



## Under the Citrus Tree

*Highlands County Extension Service*

4509 George Boulevard, Sebring, Florida 33875

### March 2016 Newsletter

Hello!

This time of year brings a lot of great things and a lot of good information. We are busy at the Extension Office preparing for a Program Review which will be like our annual physical. The University sends in the experts to see how we are doing, programs we are offering and what we could do to improve. I am very excited about them coming. I am extremely proud of my faculty and staff and I hope that you are too.

this is a new format for "Under the Citrus Tree" and I hope you like it. We were beginning to have problems with our email program since our mailing list is getting quite large. This way we can reach everyone and make the newsletter a little more interactive.

As we enter the Easter Holiday weekend I want to wish those of you who celebrate a family filled, joyous weekend of peace, joy and relaxation.

Regards

**Laurie**



Laurie Hurner

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## Do You Need CORE or PRIVATE APPLICATOR RUP CEU's?

**UF/IFAS Extension Highlands County is offering a test preparation session and offering CEU's for those who already have their licenses next week. Click on the link below and check it out.....**

***Registration closes today BUT, don't worry we will hook you up if you contact us on Monday!***

**Core & Private Applicator Training & CEU's**

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### Firewall & Fireline Pointers

The following are some pointers from the meeting held by AgroSource at the Highlands County Ag Center last week. ***I am in no way promoting or recommending these products but felt it my duty to pass along some important specific points about the products and the meeting.***

- MOST IMPORTANT THING OF ALL: the application of this product is bound by the Commissioner's Crisis Declaration letter not any product label. You must have a copy of the declaration with you when spraying the material.
- If the EPA denies the Section 18 the Commissioner's Crisis Declaration letter is no longer valid.
- Need to use both products in rotation
- Proven Safe for Bees
- Night Spraying IS NOT recommended

What is meant by flush? As much flush as you can get (a couple of weeks after flush starts) not just when it starts.

- Use of Adjuvants (spreader/stickers) Greatly Increase success
- Resistance Monitoring is huge for the EPA
- We have to continually prove resistance is not happening

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## 2016 Florida Citrus Growers' Institute

**Citrus greening or Huanglongbing (HLB) continues to impact all citrus production areas of Florida.**

**The 2016 Florida Citrus Growers' is an opportunity for Florida citrus growers to come together to learn about effective management of HLB and other challenging diseases affecting the industry.**

**Topics this year include citrus tree root health, performance of rootstock and scions with HLB, Asian citrus psyllid management and the use of plant antibiotics.**

**To register click the button below.....**

**2016 Florida Citrus Growers' Institute**

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## Welcome to Our New UF/IFAS Extension South District Director

Please join us in welcoming our current St. Lucie County Extension Director, Ms. Anita S. Neal, as our next South District Extension Director. Anita will officially begin her role on May 9; she will overlap several weeks with the retiring Dr. Joe Schaefer. Anita received high and wide support from those who interacted with her during the search process. We are confident that she has the vision and leadership skills to carry the South District onward and upward. Anita not only has a great understanding of county extension from the UF/IFAS perspective, but she understands the needs of our county government partners as well. Anita is well-positioned to increase the strength of our state-county partnerships as we grow IFAS Extension and incorporate the broader university into our outreach efforts at the local level. We look forward to working with her as we discover opportunities to ensure that UF/IFAS Extension programming is highly recognized and valued statewide and nationally.

Finally, we want to extend great appreciation to Dr. Joe Schaefer for serving as South District Director for the past 14+ years. He has provided excellent leadership during his term. We are very grateful for his strong commitment to support his county faculty and to involve the greater university in extension. Joe is leaving a lasting legacy of excellence and dedication to UF/IFAS Extension. We wish him a happy and healthy future as he approaches his

retirement date of July 1.

Best regards,

Dr. Nick Place &  
Dr. Tom Obreza

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## Nominate Your Florida Grower Magazine Citrus Achievement Award Selection

There's still time to put in your nomination for the Citrus Achievement Award. If you know an individual grower, allied member, Extension agent, legislator, researcher, or anyone else who has made and is making a difference through leadership, innovation, dedication, and active participation in Florida's citrus industry, submit their name for consideration.

It is easy to do, [click here](#) to fill out the online nomination form, or email Frank Giles at [frgiles@meistermedia.com](mailto:frgiles@meistermedia.com).

Frank Giles I Editor

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## 4-H Camps Are Coming To Town.....

Katie Whidden and Alexis Pontius have come up with some amazing camp ideas for the summer. There are several week-long DAY camps here at the Ag Center. We are also going to camp overnight for the week at Camp Cloverleaf for the first time in a long time. I am excited about all of these opportunities that are being offered.

Click on the button below and get your kids signed up before they are sold out!

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**4-H Summer Camp**

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## Forklift Safety & Driver Training Offered

Do you or your employees work with forklifts?

Becoming a certified forklift operator requires more than the ability to drive and operate a vehicle. Drivers need skill and experience to operate heavy machinery safely. Florida State College offers forklift training that meets OSHA Standard 1910.178.

Click the button below for more information.....

**Forklift Training**

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**Our mailing address is:**

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