

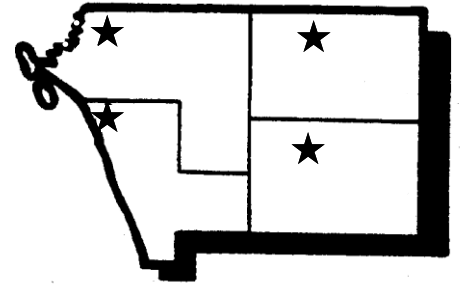
## West Central Citrus Letter

DeSoto Extension Service  
2150 NE Roan Street  
Arcadia FL 34266  
863/993-4846

Manatee Extension Service  
1303 17th Street West  
Palmetto FL 34221  
941/722-4524

Hardee Extension Service  
507 Civic Center Drive  
Wauchula FL 33873  
863/773-2164

Sarasota Extension Service  
6700 Clark Road  
Sarasota FL 34241  
941/861-9900



**October 10, 2016**

### **Citrus Grower Round Table, October 27, Arcadia, 8:00 AM**

The Extension Service and the Peace River Valley Citrus Growers Association will be hosting a citrus grower roundtable meeting at the DeSoto County Extension Service Office, 2150 NE Roan St in Arcadia, 8:00 AM on Thursday, October 27. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss current citrus grove conditions, observations of PFD this spring, HLB management strategies, outlook for the next season, and what seems to be working best in area citrus groves. No pre-registration is required. For more information on the meeting, please contact Steve Futch or LeAnna Himrod at the Peace River Valley Citrus Growers Association.

### **Worker Protection Standards – Train-the-Trainer, October 26 (Wauchula), November 1 (Arcadia)**

A training session will be conducted from 1:00 PM until 5:00 PM at the Extension Service Office in Wauchula on October 26 and in Arcadia on November 1. Each session will cover the Worker Protection Standards (WPS) information required under the new rule for training employees as either a

pesticide worker or handler. For workers, training must be conducted prior to working in an area where a pesticide has been used or a restricted-entry interval (REI) has been in effect in the past 30 days. Pesticide handlers must be trained prior to handling tasks. Beginning in 2017, all employees must be retrained every year and not every 5 years as under the previous rule.

EPA's revised WPS was published as a final rule on November 2, 2015. The 2015 revision requires persons seeking to become trainers or recertified as a trainer of workers and handlers must complete an EPA-approved Train-the-Trainer (TTT) program or hold a valid restricted use pesticide license. This requirement becomes effective on January 2, 2017, therefore individuals wishing to conduct training must complete a current EPA-approved program or hold a valid pesticide license before that date to qualify as a WPS pesticide safety trainer for workers and/or handlers. If you were trained as a trainer under the old rule and do not have a restricted use pesticide license you will need to become retrained under the new rule before conducting training. The Florida WPS TTT program summarizes basic WPS provisions, FAWSA

requirements, training requirements, general training techniques, information on training preparation and briefly discusses some WPS enforcement hot topics.

The Florida Agricultural Worker Safety program shall keep records and issue Certificates of Completion of trainees who have completed an EPA approved "FDACS WPS TTT Program" that meets these criteria.

To register for either program location, please contact the Extension Service Office in Wauchula at 863-773-2164 or in Arcadia at 863-993-4846. A registration fee of \$10 per person is required to offset program costs and is payable when attending the meeting.

Four CEUs for the restricted use pesticide license in the Private or Ag Tree Crop category will be available for those attending the class.

### **Private and Core Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing, November 16, Wauchula**

A three-hour pesticide license review and testing class will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 16 at the Hardee County Extension Service Office at 507 Civic Center Drive in Wauchula. The class will review the materials contained in the test to obtain a Private Applicator pesticide applicator 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 \$55.00 per person is charged to cover the study manuals (Core and Private) 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 November 9.

### **CPR and First Aid Classes, October 19, Arcadia**

The Farm Labor Supervisor Training Program is conducting a series of CPR and First Aid classes in October and November. Classes will be held in Arcadia (Oct. 19), Sebring (Oct. 24) and Immokalee (Nov. 1). The training session will be divided into two – four hour sessions with the first being CPR from 8 AM until noon and first aid will be from 1 PM until 5 PM. Each training session requires a \$50 registration fee. For more information on the CRP and First Aid class, please see the enclosed/attached flier.

### **Citrus Acreage and Production**

The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) reported on September 12, 2016 that the citrus acreage in our 4-county area is as follows: DeSoto 66,672, Hardee 44,476, Manatee 16,231 and Sarasota 1,173. Of the 4 counties, DeSoto increased in acreage from 2015 by 307 acres with the other 3 counties showing a slight decrease in acreage. From this data, the 4-county area now represents 26.8% of the state's total citrus acreage.

Using the reported acreage to determine the ranking within the state, DeSoto is now the number 2 in citrus producing acreage in the state, Hardee is number 5, Manatee is number 9.

Using their data on total citrus production, DeSoto is number 2 in citrus production with 12.773 million boxes, Hardee at number 5 with 8.436 million boxes and Manatee with 3.283 million boxes. Using their production by county, the 4-county area produces 26.2% of the states total citrus production or 27.7 million boxes of the total production of 94.2 million boxes in the 2015-16 season.

### **Citrus Abandoned Acreage**

On September 12, 2016 the NASS updated the abandoned acreage totals in Florida. The citrus industry now has 123,777 abandoned acres in Florida. In our 4-county area, abandoned acre totals are as

follows: DeSoto 3,174, Hardee 2,708, Manatee 2,671, and Sarasota 288.

If you are considering removing your citrus trees from your property, Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Service will do an inspection (prior to tree removal) and aid you in completing paperwork that is provided to the County Property Appraiser's office in keeping your property taxes at a lower rate for up to 5 years, as long as you comply with stated rules.

#### CHMA Psyllid Counts – Cycle 90 data

Please go to the below CHMA website to obtain the cycle #90 psyllid count data for the period of time between September 12 – September 30, 2016. [http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/chmas/chma\\_ranking.shtml](http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/chmas/chma_ranking.shtml)

#### Dates to Remember

Oct. 11-12	Farm Labor Supervisory Training Program, Arcadia
Oct. 11	Citrus Nutrition Day, Lake Alfred
Oct. 19	CPR/First Aid, Arcadia
Oct. 26	WPS, Train-the-Trainer, Wauchula
Oct. 27	Citrus Grower Forum, Arcadia
Nov. 1	WPS – Train-the-Trainer, Arcadia
Nov. 16	Pesticide License Review and Testing, Wauchula

Sincerely,



Stephen H. Futch, Ph.D.  
Extension Agent, Multi-County  
Office: 863-956-8644  
E-mail: [shf@ufl.edu](mailto:shf@ufl.edu)

Enclosure: CPR and First Aid classes