build carbon and improve wet-zone structure.

2

### Woody Carbon Cover

Thin woody layer to protect biology and reduce evaporation.

3

### Extract Program (2-3x / Year)

Balanced-to-fungal extract through micro/drip for root-zone support.

**What This Avoids:** Over-stimulating nitrogen, bacterial-heavy "growth" teas, and aggressive disturbance that breaks structure.

## Expected Outcomes

More Consistent Fruit

Higher stability

Water-Use Efficiency

15–22%

# Program Components



## Implementation Timeline



## Application Rates & Methods

COMPONENT	YEAR 1	MAINTENANCE	APPLICATION METHOD
Compost Blend	½–1"	Top-up	Banded in wet zone under canopy
Woody Carbon	2–4"	Top-up	Under canopy, breathable layer
Extract Drench	3x	2–3x	Drip/micro: early season, fruit set, summer
Mycorrhizae (AMF)	Seasonal	As needed	Applied to wet zone, watered in
Seriokai's Secret	Targeted	Targeted	Micronutrients based on leaf/soil test (pH-aware)

**Simple rule:** Build biology and structure first, then fine-tune nutrition. Citrus responds best to consistency, not spikes.

Rates customized by soil test, irrigation water quality, and grove conditions.

# Capital Investment

This is an investment in consistent root function and fruit quality — the foundation of packout and long-term performance.

 <b>Soil Asset Value</b> Build fertility that increases land value and productivity.	 <b>Production Capacity</b> Support consistent size, peel quality, and Brix.
 <b>Water Security</b> Better soil function means better irrigation efficiency.	 <b>Long-Term Stability</b> Less stress volatility and more predictable crop cycles.

## Projected 5-Year Snapshot

METRIC	BASELINE	YEAR 3	YEAR 5
Water Use (example)	100%	86–90%	78–85%
Micronutrient Efficiency	Limited	Improving	Stable
Root Function	Variable	Improving	More stable
Fruit Consistency	Variable	Improving	More consistent

\*Illustrative snapshot. Actual results vary by soil, water quality, climate, and management.

## Key Performance Indicators



**Management Philosophy:** Citrus doesn't want "more" — it wants consistent. This program uses biology to stabilize and regulate the system.

## CONTACT

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