

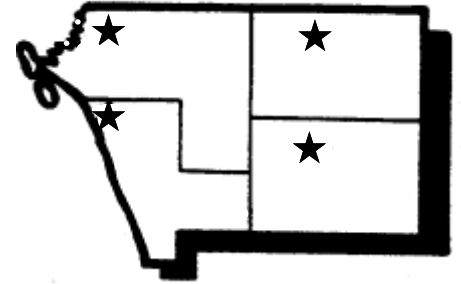
West Central Citrus Letter

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

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

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

Sarasota Extension Service
6700 Clark Road • Sarasota FL 34241
941/861-9900



June 24, 2011

Copper Application Scheduler Meeting, July 12

The University of Florida's Extension Service will be hosting a series of meetings around the state in late June and July to discuss the new copper (Cu) scheduler for use in citrus. The meeting for the Peace River citrus area will be held at the DeSoto County Extension Service Office at 2150 NE Roan Street in Arcadia. This meeting location is directly across from the DeSoto County High School. The program will begin at 10 AM and conclude prior to noon. Please call 863-993-4847 to attend the meeting.

This model will aid growers in understanding the copper residues after weathering (rain and wind) and dilution from fruit expansion during early growth. Some growers may over- or under-spray, which leads to environmental concerns, Cu phytotoxicity to fruit and/or poor disease control. After spraying trees with different amounts of copper fungicides using various water volumes per tree, Cu on fruit surfaces was analyzed over time to develop the model. These data were used to build a Cu spray scheduling recommendation system (CuSSRS) that predicts initial residue after application depending on spray volume rate and Cu content. In addition, the CuSSRS predicts dilution and loss of the Cu residue as fruit grow and rainfall weathering occurs.

The model indicates a warning and a danger level of low residual Cu based on necessary levels of Cu for disease control, thus providing the grower with advanced notice of the need to re-spray. The system was grower tested for six years. Verification data on efficacy and actual versus predicted residues were collected over a three-year period. These tests indicated the CuSSRS works reasonably well and can reduce the need for copper fungicide sprays, in some cases.

Continuing education units (CEUs) have been

requested for both the restricted use pesticide and certified crop advisory licenses. Please see the enclosed program flier for additional meeting locations and dates.

DeSoto Citrus Health Management Area Development Meeting, July 19

The Extension Service will be hosting a meeting to develop additional citrus health management areas (CHMAs) for DeSoto County on July 19th. The grower meeting will begin at 10 AM at the DeSoto County Extension Service Office, 2150 NE Roan Street which is across from the DeSoto County High School in Arcadia.

Currently, one CHMA is established in the NE section of DeSoto County and has been very effective in coordinating regional sprays to suppress psyllids. Four CHMAs have been developed for Hardee County with their first spray application being suggested for June 2011. Grower involvement in these CHMAs has been excellent.

Growers in DeSoto County should participate in the formation of additional CHMAs for the county by attending the meeting on the 19th of July. Additionally, we are in need of a few volunteers to help coordinate these new pest management areas by serving as area captains or leaders. If you are willing to assist with these new DeSoto CHMAs, please call me at 863-956-1151 or contact me by email at shf@ufl.edu. Growers collectively joining together in the psyllid and greening battle can achieve greater success by working together than will be achieved by individual efforts.

By participating in these meetings, growers will be better able to suppress psyllids on a larger area offering greater insect suppression which will hopefully lead to reduced spread of greening in area groves.

Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing (Core & Private), August 16, 2011

A three-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Tuesday, August 16, 2011 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 review session 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 having a current pesticide license and will be renewing using CEUs. A registration fee of \$38.00 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 August 9, 2011.

Citrus Expo, August 17-18, 2011, Ft. Myers

The 20th annual Citrus Expo will be held in Ft. Myers at the Lee County Civic Center on August 17th and 18th. The program's theme is "Proactive Innovations for a Positive Future." The first day's program (Wednesday, Aug. 17) will begin with early registration and prayer breakfast at 7 AM and with lectures beginning at 9:30 AM. The program concludes around 4 PM. Thursday's program (Aug. 18) will begin at 9 AM and conclude after lunch. Lunch will be provided on both days to all registered program participants.

Multiple CEUs for the Restricted Use Pesticide and Certified Crop Advisory licenses will be offered on both days.

For more information on the program or to pre-register, please go to www.CitrusExpo.net or by calling 352-671-1909.

Florida Minimum Wage Increases

The state's minimum wage has increased by 6 cents per hour to \$7.31 on June 1, 2011. Please be aware of the wage increase and ensure that you are in compliance with the new minimum wage rate for all employees.

UF Citrus Courses at CREC

Advanced Citriculture I - HOS 6545 and Advanced Citriculture II - HOS 6546 will be offered this coming academic year in the Fall of 2011 and Spring of 2012, respectively, at the Citrus Research and Education Center (CREC) and via UF Distance Education locations on the

main campus and in citrus production areas. The Fall semester course, covering regulation of vegetative growth of citrus, will be offered on Mondays, 4-7 PM, from August 22nd through December 5th and the Spring semester course, on regulation of reproductive growth of citrus, will be offered on Mondays, 4-7 PM, starting January 9th. The in-person site will be conducted from the CREC, Lake Alfred or students can participate in class by interactive Internet Video-Audio Conferencing. Students will review literature on climatic, physiological, production practices and other factors as they influence vegetative or reproductive development of citrus. Students will read assigned literature, prepare short reports on several papers and then participate in a lecture-discussion session on the assigned topic each week. This is a 3-unit course and will cost \$1365 to \$1569 depending on tuition increase for in-state students. These courses are available in continuing education or as regular graduate school offerings. Interested students should have taken basic plant physiology, citrus production courses or have several years of citrus production experience. Please contact Dr. L. Gene Albrigo (863) 956-1151 or albrigo@ufl.edu for further information and procedure for class enrollment.

Dates to remember:

- July 12 Copper Scheduler Meeting, DeSoto County Extension Service, Arcadia
- July 19 CHMA Developmental Meeting for DeSoto County, DeSoto County Extension Service, Arcadia
- Aug. 16 Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing, Hardee County Extension Service, Wauchula
- Aug. 17-18 Citrus Expo, Lee County Civic Center, Ft. Myers

Sincerely,

Stephen H. Futch

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Enc: Citrus Copper Application Scheduler Meeting Series
Citrus Expo program flier