

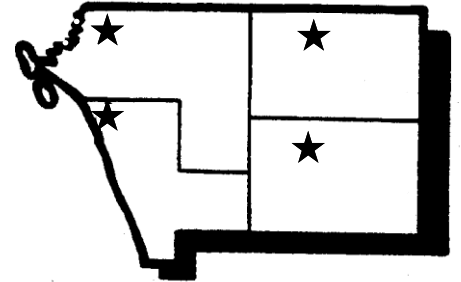
## West Central Citrus Letter

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  
6700 Clark Road  
Sarasota FL 34241  
941/861-9900



**August 26, 2015**

### **Citrus Brown Rot**

Brown rot is caused by *Phytophthora nicotianae* or *P. palmivora*. The disease is usually most severe on Hamlin, Navel and other early maturing sweet orange cultivars.

Brown rot is usually a localized problem and commonly appears from mid-August through October following periods of extended high rainfall. With our heavy rains in August, this would be a year to vigorously inspect groves for signs of brown rot.

The infected fruit usually starts in the lower part of the canopy due to spores being splashed from the soil onto fruit in the lower canopy. With continued favorable conditions, the inoculum will continue to splash onto fruit higher in the canopy and can affect fruit throughout the canopy, with time.

Usually, a single spray of Aliette, Phostrol or Pro-Phyt before the first signs of brown rot in late July is sufficient to protect fruit throughout most of the normal infection period. Since we are past the time for a preventative spray, copper fungicides would most likely be the preferred fungicide at this time. Copper is capable of killing the spores on the fruit surface, thus reducing inoculum. They may be applied in August or later to provide 45-60 days of control. If the rainy season continues into the fall, an additional application of either copper or systemic fungicides may be warranted.

For more information on brown rot, please see the printed version of the 2015 Florida Citrus Pest Management Guide, or go online to the University of Florida EDIS site at <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/cg022>.

### **Private and Core Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing, September 24, Wauchula**

A three-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Thursday, September 24 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 \$45.00 per person is charged to cover the study manuals and refreshments. To attend the class only for 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 September 18.

### **Ag Tree Crop Review and Testing, September 30, Arcadia**

A two-hour ag tree crop review and testing class will be held on Wednesday, September 30 at the DeSoto County Extension Service Office at 2150 Roan Street in Arcadia. The class will begin at 9 A.M. and will review the information contained in the Ag Tree Crop Pest Control manual. The Ag Tree Crop restricted use pesticide (RUP) test will be given at 11 A.M.

To obtain an RUP license, you will also need to have passed the Core exam. A review class for the Core category will be given on September 24 in Wauchula and is mentioned earlier in this newsletter.

Two CEUs in the ag tree crop category will be given to individuals that currently have an ag tree crop license and attend the entire class.

To register for the class, please contact the DeSoto County Extension Service Office at 863-993-4846. Registration fee is \$25 per person if you need the study manual or \$5 for those attending the class only for CEUs. Pre-registration is requested prior to September 23.

### Online Rootstock Selection Guide

The Florida Citrus Rootstock Selection Guide is now online [<http://frootstockselectionguide.org>] in a format that allows visitors to the website to powerfully interact with the Guide. Custom searches of the 104 publications supporting the ratings in the Guide are possible, along with visitors conducting individualized queries of the rootstock information. The information and tools are provided to aid in making informed citrus rootstock selection decisions for your groves.

Three large buttons on the home page allow you to: [1] Open and interact with the Rootstock Selection Guide. It presents information on 45 rootstocks and 20 traits; [2] Open the Consult Guide which introduces new technology to help you arrive at the best rootstock recommendations for your circumstances; and [3] Open the Learn section which contains an extensive searchable bibliography of references in an easy-to-use database with more than 100 published articles.

Access to the website is also possible through the CREC website at [www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu](http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu); then select the Extension—Horticulture—Varieties and Rootstocks tabs.

### Farm Labor Supervisor Training Program

The fall training schedule for the Farm Labor Supervisor Training Program will begin in October. The program is designed primarily for supervisors of farm workers. The purpose of the program is to increase knowledge and awareness among supervisors of farm workers as to the federal and state regulations regarding proper wage and hour rules, field safety, transportation, housing, and personnel management standards. The expected outcomes of this training is to ensure that farm workers are paid appropriately, work under the safest possible conditions, and to enhance overall productivity of the farming operation. The program consists of ten 2.5- to 3-hour classes that deal with the following topics:

- Wage and Hour
- Contractor Basics
- Human Resource Compliance
- First Aid
- CPR
- Management Communications
- Rules for Bus & Van Drivers
- Safe Driving

- Agriculture Equipment Safety
- Pesticide Safety

Each class is \$50 and upon completing at least eight of the ten classes, the participant will receive a Certificate of Farm Labor Management.

For more information about the program, please contact Charlene Thissen at 239-658-3449 or by email at [carlene@ufl.edu](mailto:carlene@ufl.edu). The website for the program is <http://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/programs/economics/fls.php>

### CHMA Sectional Mapping

The citrus health management area (CHMA) program is updated every three weeks with the latest psyllid scouting data. Cycle 70 has the data for July 20 to August 7 and will be updated again about September 4. The data can be accessed by visiting the CHMA webpage [www.flchma.org](http://www.flchma.org) and clicking on the banner that says “CHMA Sectional Mapping Program.” Once at the site, the next step is to click the bar to the left that says “Enter.”

The data is a valuable source for obtaining information on which areas within the state have high psyllid populations to more effectively manage psyllids.

If you have difficulty with the site, please contact Brandon Page at 863-956-8653 or by email at [bpage@ufl.edu](mailto:bpage@ufl.edu).

### Citrus Nutrition Day, September 15

A Citrus Nutrition program will be conducted at the Citrus Research & Education Center on Tuesday, September 15. The program begins at 9:00 A.M. and concludes at 3:30 P.M. The goals of the program are as follows:

- To bring all the citrus nutrition related information to one platform.
- Revisit fertilizer chemistry to help in implementing efficient and effective fertilizer programs (soil and foliar).
- Provide information on conducting field trials for fertilizer evaluation.
- Provide information on new field trials on selected products in which growers can participate and how Extension Service can help in conducting and evaluating trials.

To register for the program, please see the enclosed flier. Registration fee is \$15.00 per person and can be paid by mail or at: <https://citrusnutritionday2015.eventbrite.com>.

### Advanced Citrus Production Systems Field Day, October 29

The Advanced Citrus Production Systems Field Day will be conducted at the Citrus Research & Education Center on Thursday, October 29. The purpose of the field

day is to demonstrate novel integrated approaches for sustainable citrus production in HLB-endemic environments.

Topics covered during the program will include citrus undercover production systems (CUPS), whole tree thermotherapy, high density planting, scion and rootstock varieties, canopy pruning, drip fertigation, autonomous spraying vehicle and economics of the CUPS systems. You can register by any of the following methods:

- Online at <https://acpsfieldday2015.eventbrite.com>
- Fax, mail or send a scanned copy of the registration form that is at the bottom of the enclosed flier as noted.
- Call Sarah White at 863-956-8632.

Please note that the program is limited to the first 80 people that register for the program.

**Dates to Remember**

- Sept. 15 Citrus Nutrition Seminar, Lake Alfred
- Sept. 15 Certified Pile Burner Program, Bartow  
Call 863-519-1041 for more information.

- Sept. 24 Private Restricted Use Pesticide Review Class, Wauchula
- Sept. 30 Ag Tree Crop Restricted Use Pesticide Review Class, Arcadia
- Oct. 29 Advanced Citrus Production System Field Day, Lake Alfred

Sincerely,

Stephen H. Futch, Ph.D.  
Extension Agent, Multi-County  
Office: 863-956-8644  
Email: [shf@ufl.edu](mailto:shf@ufl.edu)

Attachment:

- Farm Labor Supervisory Training Program brochure, various dates and locations
- Citrus Nutrition Day, September 15, 2015
- Advanced Citrus Production Systems Field Day, October 29, 2015