

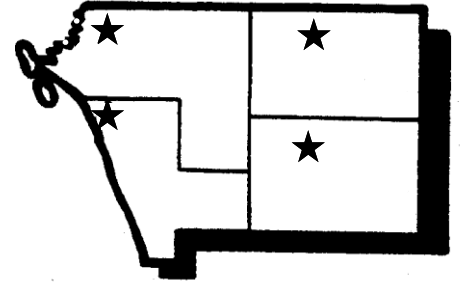
West Central Citrus Letter

DeSoto Extension Service
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Hardee Extension Service
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863/773-2164

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March 15, 2016

Citrus Growers Institute, April 5, Avon Park

The annual Florida Citrus Growers' Institute will be held at the South Florida State College in Avon Park on April 5. Topics for this year include citrus tree root health, performance of rootstock and scions with HLB, Asian citrus psyllid management and the use of plant antibiotics.

Please see the enclosed program flyer for more information and how to register.

Preregistration is required prior to April 1, 2016. The program flyer contains information on how to preregister by mail, phone, fax, email, or online at <https://picatic.com/institute2016>.

Crisis Declaration for the Use of Antibiotic in Citrus

Please see the attached announcement regarding the issuance of a crisis declaration for the use of specific bactericide products. The declaration was issued on March 4 by Florida Commissioner of Agriculture, Adam Putnam.

The Letter of Crisis Declaration serves as the legal authorization for use, and the terms must be followed explicitly.

Growers who use these products during the crisis period and beyond must have copies of the crisis declaration letter, the existing Federal label for the registered products and the section 18 label authorizing

use in the state of Florida. Copies of all required information should be available from the distributor where the product is purchased.

Growers must be diligent in their use of these products and recognize the importance of following all label requirements, including but not limited to PPE, preharvest intervals, worker re-entry, application frequency, minimum retreatment intervals, and product rates.

Suggested Antibiotic Use Pattern for HLB

Enclosed with this newsletter is a copy of a two-page fact sheet on the suggested antibiotic use pattern for HLB management. The information is based on the crisis declaration of March 4, 2016 and will be invalid after the establishment of a Section 3 or 18 label.

When considering the use of FireWall 50WP (streptomycin sulfate), FireLine 17WP (oxytetracycline hydrochloride), or Mycoshield (oxytetracycline calcium complex), be sure to follow all label requirements. Preharvest interval is 40 days for FireWall and FireLine and 21 days for Mycoshield with a minimum days between retreatment of 21 days for all three products.

When applying any of these materials, the applicator must be in enclosed cab with headgear that ensures full coverage of the neck.

When applying any of these products, a respirator must be worn. For FireWall, a particulate respirator with any N, R, or P filter with a NIOSH approval prefix TC-84-A is required. For FireLine and Mycoshield a dust/mist filtering respirator with a MSHA/NIOSH approval number prefix, TC-21C or a NIOSH approved respirator with any N, R, P, or HE filter is required.

Use of Bactericides in Plant Agriculture

The below reference is an article developed by Dr. Stephanie Slinski, Bactericide Project Manager for the CRDF. The paper discusses the use of bactericides in plant agriculture to control disease epidemics. You will find the article very informative as to what has been done to evaluate these products.

http://citrusrdf.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Whitepaper_Use-of-Bactericides_2-15-2016_SS.pdf.

Worker Protection Standards – Train the Trainer

A training session will be conducted from 9:00 AM until 12 noon at the Hardee County Extension Service Office in Wauchula on Tuesday, April 12. The session will cover the worker protection standards (WPS) information required under the rule to train employees as pesticide handlers or workers.

Two continuing education units (CEUs) will be offered to individuals with restricted use pesticide licenses. CEUs will be offered for this WPS training class for those with a restricted use pesticide license.

To register for the class, please call the Extension Service Office in Wauchula at 863-773-2164. A registration fee of \$5.00 per person is required. Preregistration requested prior to April 7.

Dates to Remember

April 5 Florida Citrus Growers' Institute, Avon Park

April 12 WPS Train-the-Trainer, Wauchula

Sincerely,



Stephen H. Futch, Ph.D.

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Enclosure:

- Florida Citrus Growers' Institute Flyer
- Suggested Antibiotic Use Pattern for HLB Management
- Crisis Declaration for Use of Bactericides