

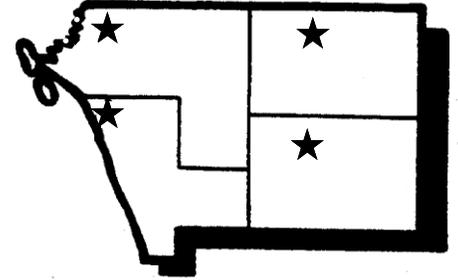
## West Central Citrus Letter

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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

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



April 27, 2012

### **Citrus Irrigation Scheduling Workshop, Wednesday, May 23, Arcadia**

Citrus requires about 50 inches of water each year to remain healthy and productive. Rainfall in Florida averages just over 50 inches, however, most of the rain occurs during the summer rainy season and our sandy soils do not retain sufficient moisture to maximize tree and fruit growth between rains. Irrigation during the year is required to produce maximum yields, particularly for trees impacted by diseases or grown in soils with low water holding capacity.

Retaining nutrients in the root zone and improved water availability is the basis of the Advanced Citrus Production Systems being developed and promoted by the University of Florida. These systems allow fertilizer nutrients, fungicides and systemic insecticides to remain in the root zone longer to support healthier trees when irrigation is properly scheduled. Proper irrigation scheduling also reduces leaching of applied nutrients and agrochemicals from the root zone. A series of speakers will provide information on: temperature and rainfall outlook for the rest of 2012; importance of irrigation scheduling to increase nutrient uptake and reduce leaching of fertilizers and pesticides; methods of irrigation scheduling including soil moisture sensors; and, tools that use estimation of tree water use

(evapotranspiration) as a guide for irrigation scheduling.

The workshop will be conducted at the Turner Agri Civic Center Exhibition Hall in Arcadia. The program begins at 10 AM and concludes at noon with a sponsored lunch. Pre-registration is required prior to May 21 to allow for an adequate number of meals for all attendees. To pre-register, please contact the DeSoto County Extension Service Office at 863-993-4846 prior to May 21.

**Lunch Sponsors:** Southwest Florida Water Management District and FAWN

**Program Agenda:** 10:00 AM – 12 Noon  
May 23, 2012

- 1) Climate review
  - a. 2012 weather outlook
- 2) Irrigation scheduling principles
  - a. improve nutrient uptake and
  - b. practices to reduce potential leaching of agrichemicals
- 3) Methods of irrigation scheduling for Advanced Citrus Production
  - a. Use of soil moisture sensors for irrigation scheduling
  - b. Estimation of tree water use using evapotranspiration
  - c. Available tools for irrigation scheduling

### **Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing, May 30, 2012**

A three-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Wednesday, May 30, 2012 at the Hardee County Extension Service Office at 507 Civic Center Drive in Wauchula. The class will review the materials contained in the test 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 \$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 May 23, 2012.

### **Citrus Rootstock Selection Guide**

Growers have been asking questions related to tolerances, horticultural traits and pest and disease resistance of citrus rootstocks like US-802, US-812, US-852, US-897 and Kinkoji. In an effort to supply you with current information on these and other citrus rootstocks, we reformatted the information published in the University of Florida's SP248 into a single table and have included it in this newsletter for your use. This table will also allow you to compare these newer rootstocks with the industry standards like Carrizo, Cleo, Sour Orange and Swingle.

### **Citrus Pest Management Guides**

The 2012 Citrus Pest Management Guides are now printed and available at the local Extension Service Offices in Wauchula, Arcadia and Palmetto. The guides are in limited supply and free. The pest management guide will not be mailed from any of those locations, thus if you want a free copy you will need to visit one of the Extension Service Offices and pick up the guide during their normal business hours. The guides are also available at the Extension Offices located in Bartow, Ft. Pierce, LaBelle, Sebring or Tavares.

### **Florida Citrus Growers' Institute Presentations**

The videos from the Florida Citrus Growers' Institute conducted on April 10<sup>th</sup> are now posted to the Citrus Agents' website. You can access the program videos from the home page at: <http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu> or the Institute program webpage at the following link: <http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/events/GrowersInstitute2012/GrowersInstitute2012.htm> .

Presentations from previous Institute programs are also posted at the Citrus Agents' website.

### **Dates to remember**

- May 23 Citrus Irrigation Scheduling, Turner Exhibition Hall, Arcadia – PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
- May 30 Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing, Hardee County Extension Service, Wauchula

Sincerely,

*Stephen H. Futch*

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Enc.: Citrus Rootstock Selection Table