

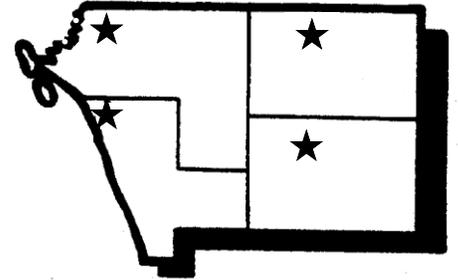
West Central Citrus Letter

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June 25, 2015

New Citrus Rootstock Selection Guide and Interactive Web Version

A UF and USDA team has updated the 2006 version rootstock wheel. The new printable 3rd edition is now available on EDIS [<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>] and is a convenient, easy-to-use reference to 20 characteristics of 45 rootstocks. Of those, 12 are time-honored commercial rootstocks which are the most reliably characterized. The next 12 are minor commercial rootstocks that are less frequently used today in Florida but may have been prominent at one time. The third group consists of the most recently released 21 rootstocks for which there is only limited commercial experience. Copies of the guide are also available at local county Extension Service Offices.

Much within the Florida citrus industry has changed since the discovery and spread of the presumed bacterial-caused disease, Huanglongbing (HLB). Rootstocks were not initially part of the discussion related to managing HLB, but that, too, has changed, particularly given the accumulating evidence that trees on various rootstocks may differ in the incidence or tolerance of the disease. Therefore, the authors have prepared this timely and necessary update of the former editions and considerably expanded the list of rootstocks to include many that have not yet undergone the usual extensive field evaluation in Florida. These new rootstocks offer improvements of many meaningful traits that appear essential to the

future of the citrus industry, among them tree size control, high yield and juice quality, and possible HLB tolerance.

A highly interactive web version will soon be available on the CREC website: <http://frootstockselectionguide.org/>. Growers and nurserymen are strongly encouraged to visit the website because the version posted offers a considerably expanded opportunity to interact with the rootstock information. The selection guide is supported by 105 downloadable citations related to rootstocks and traits. Furthermore, users of the website version can search the tabulated and background information via customized searches.

Postbloom Fruit Drop Survey

PFD has been a problem around the state for many growers this season. To gain a better understanding of the level of infection and the effectiveness of the management programs being used, a survey has been designed to gather the information. The online survey is accessible through the computer and mobile devices and will be available through Friday, July 10th. You will find the survey at https://ufl.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_0cDB03Trvw5o4Tz.

If you have any questions about the survey or PFD, please contact Megan Dewdney (mmdewdney@ufl.edu or 863-956-8651) at CREC.

Psyllid Biological Control

The Florida Department of Agriculture is raising and providing the parasitic wasp, *Tamarixia radiata* to growers on a limited basis to aid in the suppression of the Asian citrus psyllid. *Tamarixia radiata* could be used in areas that receive very limited pesticide applications or in or around abandoned groves.

If you are interested in securing the parasitic wasp for release in your area, please contact Dr. Robin Stuart at the Division of Plant Industry (DPI) at 863-438-9222 or by email at robin.stuart@freshfromflorida.com.

Citrus Expo, August 19-20

Citrus Expo is scheduled for August 19-20 in Ft. Myers at the Lee County Civic Center. For more information on the schedule of events or to register, please go to <http://citrusexpo.net/>. While the event is free for growers to attend, pre-registration is requested.

Private and Core Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing, July 23, Wauchula

A three-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Thursday, July 23 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 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 July 17.

Florida Agriculture Financial Management Conference, August 27-28

Mark your calendar for August 27-28, 2015 for the fifth annual Florida Agriculture Financial Management Conference (FAFMC) at the Omni Orlando Resort at Championsgate. Some of the

nation's leading agricultural and economic experts will be in Orlando to address financial strategies impacting one of Florida's top industries.

Growers and producers will be provided with the latest trends and tools to assess and manage the overall financial health of their business, including budgeting, insurance, marketing, and investment strategies.

Educational sessions cover topics such as:

- Economic forecasting
- Lending
- Food safety
- Regulatory issues
- Financial business performance analysis
- Risk management
- Cybersecurity
- Estate and income tax planning
- External factors influencing cash flow

For more information, please see their website at <http://www.fafmc.org/>. Early registration ends Aug 1.

CHMA Report

The CHMA sectional mapping has been updated with scouting data for cycle 67 (5/18/15 - 6/5/15). You may access the program by visiting the CHMA website at www.flchma.org.

Dates to Remember

July 23	Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing, Wauchula
Aug. 19-20	Citrus Expo, Ft. Myers
Aug. 27-28	Florida Agriculture Financial Management Conference, Orlando
Sept. 15	Certified Pile Burner Program, Bartow Contact 863-519-1041 for more information.

Sincerely,

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Enc.: Florida Citrus Rootstock Selection Guide, 3rd Ed