



UNIVERSITY OF
FLORIDA

IFAS EXTENSION

West Central Citrus Letter

DeSoto Extension Service

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

Hardee Extension Service

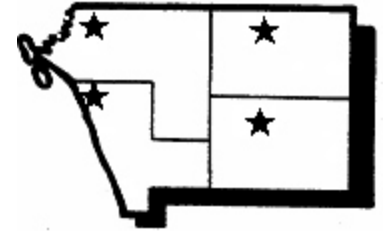
507 Civic Center Drive • Wauchula FL 33873
863/773-2164

Manatee Extension Service

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

Sarasota Extension Service

2900 Ringling Blvd • Sarasota FL 34237
941/316-1000



July 21, 2006

Division of Forestry Burner Program, August 15, 2006

The Florida Division of Forestry will be implementing the 'citrus spot burner program' in the Myakka River District (Charlotte, DeSoto, Hardee, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties). This program provides grove owners and burners the opportunity to register pre-established burn locations within their citrus groves. This will be beneficial only on those days that burning restrictions are in effect due to high fire danger.

To participate in the program, a grove owner or burner must:

1. Complete an application for each grove they want in the program.
2. Provide a map of the grove showing burn locations and listing the Section, Township, and Range.
3. Once a year, attend a workshop on: a) smoke management practices, b) burning rules and regulations, and c) the citrus burn program.
4. All pre-approved burn sites must be interior grove, at least 400 feet from any woodlands and will be inspected by a Division of Forestry representative.

The workshop for the program will be conducted on August 15 from 9 A.M. until 11 A.M. at the DeSoto County Extension Service, 2150 NE Roan Street, Arcadia. For more information or to register for the workshop, please call your county

Division of Forestry office at:

- Hardee & DeSoto, 863-993-4647
- Manatee & Sarasota, 941-727-6480
- Charlotte, 941-575-5737

Private Pesticide License Review and Testing, August 15, 2006

A three-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Tuesday, August 15 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 tests being given at 1:00 P.M. Three CEUs (2 Core and 1 Private) will be offered to individuals which have a current pesticide license. A registration fee of \$20.00 per person is charged to cover the study manuals and refreshments. To attend the class for only CEUs, the registration fee is \$3.00. 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 by August 8th.

Citrus Expo, August 23-24, 2006

The annual Citrus Expo will be held in Ft. Myers on August 23-24, 2006 at the Lee Civic Center. The program begins each day at 8 A.M. with registration, exhibits with the presentations beginning at

9:30 A.M. and concluding prior to 4 P.M. This year's program will include a complimentary 'Wild Beast Feast' lunch. During the two-day program, presentations will discuss issues related to citrus canker and greening. These presentations will include both local and international speakers. Please see the enclosed flier for a complete listing of the activities and presentations.

Pre-registration is requested prior to August 15 by mail or online at <http://www.southeastagnet.com/>. Once online, please click the Citrus Expo link.

Citrus BMP Program

The local Peace River Citrus BMP program has a new local contact. Ms. Geovanne Stingham assumed the responsibilities in June and can be reached at the DeSoto County Extension Service Office at 863-993-4846. The program can assist with program implementation, cost share funding for practices implemented as well as grove worker training.

Citrus Compliance Agreements

The citrus canker compliance agreements for the 2006-2007 growing season should have been received with a scheduled delivery date for growers of June 28 and for harvesters/packers of July 24. If for some reason you have not received your copy, please contact the Department of Agriculture at 800-282-5153. Compliance agreements can be viewed at:

<http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/canker/complianceagree.htm>

Citrus Canker Recent Finds

Citrus canker continues to be found in both DeSoto and Hardee Counties. Each week the Department of Agriculture provides a listing of where canker has been found. To review the weekly published listing of canker finds, please go online to:

<http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/canker/recentfinds.html>.

Dates to remember –

- Aug. 15 Citrus Burner Program, Arcadia
- Aug. 15 Restricted Use Pesticide License Review, Wauchula
- Aug. 23-24 Citrus Expo, Ft. Myers

Sincerely,

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