

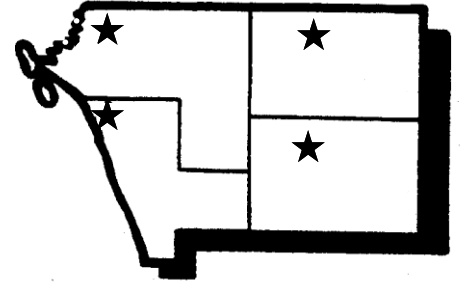
West Central Citrus Letter

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September 7, 2016

Citrus Nutrition Day, Oct. 11

UF will be conducting the Citrus Nutrition Day at the Citrus Research & Education Center in Lake Alfred on Tuesday Oct. 11, 2016. The program will highlight various aspects of citrus nutrition from the new Diagnosis and Recommendation Integrated System (DRIS), nutrient requirements of HLB-affected trees, fertilizer trials and grower's perspectives of citrus nutrition.

Please see the attached program flyer for more information about the program and how to register. Pre-registration is \$30 prior to Oct. 4 and increases to \$45 after Oct. 4.

Farm Labor Supervisor Training Program, Fall Training Sites and Dates, Arcadia, Oct. 11-12

The Farm Labor Supervisor Training Program will be conducted at 5 sites around the state beginning in September and concluding in November. Training locations include Ft. Pierce (Sept. 20-21), Homestead (Oct. 4-5), Arcadia (Oct. 11-12), Sebring (Oct. 25-26) and Immokalee (Nov. 9-10). Each training location will cover 7 topics (FLC Basics, Wage and Hour, Rules for Drivers, Safe Driving, HR Compliance, Management Communications and Heat Illness). Each

class/topic requires \$50 registration per session and has a minimum of 10 participants to offer each class.

Classes are designed for the farm labor contractors, crew leaders, bus and van drivers and office staff. Classes are offered in both English and Spanish. Upon completing 8 classes or topics the participant would be awarded a certificate of Farm Labor Management.

For more information on the program and contact information, please see the attached flyer.

FDACS Grove Renovation/Re-establishment Program

The Florida Department of Agriculture established a citrus grove re-establishment cost share program. The program is designed to assist growers in re-establishment of citrus acreage. The cost share is 75% reimbursement for eligible practices and improvements. Engineering and design costs will be reimbursed at 100%. The program will tie in with other programs currently offered by the water management districts and other programs. The program has a number of requirements and conditions for growers to comply with to receive cost share funding under this program.

For more information on the program and limitations, please contact Kayla Nickerson at Kayla.Nickerson@freshfromflorida.com or by phone at 863-451-3423.

Abandoned Grove Abatement Initiative

If you plan on removing your grove, be sure to contact FDACS Division of Plant Industry field office prior to grove removal. FDACS can assist with paperwork to aid the grower in keeping greenbelt tax exemption for a period of 5 years.

For more information on the program, call 1-888-397-1517 or visit their website at <http://www.FreshFromFlorida.com/CHRP>.

Postbloom Fruit Drop Survey

The Citrus Research & Development Foundation (CRDF) is conducting a postbloom fruit drop (PFD) survey to assess PFD treatments that took place this spring. To participate in the survey, growers would need to count the number of buttons and fruit on 20 trees per block and supply some production records. CRDF will assist in collecting button count and fruit estimation from the 20 trees and the grower needs to supply other information required by the survey. All survey data will be kept confidential.

For more information on the survey and the requirements, please contact Dr. Stephanie Slinski at sslinski@citrusrdf.org or by phone at 863-956-8678.

CHMA Psyllid Counts

The most recent psyllid counts for cycle 88 is now available at http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/chmas/chma_ranking.shtml. In many areas, psyllid numbers are up compared to previous years. Growers need to remember that the control of psyllids is still an important practice to maintain even if you are using some of the new bactericides.

Citrus Research and Development Foundation Reports

The CRDF has recently released two reports you will find interesting to read. The first report is the results from the recently completed bactericide survey and can be found at: <http://citrusrdf.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Summary-of-Grower-Bactericide-Use-Survey-8-16.pdf>. The second report is from the workshop on post-bloom fruit drop and can be found at: <http://citrusrdf.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Workshop-Summary-on-Post-Bloom-Fruit-Drop-6-29-2016.pdf>.

Dates to Remember

- Oct. 11-12 Farm Labor Supervisor Training Program, Arcadia
- Oct. 11 Citrus Nutrition Day, CREC, Lake Alfred
- Oct – Nov Ridge Citrus Production School, CREC, Lake Alfred

Sincerely,



Stephen H. Futch, Ph.D.

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Enclosure: Citrus Nutrition Day, Oct 11
Farm Labor Supervisor Training
Ridge Citrus Production School