

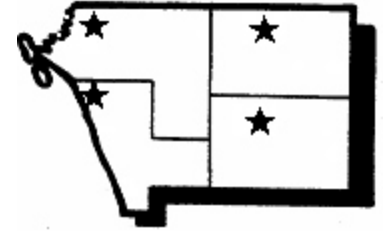
# West Central Citrus Letter

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



**January 2, 2007**

## **Citrus Production School, Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 2007**

The annual citrus production school will be held on Tuesday evenings, Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 13, 2007 at the Turner Exhibition Hall in Arcadia. Each session will begin at 7:00 PM and conclude at 9:00 PM. This year's topics will center on issues related to using technology to understand vegetative flushing, mapping disease progression, canker, and greening.

To see a full listing of topics, speakers, and to register, please see the enclosed registration form. Registration is \$25.00 per person and is requested prior to Jan. 23, 2007.

Continuing education units (CEUs) have been requested for both the restricted use pesticide and certified crop advisors licenses.

We would like to thank Dow AgroSciences for providing assistance with offsetting part of the meeting expenses.

## **Mechanical Harvesting Workshop and Field Day, Jan. 17, 2007**

The Extension Service will be conducting a mechanical harvesting workshop and field day on January 17, 2007 at the Polk County Extension Office in Bartow, FL. The workshop will begin at 7:45 AM and then be followed by a field visit to see a tractor drawn mechanical harvester in action.

The program is as follows:

- 7:30 AM Registration
- 7:45 AM Welcome and Plan for the Morning, Moderator: Chris Oswalt, UF-Polk Co. Ext.
- 8:00 AM Mechanical Harvesting & Tree Health-Compensating Physiology- Jim Syvertsen, UF-CREC, Postharvest Recovery- Steve Futch, UF-CREC
- 8:30 AM Enhancing Mechanical Harvesting Systems - Increasing Fruit Recovery- Reza Ehsani, UF-CREC, Abscission- Jackie Burns, UF-CREC, Cost of Gleaning- Fritz Roka, UF-SWFREC
- 9:15 AM Break and Travel to Grove Site
- 10:30 AM - Noon Field Demonstrations  
Demonstration of Tractor Drawn Canopy Shaker and Pick-Up Machine- Reza Ehsani, UF-CREC and Tylor Cain, OXBO Intl. Corp.  
Discussion of Grove/Tree Preparation- Bob Rouse, UF-SWFREC, and Mongi Zekri, UF-Hendry Co. Ext.
- Noon Adjourn

For further information or to RSVP, please contact Barbara Hyman at (239) 658-3415 or email: [brh@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:brh@ifas.ufl.edu).

**Greening Training, Jan. 10, 2007**

The Extension Service will be conducting a citrus greening identification training class at the Highlands County Extension Service Office, 4509 W George Blvd. in Sebring on January 10, 2007.

This two-hour class begins at 10:00 AM and will be the same format as the class held on December 19<sup>th</sup> in Arcadia. The class should aid growers, managers, and supervisors in the field identification of greening and procedures for getting samples tested. The hands-on training will discuss:

- Greening identification from samples,
- Items that can be confused with greening,
- How to process and submit samples.

Speakers for the program include, Holly Chamberlain, Steve Futch both with UF/IFAS, and Mike Irey with US Sugar.

Two CEUs will be offered for individuals with valid restricted use pesticide license in the private and ag tree crop categories.

To register for the class, please contact the Highlands County Extension Service Office at 863-402-6540.

**Indian River Citrus Seminar**

The annual Indian River Citrus Seminar will be held on January 24-25, 2007 at the St. Lucie County Fairgrounds in Ft. Pierce. Topic areas discussed during the 2-day program will include: State of the Citrus Industry, Canker Management, Windbreaks, Greening, and Alternatives to Citrus – Energy Production. The seminar also has a “grove worker training session” on January 25 from 8:00 AM until 2:15 PM.

A full program listing can be found at [www.floridagrower.net](http://www.floridagrower.net). Once at the site, click ‘seminar’ on the left side of the screen to get to Indian River Citrus Seminar program and pre-registration information.

Copies of the program are also available at the Extension Service offices in Wauchula, Arcadia, Palmetto, and Sarasota.

**Pesticide License Review and Testing, Feb. 1, 2007**

A three-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Thursday, February 1, 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 January 25, 2007.

**Commercial Ag Tree Crop Pesticide License Review and Testing, Feb. 8, 2007**

A two-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Thursday, February 8, 2007 at the DeSoto County Extension Service Office at 2150 NE Roan Street in Arcadia. The class will review the materials contained in the tests to obtain a commercial ag tree crop applicator pesticide license. In addition to the ag tree crop exam, you are required to have passed the core exam which is being given on February 1 in Wauchula or currently have a valid pesticide license. The class will begin at 9:00 A.M. and conclude at 11:00 A.M. with the test for the ag tree crop exam being given at that time. Two CEUs (2 Ag tree crop) 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 DeSoto County Extension Service office at 863-993-4846 to register. Pre-registration is requested prior to February 1, 2007.

**Florida Citrus Rootstock Selection Guide**

A revision of the citrus rootstock wheel is currently available from the University of Florida. The wheel has many of the newer rootstocks like, Goutou, Kinkoji, US-852, 812, 802, 897, and more. The wheel may be ordered by calling UF/IFAS Publication Department at 1-800-226-1764, or by going online at <http://ifasbooks.ufl.edu>. The publication number is SP248 and cost \$10.00 per copy plus tax and shipping.

**Winter Weather Forecast**

The Southeast Climate Consortium has released an updated analysis of the risk of severe freezes in Florida during this winter. Being an El Niño year, that risk should be reduced. El Niño typically set up a jet stream pattern with a strong subtropical jet flowing across the southern U.S. The position of this subtropical jet tends to “block” the intrusions of arctic air masses that are needed for the severe freeze events. Keep in mind that severe freezes are unique weather events, and there’s always a chance that they could occur in any phase of the Pacific Ocean.

On the Ag Climate main page, <http://www.agclimate.org>, click on “Forecasts (left side of the menu), then “Outlook and Discussion” and then “Freeze Forecast” to check the probability of the temperature in your county reaching 32°F, 28°F, 25°F or less during this winter.

(Source: Dr. Clyde Fraisse)

**Dates to remember:**

- Jan. 10 Greening Identification, Sebring
- Jan. 17 Mechanical Harvesting Field Day, Bartow
- Jan. 24-25 Indian River Citrus Seminar, Ft. Pierce
- Jan. 30, Feb 6, 13 Citrus Production School, Arcadia
- Feb. 1 Private Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing, Wauchula
- Feb. 8 Commercial Ag Tree Crop License Review and Testing, Arcadia

**Note:** Pre-registration is requested for the above meetings and training events.

Sincerely,

Stephen H. Futch, Ph.D.  
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Enc: Citrus Production School Registration Form