

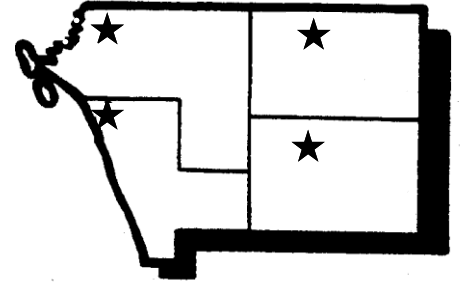
## West Central Citrus Letter

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



**February 6, 2014**

### **Safety Morning, March 4, 2014**

The annual "Safety Morning" will be held at the Turner Agri-Civic Center in Arcadia on Tuesday, March 4. The program will begin at 7:00 AM with registration and the safety presentations will begin at 7:30 AM. The program will conclude around 11 AM.

Topics for the annual safety event include: WPS Handler Training; new Globally Harmonized System Chemical Labeling requirement; Roll Over Safety; General Farm Safety.

Pre-registration is requested prior to Feb. 25. Please see the attached flyer for a full list of topics, times and registration requirements. Classes will be conducted in English and Spanish, thus be sure to note which class (English or Spanish) you want the participants to attend.

### **Private and Core Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing, March 5, 2014, Wauchula**

A three-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Wednesday, March 5 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 AM and conclude at noon with the test being given at 1:00 PM.

Three CEUs (2 Core and 1 Private) will be offered to individuals that have a current pesticide licenses 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 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 Feb. 25, 2014.

### **Citrus Pest Management Guides**

The 2014 Florida Citrus Pest Management Guides are now available at the Extension Service Offices in Wauchula, Arcadia and Palmetto. If you would like a free copy, please stop by the office and pick one up. The Extension Service Offices do not mail copies in an effort to minimize postage costs.

### **Bee Protection**

Citrus growers are strongly encouraged to be aware of bee issues when applying pesticides in and around citrus groves when bees are expected to be in the area. Growers are aware of the need to make multiple applications of insecticides, both soil and foliar applied, many of which are toxic to honey bees. Foliar applied insecticides provide a quick knockdown of psyllids and are usually applied to mature trees. Young citrus trees will receive multiple applications of soil applied systemic neonicotinoids to provide year-long protection. Imidacloprid and thiamethoxam are available for use on young bearing and non-bearing trees. Clothianidin is allowed on young non-bearing trees.

The Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (FDACS) also provides a website that is developed to provide a posting where bee hives are located within Florida.

For more information on various programs designed by FDACS to protect bees and promote good stewardship of pesticides, please see the below website:

<http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Agricultural-Environmental-Services/Consumer-Services/Florida-Bee-Protection/Information-for-Growers>

### **Flower Bud Induction Advisory**

Each year, Dr. Gene Albrigo provides a Flower Bud Induction Advisory. This information is very useful in estimating when you may expect citrus bloom. Remember that most of the insecticides we currently use can't be applied during this bloom period. By using his advisory, you can better time your psyllid sprays to suppress their population prior to bloom.

The flower Bud Advisory can be found at:  
<http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/flowerbud/>.

### **Brazil Citrus Tour**

We are in the process of developing another tour to Brazil to visit their citrus groves. The tentative dates are July 19-26, 2014. The group departs Miami on Saturday evening (July 19) on a direct flight to Sao Paulo. Upon arrival to Sao Paulo, we travel north to Araraquara where we will spend 3 nights and visit citrus in that area. Later in the week we travel to Limeira area where we spend 2 nights and visit groves in that area. Departure from Brazil will be on Friday evening (July 25) with arrival back to Miami on Saturday morning, July 26. Anticipated cost is approximately \$4,000 per person which includes airfare, hotel, ground transportation and some meals. Locations visited and cost will be determined in April 2014.

If you are interested in traveling to Brazil to see some of their citrus groves or want more information on the proposed trip, please contact me by phone (863-956-8644) or by email ([shf@ufl.edu](mailto:shf@ufl.edu)). The group will be limited to 15 participants.

### **Aquatic Weed Control Short Course, May 5-8**

The annual aquatic weed short course will be conducted in Coral Springs on May 5-8, 2014 at the Coral Springs Marriott Hotel. The \$240 registration fee is requested prior to Feb. 28, 2014. Registration after Feb. 28 increases to \$290 if received prior to April 4 and then increases to \$340 after April 4<sup>th</sup>. Tests for the license will be given on the afternoon of May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Up to 20 Florida Continuing Education Units (CEUs) may be earned by attending the short course. CEUs typically include: Aquatics, Natural Areas,

Rights-of-Way, Demo and Research, Forestry, Private and Core categories.

For more information on the short course, please visit their web site at:

<http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/aw>.

### **Florida Citrus Growers' Institute, April 8**

The annual Florida Citrus Growers' Institute will be held at the South Florida State College in Avon Park on April 8, 2014. More information about the program will be in the next citrus newsletter.

### **Farm Weather Stations Cost Share**

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will provide cost share funds to aid in installation of farm-based weather stations. The program will pay for 75% of the cost of a weather station up to \$5,000 per station. Farmers with less than 300 acres will be subsidized for one weather station with five sensors. Larger farmers can obtain one station for each 300 acres for a maximum of \$25,000. The stations will be connected to the University of Florida's Automated Weather Network (FAWN). For more information on the program, please contact Susie Bishop, Highlands Soil and Water conservation District, 863-402-7020 or by email at: [sbishop@highlandsswcd.org](mailto:sbishop@highlandsswcd.org).

### **Dates to Remember**

March 4	Safety Morning, Arcadia
March 5	Private Restricted Use Pesticide License Review, Wauchula
April 8	Citrus Growers Institute, Avon Park
May 5-8	Aquatic Weed Control Short Course

Sincerely,



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Enc: Safety Morning Program Flyer