



UNIVERSITY OF  
FLORIDA

IFAS EXTENSION

# West Central Citrus Letter

## DeSoto Extension Service

2150 NE Roan Street • Arcadia FL 34266  
863/993-4846

## Hardee Extension Service

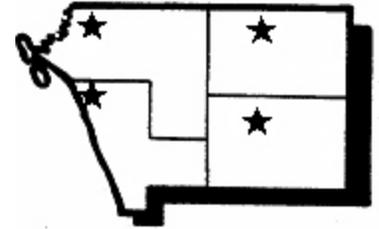
507 Civic Center Drive • Wauchula FL 33873  
863/773-2164

## Manatee Extension Service

1303 17th Street West • Palmetto FL 34221  
941/722-4524

## Sarasota Extension Service

2900 Ringling Blvd • Sarasota FL 34237  
941/316-1000



February 20, 2009

### Safety Morning, March 10, 2009

The annual Safety Morning will be held at the Turner Exhibition Hall in Arcadia on Tuesday, March 10. The program will begin with registration at 7:00 AM and the training session will start at 7:30 AM. The event will conclude at 11:00 AM. The Safety Morning program will cover various topics including: worker protection standards handler training; equipment safety (ATV and tractor); farm first aid; and PPE – heat stress, clothing, respirator, hearing, and eye and hand protection.

To register for the safety morning, please see the enclosed registration form. A pre-registration fee of \$3.00 per person is requested prior to March 5, 2009. CEUs in Core have been requested.

### Pesticide License Review and Testing, March 18, 2009

A three-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at the Hardee County Extension Service Office at 507 Civic Center Drive in Wauchula. The class will review the materials contained in the tests to obtain a private applicator pesticide license. The class will begin at 9:00 A.M. and conclude at noon with the test being given at 1:00 P.M. Three CEUs (2 Core and 1 Private) will be offered to individuals which have a current pesticide license and will be renewing using CEUs. A registration fee of \$25.00 per person is charged to cover the study manuals and refreshments. To attend the class for only CEUs, the registration fee is \$5.00. If you wish to attend the class to obtain CEUs or to take the test, please call the Hardee County Extension Service office at 863-773-2164 to register. Pre-registration is requested prior to March 11, 2009.

### Blueberry Event, March 12, 2009

The spring Florida blueberry program is scheduled for Thursday, March 12, 2009 at the Hardee County Agri-Civic Center in Wauchula, starting at 8:00 AM. There will be an excellent educational program on pertinent topics such as Food Safety,

BMPs and mechanical harvesting, highlighted by a presentation on organic production by Dr. Gerard Krewer from the Tifton Campus of the University of Georgia. After the educational session, there will be a field visit at an organic farm owned by one of the major blueberry producers in the state.

For more information about the event, please see the Florida Blueberry Growers' website:

<http://www.floridablueberrygrowers.com/>

Pre-registration for the event is requested prior to the meeting and is \$12 for members and \$25 for non members.

### Florida Citrus Growers Institute, April 7, 2009, Bartow

The citrus Extension agents will be conducting the Citrus Greening Symposium on April 7<sup>th</sup> at the Stuart Conference Center in Bartow, FL. The program will highlight a number of presentations by researchers and growers dealing with citrus greening or Huanglongbing (HLB). Program topics include: production systems & plant improvement; vector management; horticultural responses to HLB; and disease detection & spread.

The program is free to the first 300 participants and requires advanced registration. To register for the event, please see the enclosed program with its registration form.

Continuing education units (CEUs) for the program have been requested for both the holders of restricted use pesticides as well as certified crop advisors.

### Mechanical Harvesting Field Day, April 22, 2009

The 2009 annual Spring Citrus Mechanical Harvesting Field Day will be conducted at the Southwest Florida Research & Education Center in Immokalee on April 22, 2009. This year's theme is titled "Addressing Processors' Questions." There will be presentations on processors' concerns and the opportunity for you to ask citrus processor representatives questions. An optional morning field trip will include an opportunity to observe the OXBO canopy shaker and other harvesting equipment, as well as an abscission demonstration.

To attend the field trip, you need to call and reserve your seat on the bus by April 7th. Seats are limited. To learn more, please click on the **Citrus Mechanical Harvesting** link <http://citrusmh.ifas.ufl.edu> or you can contact Barbara Hyman at (239) 658-3400 or email her at [hymanb@ufl.edu](mailto:hymanb@ufl.edu).

### **Brazil Citrus Tour**

The Extension Service will be conducting a tour to visit the citrus industry in the states of Sao Paulo and Parana, Brazil. The tour will depart from Miami on May 23 and return on May 31, 2009. The citrus tour will visit groves in the Araraquara and Limeria area for three days. This part of the tour will focus mainly on citrus disease management with a special attention on citrus greening, CVC and other citrus pests. The three days spent in the state of Parana will focus mainly on citrus canker control strategies. In addition to the week-long citrus tour, participants can elect to visit the Citrus Week activities at the Sylvio Moreira Citrus Center in Cordeiropolis (May 30-June 2). The Citrus Week activities are very similar to the Citrus Expo with presentations and a large equipment show. The cost of the tour is \$3,000 which includes airfare, hotel, ground transportation and limited meals. The optional days to attend the Citrus Week activities are an additional \$550.

For more information on the tour or a complete itinerary, please contact Steve Futch at the Citrus Research & Education Center in Lake Alfred at 863-956-1151 or by email at [shf@ufl.edu](mailto:shf@ufl.edu).

### **Agri-Mek Label Change**

Syngenta Crop Protection has received approval for the aerial application of Agri-Mek® Miticide/Insecticide for the control of citrus leafminer to aid in the management of citrus canker. This label is effective immediately. Supplemental label should be used by all applicators until product is available with the revised label. The supplemental labels and a revised Best Use Guidelines have been distributed to all local retail outlets.

### **Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)**

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) is offering financial and technical assistance to participants to install or implement structural and management practices on agricultural land. The program is accepting applications until March 13, 2009. If you would like more information on their program, please contact the Wauchula office at 863-773-4764 ext 3. Also enclosed with this newsletter is a flier prepared by the NRCS that highlights their program.

### **Low Volume Applications (Fogging)**

Over the last six months there has been a lot of discussion relative to low volume applications in citrus to control the psyllid. A number of growers and agencies have been actively encouraging FDACS and EPA to expand the label to allow the use of Seven, Cygon, Malathion and Micromite in low volume application systems.

It appears that Sevin XLR, Carbaryl insecticide and Dimethoate 4E do not have restrictions on the amount of diluent that must be applied per acre. Therefore, these products may be applied in as much carrier (water) as needed to obtain adequate coverage. Of course, oil is currently legal in low volume applications as well.

Agrisolutions Malathion 5 label requires not less than 3 gallons of water per acre to be used for applications in citrus. Since the application is being made to a specific crop, those directions for use would supersede the directions for use for the control of adult mosquitoes outdoors.

The IR-4 program is working on Mustang and Delegate with a box tax grant. Once the residue work is done (hopefully in less than a month) the information will be available to the manufacturers for the 24c package.

It is likely that 5 or 6 products will be legal before the summer is over and 3 are legal today in low volume systems. As with any pesticide, be sure to read the label and follow directions on the product label that you presently have in your possession.

### **Increased Inspections**

The Department of Business and Professional Regulations (DBPR) has assigned 16 additional inspectors to conduct routine checks, inspections, and investigations of farm labor contractor employees including field sanitation, payment of wages and passenger vehicle safety. These inspections are to ensure protections to the farm workers and that current rules and regulations are being followed.

### **Dates to remember:**

March 10	Safety Morning, Arcadia
March 12	Blueberry Field Day, Wauchula
March 18	Pesticide License Review and Testing, Wauchula
April 7	Citrus Growers Institute, Bartow
April 22	Mechanical Harvesting Field Day, Immokalee

Sincerely,

*Stephen H. Futch*

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Enclosures: Safety Morning program flier  
Citrus Greening Symposium  
EQIP program flier