

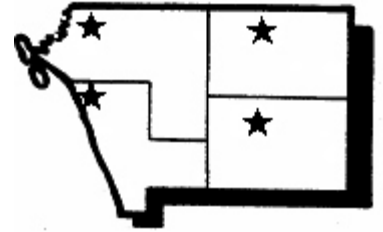
# West Central Citrus Letter

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



July 17, 2008

## Citrus Expo, August 20 & 21, 2008

The 2008 Citrus Expo is scheduled for August 20 and 21 at the Lee Civic Center in Ft. Myers. The theme of this year's program is "Seeking Profitability Through Interim Innovations." Pre-registration is requested by mailing in the enclosed form from the Expo flier or on the web at [www.CitrusExpo.net](http://www.CitrusExpo.net). Complimentary lunch is provided for both days of the event. Please see the enclosed program flier for scheduled topics and activities for the 2008 Expo.

CEUs for both the restricted use pesticide and certified crop advisors licenses will be provided in appropriate segments for both days. CEU forms for either license will be provided at the meeting.

## Citrus Greening and Canker

Citrus greening and canker continue to be found more frequently in more groves throughout Florida. To map the disease progression in Florida, the Florida Department of Agriculture publishes maps highlighting known detections for both diseases. The map can be found at [http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/chrp/ArcReader/CC\\_HLB.pdf](http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/chrp/ArcReader/CC_HLB.pdf). The map identifies only known and confirmed positive locations, however, the maps may not represent the full distribution of either disease. It is believed that additional locations have one or both diseases but have not been reported or samples collected to confirm disease presence. The maps are updated monthly and posted to the above noted web site.

If you are unable to access the maps, please email or call and I will be glad to send you a printed map indicating greening or canker identified locations.

## Psyllid and Greening

Reports are frequently being found that indicate the spread of the psyllid continues to move within the United States. Greening has been reported in New Orleans, Louisiana in a residential location, whereas, the psyllid has been found in both Texas and Mexico. With the continued movement of greening and psyllids, one may speculate that greening will be found in other citrus producing areas in the future within the United States.

A Reuters report out of Brazil has indicated that the spread of greening continues to increase. In 2004, greening was reported in 3.4% of the blocks (a block contains 2,000-6,000 trees), whereas, that number has risen to about 18.6% in 2008. Continued increase in the number of infected blocks will impact citrus supplies world wide. This supply impact may thereby positively affect future fruit prices.

In Florida, greening continues to spread as noted in maps provided by Florida Department of Agriculture. Growers that develop and adopt strong management programs should benefit from rising future fruit prices as fruit supplies are impacted by disease pressure.

## Citrus Industry Update

The latest Citrus Industry Update developed by the Citrus Research & Education Center for June/July is now available on line at [http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/publications/ciu/PDF/2008/ciu\\_06\\_08.pdf](http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/publications/ciu/PDF/2008/ciu_06_08.pdf). The update has some interesting statements regarding psyllid and greening management.

Dr. Rogers indicated that based upon transmission studies conducted, it takes about eight months from the time that an infected psyllid feeds on a plant before that plant tests PCR positive for greening (HLB). This delay in being able to quickly determine which trees have greening underscores the need for frequent inspection of all trees within your groves.

Dr. Stelinski noted that psyllids can easily move back and forth between abandoned and managed groves separated by 50-100 yards within two days. This easy movement between properties by psyllids reinforces the need for growers to work together in controlling psyllid in as wide of a geographical area as possible.

To read more on current greening and psyllid studies, please see the above noted June/July update.

#### **Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing, July 29, 2008**

A three-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Tuesday, July 29, 2008 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 that have 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 July 23, 2008.

#### **Worker Protection Standards, Train-the-Trainer Training, July 30, 2008**

A training session will be conducted from 3:00 PM until 4:45 PM at the Extension Service Office in Arcadia on July 30, 2008. The session will cover the worker protection standards (WPS) information required under the rule to train employees as a pesticide handler or workers.

Please remember that all pesticide handlers must be trained prior to handling tasks. Employees that are classified as workers must be trained within five days

of working in areas that have had pesticides applied within the last 30 days. All employees must be retrained every five years.

Two continuing education units (CEUs) will be offered to individuals with restricted use pesticide licenses. CEUs in the private, ag tree, row crop and ornamental and turf categories are 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 Arcadia at 863-993-4846. A registration fee of \$5.00 per person is required.

#### **Ag Tree Crop Exam, August 5, 2008**

For individuals that need a commercial ag tree crop license, a review class will be conducted on August 5, 2008 at the DeSoto County Extension Service Office in Arcadia. The review class will begin at 9:00 AM and conclude with the test being given at 10:45 AM. To obtain the license, you will need to have a current license in a different category or take the core exam at a different time. Taking the core exam can be done by attending the training session on July 29 at the Extension Service Office in Wauchula. Registration to attend the ag tree crop training session and receive the book is \$20.00 or \$5.00 if you want CEUs (2 in ag tree crop).

#### **Dates to remember**

- July 29 Pesticide License Review and Testing, Wauchula
- July 30 Train-the-Trainer, Arcadia
- Aug. 5 Ag Tree Crop License Review and Testing, Arcadia
- Aug. 20 & 21 Citrus Expo, Ft. Myers

Sincerely,

*Stephen H. Futch*

Stephen H. Futch, Ph.D.  
 Extension Agent, Multi-County, Citrus  
 Phone: 863-956-1151  
 Email: [shf@crec.ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:shf@crec.ifas.ufl.edu)  
 Nextel: 158\*17\*31393

Enc: 2008 Citrus Expo Program