

West Central Citrus Letter

DeSoto Extension Service

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

Hardee Extension Service

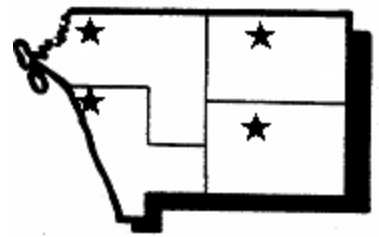
507 Civic Center Drive • Wauchula FL 33873
863/773-2164

Manatee Extension Service

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

Sarasota Extension Service

6700 Clark Road • Sarasota FL 34241
941/861-9900



January 4, 2010

Citrus Production School, February 17, 23, and March 2, 2010

The annual citrus production school will be held on Wednesday evening, February 17, and Tuesday evenings on February 23 and March 2, 2010. Each session will begin at 7:00 PM and conclude at 9:00 PM. This year's topic will center on issues related to citrus greening, canker, GMO (genetically modified plants) and mechanical harvesting. Please note each class will be held at the Family Service Center in Arcadia and **not** at the Turner Exhibition Hall.

For a full listing of topics, speakers, and to register, please see the enclosed program flier. Registration is \$25.00 per person and is requested prior to February 2, 2009. Included with your registration, you will receive a copy of the 2010 Florida Citrus Pest Management Guide.

Continuing education units (CEUs) have been requested for the restricted use pesticide license in both the private and ag tree crop category as well as the certified crop advisor license.

Safety Morning, February 24, 2010

The annual safety training program will be conducted at the Turner Agri-Civic Center in Arcadia on Wednesday, February 24 beginning at 7:00 AM with registration and training sessions beginning at 7:30 AM. Topics covered during the morning program will include: Worker Protection Standards, safe equipment transportation, minimizing sprains and strains,

emergency first aid, and mixing, loading and pesticide cleanup. The program will conclude at 11:00 AM.

Registration for the program is \$3.00 per person and must be done in advance by completing the enclosed registration form. Sessions will be conducted in both English and Spanish. Pre-registration is required prior to February 17, 2010.

Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing (Core & Private), February 10, 2010

A three-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 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 having a current pesticide license and will be renewing using CEUs. A registration fee of \$25.00 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 February 1, 2010.

Ag Tree Crop Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing, March 3, 2010

A two-hour review class will be conducted to review the materials for taking the commercial Ag Tree Crop exam on March 3, 2010 at the DeSoto County Extension Service Office, 2150 NE Roan Street in Arcadia. The class will begin at 9:00 A.M. and conclude at 11:00 AM with the test being given at that time. Two CEUs (2 Ag Tree Crop) will be offered to individuals having 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 \$5.00. If you wish to attend the class to obtain CEUs or to take the test, please call the DeSoto County Extension Service Office at 863-993-4846 to register. Pre-registration is requested prior to February 22, 2010.

To obtain the commercial license, you will also need to have passed the core exam or currently have a valid restricted use pesticide license and are wanting to add another category to your current license. If you will need to take the core exam, please consider going to the review class on February 10th in Wauchula.

Florida Citrus Show, January 27 and 28, 2010

The Florida Citrus Show (formerly Indian River Citrus Seminar) will be held at Havert L. Fenn Center in Ft. Pierce on January 27 (Wednesday) and 28 (Thursday). Main topics discussed during the two-day event include: State of Industry; Preparing for the Future; Living with Citrus Canker; Psyllid Control Programs; and Greening and Psyllid Control Programs. Sessions begin each day at 8:30 AM and concludes by 4:00 PM.

To review the full program, with topics and speakers, please visit their web site at: <http://www.citrusshow.com/>. Pre-registration is also requested at the same web site.

Social Media: Promises, Pitfalls & Perils, Polycom Broadcast, January 22, 2010

The Extension Service Offices in Arcadia and Wauchula will be receiving, via polycom a 2-hour seminar hosted by the Levin College of Law on the liabilities and legal pitfalls of using Facebook, Twitter and other social media. The program will be

received from 3:00-5:00 PM on Friday, January 22, 2010.

Social media has worked its way into all of our lives and is fun, free and easy, and more people each day use it for business as well as pleasure. While this is not a typical citrus program, this broadcast could be very beneficial to businesses as well as parents with children that use this media on a daily basis.

Hear how to safely and effectively use social media from a panel of UF experts. Topics covered include: overview of social media; individual privacy concerns; open government; laws and cases related to the Internet and social media, including First Amendment Law and Sunshine Law and privacy and defamation issues; and personnel-related issues.

To listen to the program, please call either office to reserve your attendance at 863-773-2164 (Hardee CES) or 863-993-4846 (DeSoto CES).

Open Area and Roadside Mowing, Polycom Broadcast, February 17, 2010

Bahiagrass is commonly used near roadways and open service areas in many public roadway and agricultural operations. Though effective and desirable, bahiagrass produces tall seedheads that must be mowed regularly. However, increased fuel costs have coincided with decreased budgets making it more difficult to effectively maintain these areas.

UF will be hosting a program to discuss chemical options for reducing overall mowing costs. The polycom broadcast will be hosted by various Extension offices in our area including Hardee, DeSoto, Manatee and Sarasota. To sit in on the discussion, please call one of the above Extension Service Offices to attend. The time for the program will be announced in early January.

Certified Pile Burners Course, March 18, 2010, Arcadia

The Florida Division of Forestry and UF Cooperative Extension Service will be conducting a Certified Pile Burners Course on March 18, 2010. This course will show you how to burn piles legally, safely and efficiently. Most importantly, it could save a life. If you burn piles regularly, don't put off registering for this training. When the weather is dry, certified pile burners will receive priority for authorization to burn. Also, certified pile burners are

allowed to burn up to two hours longer per day and get multiple-day authorizations. This training will be held from 8:30 AM till 4:30 PM at the South Florida Community College in Arcadia, FL.

Pre-registration is required to attend the class and is limited to the first 30 to register. Registration fee is \$50 per person. You must pass a test at the end of the session to become certified. To register, please call the Extension Service Office in Arcadia at 863-993-4846 to receive the registration packet that contains registration and program information. Remember, registration is limited to the first 30 participants.

Minimum Wage Increases

In 2010, the Federal and State of Florida's minimum wage will remain unchanged at the current \$7.25 per hour rate. With the Federal rate being adjusted upward on July 24, 2009 it is currently above the state rate, thus no adjustment for the 2010 calendar year. The minimum wage must be paid to all covered employees in both agricultural and non-agricultural jobs.

Winter Weather Watch

Each year, Chris Oswalt, Extension Agent in Polk County provides a recorded weather service forecast that is available via standard phone service. If you are interested in obtaining his weather forecast, please contact him at 863-519-8677 ext 108. The service is \$100 per winter season.

Treevix Herbicide

The Florida Department of Agriculture has approved the registration of BASF's herbicide saflufenacil (Treevix) for the control of broadleaf weeds in both non-bearing and bearing citrus and nut trees. In selected studies, the product has improved the control of some of the more difficult-to-control broadleaf weeds when mixed with various formulations of glyphosate.

Danitol Label Modifications

Danitol for the control of Asian citrus psyllids has been amended such that petroleum oil may be added at one to two quarts per acre as an adjuvant. The product has an SLN # FL090003.

Dates to remember:

- Jan. 22 Social Media Polycom Broadcast, Arcadia and Wauchula
- Jan. 27-28 Florida Citrus Show, Ft. Pierce
- Feb. 10 Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing (core and private), Wauchula
- Feb. 17, 23 & March 2 Citrus Production School, Arcadia
- Feb. 17 Roadside Mowing Polycom Broadcast
- Feb. 24 Safety Morning, Arcadia
- March 3 Ag tree Crop Pesticide License Review and Testing, Arcadia
- March 18 Certified Pile Burner Program, Arcadia

Wishing you a prosperous New Year,

Steve Futch

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Enc: Citrus Production School Form
 Safety Morning Program Form
 Florida Citrus Show Web Address