

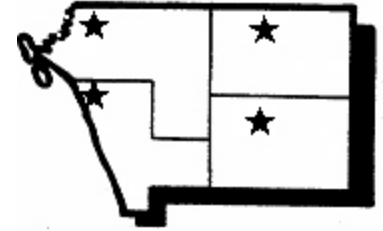
# West Central Citrus Letter

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



**March 19, 2007**

## Worker Protection Standards

Worker Protection Standards (WPS) are regulations that were developed back in the 1990s by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. These rules cover pesticides that are used in the production of agricultural plants on farms, forests, nurseries, and greenhouses. The regulations are for all locations where agricultural plants are produced regardless of the kinds of plants produced, the size of the operation, or where the pesticide products were purchased. The objective of the rule is to reduce the risk of pesticide-related illness when pesticides are used or when working in areas where they have been applied.

Under the rule, you are required to conduct safety training, have a safety poster, provide access to labeling information, and have specific information centrally located that lists the pesticide treatments on the establishment. The training has to be conducted prior to pesticide handling tasks for handlers or within 5 days of employment where workers will be in contact with pesticide treated plants. Additional requirements are also required to comply with the rule including decontamination materials (water, soap, single use towels and clothing for the pesticide handlers) and more.

The information posted at a central location must state specific information which includes: date and time of treatment, name of persons responsible for application, name of pesticide applicator, location and treatment size, crop treated, brand name & EPA registration number, amount applied (lbs., gallons, etc.),

application method, name of person requesting or authorizing application, and restricted entry interval. Please see the attached pesticide record attachment to this newsletter for an easy to use format.

To conduct the required training, you are required to have attended a 'train-the-trainer' program or have a valid restricted use pesticide license. Individuals that have been trained as above or those trained as a pesticide handler can conduct the worker training.

Since the rule was adopted many years ago, a few growers may have forgotten some of the requirements or need to have additional individuals trained to comply with the rule. Additionally, extra staff from the Florida Department of Agriculture will be visiting farms and nurseries in the coming months to assure that all operations are in compliance. Failure to comply with the rule can result in significant fines or other legal action.

## Train-the-Trainer & Understanding WPS Requirements

The Extension Service will be conducting two classes on April 10 to train growers and farmers as to the requirements of WPS as well as conducting a train-the-trainer class. The morning class will be conducted in Arcadia at 9:00 to 11:00 AM at the DeSoto County Extension Service Office on Roan Street. The same information will be repeated beginning at 3:00 PM at the Hardee County Extension Service Office in Wauchula at 507 Civic Center Drive.

Pre-registration is requested by calling the Extension Service Office in Arcadia at 863-993-4846 or in Wauchula at 863-773-2164. Registration fee of \$5.00 per person is requested to cover program costs.

Two CEUs for use in renewing the restricted use pesticide license have been requested from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

### **Newsletter Renewal**

Periodically, the Extension Service is required to update their newsletter mailing list. With the enclosed card please correct, or modify your mailing address and indicate if you wish to continue to receive the mailings. If you would prefer to receive your citrus newsletter via email, please indicate that as well.

### **Citrus Mechanical Harvesting Field Day**

The citrus mechanical harvesting team in IFAS will be conducting a field day on April 18 at the University of Florida's Southwest Florida Research & Education Center in Immokalee. The field day begins with registration at 7:30 AM and with the program starting at 8:00 AM. The presentations will provide an overview of the harvesting programs and economic benefits of abscission and mechanical harvesting. In addition to the presentations, a field visit will be conducted to highlight demonstrations on abscission, pick up machines, trunk shaker, and canopy shakers. The morning field day will conclude by 12 noon with lunch. An additional field trip will allow a visit to a concept grove or time to visit posters and displays along with a question and answer session with the mechanical harvesting faculty.

Pre-registration is requested prior to April 11, 2007. To pre-register, please contact Barbara Hyman at 239-658-3461 or by email at [brh@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:brh@ifas.ufl.edu).

### **Bees / Cross Pollination / Psyllids**

Over the years, growers have encouraged bee keepers to supply bees for their groves to aid in the pollination of citrus. In return for placing bees in the groves, growers have enjoyed a case or two of honey from the bee keepers. This process has been mutually beneficial to both the growers and bee keepers.

As growers begin to adopt pesticide application programs to control the Asian citrus psyllid, caution

should be used to understand the impact of these materials on bees. The reason for the application of pesticides is to minimize the chances of greening being spread into their grove by the psyllid. Growers must understand that the pesticide products that control psyllids may also impact bees.

Products listed in the annual citrus pest management guide for the control of psyllid in mature trees with foliar applied pesticides include: Provado, Danitol, and Lorsban. Please see the attached chart for the impact of selected pesticides on bees.

The varieties that benefited from the cross pollination included: Orlando, Sunburst, Nova, Osceola, Robinson, and Minneola. The typical orange varieties (Hamlin, Pineapple, Valencia) and grapefruit are self fertile and do not require cross pollination to set adequate quantity of fruit. With these orange varieties, the need for bees for cross pollination is limited.

### **Florida Citrus: A Comprehensive Guide**

The University of Florida has published a book entitled, Florida Citrus: A Comprehensive Guide, SP-278 which was edited by Dave Tucker, Steve Rogers, Ed Stover, and Mike Zeigler with a number of additional individuals as contributors. The book is 413 pages in length and covers 43 subjects from site selection, grove design, planting, early care, water and nutrient management, tree size control, cold protection, weed and pest management, and much more. The publication is available from IFAS Books at 1-800-226-1764 or by visiting the web at <http://ifasbooks.com>. The cost is \$30.00 plus tax and shipping.

### **2007 Florida Citrus Pest Management Guide, SP-43**

The annual citrus pest management guide is now available from the University of Florida at <http://ifasbooks.com> for \$15.00 plus tax and shipping or by calling 1-800-226-1764. The book lists pesticides available for use in Florida citrus. Sections within the publication cover all major pests including canker and greening. A limited supply is also available from the Manatee County Extension Service office in Palmetto.

**Florida Citrus Hurricane Book**

Florida Citrus 2004/05 Hurricanes is Dr. John Attaway's third book in a series on environmental issues facing Florida agriculture, and is the second book devoted to the impacts of hurricanes. The author's efforts at documenting this damage after the 2004 hurricanes paint a stark picture of the potential havoc that can occur as a result of Mother Nature's wrath and their impacts on the citrus industry. This book chronicles the detailed account of the ensuing hurricanes attacking Florida in 2004, namely Charley, Frances, Ivan, and Jeanne and Wilma in 2005.

Observations are presented on the meteorology, citrus production, marketing and aftermath of these devastating storms. Minute-by-minute accounts describing experiences of citrus growers who fought and lived through the ravages of hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan, Jeanne and Wilma.

The book is available from Dr. Attaway or from Florida Science Source, Inc. at:  
<http://www.ultimatecitrus.com/fssource/index.html>  
for \$49.00 plus tax and delivery charges.

**Online CEU modules**

The Pesticide Information Office has developed a web site that allows individuals to obtain CEUs to renew restricted use pesticide licenses by completing category modules. These modules have proven to be a valuable resource for pesticide applicators, giving them the option to educate themselves and receive CEU credit online on their own time. The modules can be found at:  
[http://pested.ifas.ufl.edu/ceu\\_modules.html](http://pested.ifas.ufl.edu/ceu_modules.html). Please check often as the module library will be expanded with time.

**Pesticide License Review and Testing, April 17, 2007**

A three-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Tuesday, April 17, 2007 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 test 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 and will be renewing using CEUs. 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 prior to April 10, 2007.

**Dates to Remember –**

- April 10 Train-the-Trainer, Understanding WPS, Arcadia 9 AM, Wauchula 3 PM
- April 17 Pesticide License Review, Wauchula
- April 18 Mechanical Harvesting Field Day, Immokalee

Sincerely,

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enc.: Newsletter Renewal Card  
Mechanical Harvesting Field Day Flier  
Pesticide Application Records Form  
Pesticides/Beneficial Insects Chart