

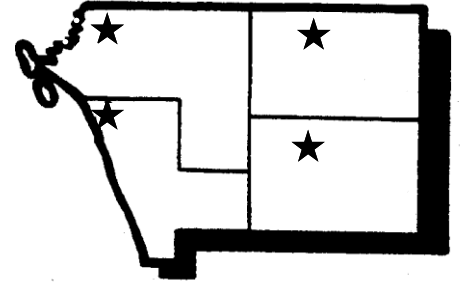
West Central Citrus Letter

DeSoto Extension Service
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May 30, 2014

2014 Citrus Growers' Institute Presentation – Now Online

If you missed the 2014 Citrus Growers' Institute Program in Avon Park or want to review any of the presentations, you can now view recorded presentations online by visiting the Citrus Agents website at: <http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/events/GrowersInstitute2014/GrowersInstitute2014.htm>. In addition to the 2014 Institute program, presentations are also available going back to 2008. No fees or passwords are required to view any of the Institute presentations.

PFD

Postbloom fruit drop (PFD), caused by *Colletotrichum acutatum*, has been reported by a number of citrus growers as being a problem in numerous groves throughout Florida during the 2014 bloom period. PFD has not been a significant problem during the past 10-15 years in most of Florida due to dry conditions during bloom. However, with the extended bloom period of 2013 and numerous rains during the 2014 bloom period, conditions were very favorable for inoculum to increase and cause problems, especially on Navel and Valencia oranges.

It would be wise for growers to look for the persistent buttons and record which blocks experienced issues with PFD this season to properly monitor those blocks in the spring of 2015 as

fungicide applications may be warranted. Remember the fungus will survive between bloom periods as resistant structures on the surface of leaves, buttons, and twigs. If we have a wet spring in 2015, blocks that experienced issues with PFD in 2014 will need multiple fungicide applications to protect citrus bloom. Remember, blocks with a history of PFD are more likely to have problems than areas that have not experienced PFD in the past.

New Citrus Rootstocks

The University of Florida has released 9 new citrus rootstocks through the Florida Foundation Seed Producers, Inc. under the citrus FAST Track release program. Under this program, new and experimental selections are released at the request of the citrus industry without having gone through the standard replicated trials traditionally completed for new cultivars. The rootstocks are being released based on their limited experimental performance in trials where severe HLB pressure has been noted.

Please see the below link for more information on these new rootstock selections. Limited amounts of budwood have been released to approved nurseries for distribution.

<http://www.ffsp.net/varieties/citrus/citrus-rootstocks/>

Online Pesticide Tests

Did you know you can now take pesticide exams online and get your test results immediately

upon competition of the exam? Hardee County Extension Service is a regional online testing site with 2 computers available for restricted use pesticide license testing. You can take any of the 16 exams at the Hardee Extension Service Office. For more information on online testing, please visit: <https://aesecomm.freshfromflorida.com/>.

If you wish to take the exam using the online computer system, you must first register at the above site. For more information on taking the pesticide license test online, please contact the Hardee County Extension Service at 863-773-2164.

Belay Registered for Psyllid Management

Belay (clothianidin) insecticide is now registered for protecting young citrus trees from Asian citrus psyllids. If you choose to use the product for psyllid control, you must have the crisis label showing the expanded use recommendation in your possession at the time of product application.

Core CEUs to Renew Pesticide License

If you need core continuing education units (CEUs) to renew your Florida restricted use pesticide license (RUP), please visit: <http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/info/CEU%20Testing.htm>. At this site, you will find 4 CEU articles that grant 1 core CEU for each article completed. Please note you will also need CEUs in the category for which your license is issued, i.e. private, ag tree crop, etc. prior to license renewal. The number of CEUs required will vary depending on your license category or categories.

CEU Round-Up for RUP Licenses

If you need up to 6 CEUs in Ag Row Crop, Ag Tree Crop, Private, Aerial, Aquatic Weed Control, Demo & Research, Forestry, Natural Areas Weed Management, Ornamental & Turf, Regulatory Pest Control, Right-of-Way, LL&M, LL&O, or CL&O, the Great CEU Round-Up event is scheduled for July 9, 2014 from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. At the present time, 24 sites are available to attend the session to obtain CEUs. County Extension Offices in our area that are offering the program include both DeSoto (Arcadia) and Highlands County (Sebring). A \$50 pre-registration is required prior to July 1, 2014 and increases to \$75 thereafter. Online registration can be made at <http://www.ftga.org/ceu-round-up>.

Pesticide Recordkeeping - Benefits and Requirements

The Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (FDACS) has a two page document highlighting the benefits and requirements for pesticide recordkeeping. This document indicates records for all restricted use pesticides be maintained for 2 years from the application date and must be supplied upon request to FDACS representatives. The document also details additional requirements which are similar to records required under Worker Protection Standards (WPS). A copy of the document is enclosed with this newsletter.

Certified Pile Burner Course

The Florida Division of Forestry and UF-IFAS Extension at Sumter County will be conducting a Certified Pile Burner's Course on Wednesday July 2, 2014 from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM at the West Central Florida Agriculture Center in Bushnell, Florida (Sumter County Fairgrounds). This course will allow a landowner 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. Certified pile burners can also burn up to two hours longer per day and get multiple authorizations.

See <http://sumter.ifas.ufl.edu/> for directions to the facility.

If you are interested in participating in the Certified Pile Burner Course, please contact DarLinda Duteau at 352-793-2728 extension 227 or dduteau@ufl.edu for registration forms and information.

Dates to Remember:

July 9, 2014	CEU Round-Up, Arcadia & Sebring
August 13-14, 2014	Citrus Expo, Ft. Myers
Feb. 8-13, 2015	International HLB Conference, Orlando

Sincerely,



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Enc.: Pesticide Record Keeping Requirements Flyer