Citrus Newsletter to Go Electronic

I am sure that everyone has heard of proposed budget reductions for all governmental agencies, including the University of Florida. Effective November 1, 2009 funding for bulk mailing of newsletters will no longer be provided by the University. In an effort to reduce mailing costs, the University is encouraging all Extension agents to move as many recipients of their newsletters to an electronic format as possible. By providing an email address to send future newsletters, we will be able to increase timeliness of receiving information and reduce our costs. To send us your email address, please forward it to Ms. Jane Wilson at mjw@crec.ifas.ufl.edu or by calling her at 863-956-1151 ext. 1309.

For individuals that do not have email or those that do not want to receive the newsletter electronically, I will be working on other ways to fund the printed version that may include a subscription fee or sponsorship (advertisements) to allow the newsletter to be sent in a printed form.

Greening Symposium Posting to the Web

For growers who were unable to attend the Greening Symposium that was held on April 7, 2009 or would like to review the presented information, presentations can be viewed by going to the citrus agent’s web site at: http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/. Once at the site, look for the link to the Greening Symposium to view the presentations. All recorded presentations should be available in early May.

Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing, May 13, 2009

A three-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Wednesday, May 13, 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 that 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 May 7, 2009.

Worker Protection Standards, Train-the-Trainer Training, May 20, 2009

A training session will be conducted from 3:00 PM until 4:45 PM at the Extension Service Office in Arcadia on Wednesday, May 20, 2009. The session will cover the worker protection standards (WPS)
information required under the rule to train employees as a pesticide handler or workers.

Please remember that all pesticide handlers must be trained prior to handling tasks. Employees that are classified as workers must be trained within five days of working in areas that have had pesticides applied within the last 30 days. All employees must be retrained every five years.

Two continuing education units (CEUs) will be offered to individuals with restricted use pesticide licenses. CEUs in the private, ag tree, row crop and ornamental and turf categories are offered for this WPS training class for those with a restricted use pesticide license.

To register for the class, please call the Extension Service Office in Arcadia at 863-993-4846. A registration fee of $5.00 per person is required. Pre-registration requested prior to May 15, 2009.

CORE CEUs

Over the next 12 months, a series of Core CEUs are being developed and printed in Citrus Industry magazine. Each article will provide 1 CEU in the Core category. The first article appeared in the March issue with subsequent articles in June, September and December. To obtain 1 CEU, please read the article and then complete and return the test as directed. These articles will also be posted to the citrus agent’s web site at: http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/. The articles can only be completed one time and is valid for 1-year after the publication date.

Products Labeled for Low Volume Applications to Control Citrus Psyllids

In the past, the Florida Department of Agriculture has indicated that dimethoate, Sevin and oil can be applied in low volume applications as low as 2 gallons per acre. Additional label changes are being worked on to support changes for Mustang, Delegate and Micromite. When completed, these changes would allow growers to alternate between products to minimize the risk of developing pesticide resistance by the target pest (psyllid).

In the case of Agrisolutions Malathion 5, it requires an application in a volume of not less than 3 gallons per acre. This restriction would require slightly more application volume than some of the other products.

As with all pesticide products, please read and follow the directions. Remember the pesticide label is the law.

Low Volume vs. Fogging

New technologies are being developed to support low volume applications in as low as 2 gallons per acre. This application method should not be confused with ultra low volume fogging. Fogging applications have historically been used in mosquito control. In these fogging applications, they want suspended particles to be placed in the air where they come in contact with the flying insect pest (mosquito). However in citrus, the grower wants the low volume mist application to deposit the pesticide on the tree and thus kill the psyllid upon contact with the pesticide. Citrus growers do not want the application to create a drift as in fogging but wants the pesticide to reach the tree and penetrate into the canopy to provide longer term control of the psyllids. While this wording (low volume vs. fogging) may not seem greatly different, it is important to understand the differences and comply with the regulations.

Danitol Receives 24(c) Registration

The Department of Agriculture has granted a ‘Special Local Need’ label for Danitol 2.4 EC. This new registration will allow its use in low volume ground application in a minimum of 2.0 gallons of finished spray solution per acre by ground for the control of Asian citrus psyllid. If making applications of the product, please be sure to have an updated label in your possession at the time of pesticide application. Additionally, please read the pesticide label and follow all applicable recommendations.

Admire PRO Receives a 2(ee) Registration

Bayer CropScience has received a Section 2(ee) label for Admire PRO for the suppression of citrus canker for citrus trees up to 8 feet tall. The product has specific requirements for application as well as maximum rate per acre per year. Please contact your chemical company representative or myself and we will be glad to supply you with an updated label. If making applications of the product, please be sure to have an updated label in your possession at the time of pesticide application. Additionally, please read the pesticide label and follow all applicable recommendations.
Clinch Fire Ant Bait Receives Registration for Aerial Application in Citrus

Syngenta Crop Protection has received registration for aerial application in citrus for Clinch fire ant bait. The supplemental label information should be read and followed in regards to the applicable direction, restrictions, and precautions on the label on or attached to the pesticide product container. When making applications of the product, please be sure to have an updated label in your possession at the time of pesticide application.

Dates to Remember
May 13 Pesticide License Review and Testing, Wauchula
May 20 WPS Train-the-Trainer, Arcadia

Sincerely,

Stephen H. Futch

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