

Hendry County Extension, P.O. Box 68, LaBelle, FL 33975 (863) 674 4092

Flatwoods Citrus



Vol. 16, No. 11 **November 2013**

Dr. Mongi Zekri
Multi-County Citrus Agent, SW Florida



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Previous issues of the Flatwoods Citrus newsletter can be found at:
<http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/agents/zekri/index.htm>
<http://irrec.ifas.ufl.edu/flcitrus/>

IMPORTANT EVENTS

Citrus BMPs (commercial growers and production managers are highly recommended to attend this program)

Program Coordinator: Dr. Mongi Zekri, UF-IFAS Extension

Program Sponsor: Steve Kaufman and Mike Roberts

Date: Tuesday, November 12th, 2013, Time: **10:00 AM** – 12:10 PM

Location: UF-IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center

1. Introduction and moderator - Kelly Morgan, State-wide BMP Coordinator, IFAS.
2. Regulatory and legislative issues with BMP programs including monitoring of agricultural sites not in the BMP program - Darrell Smith, Assistant Director, Agricultural Water Policy, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
3. The BMAP development process - Vanessa Bessey, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
4. BMP program enrolment, notice of intent process and record keeping requirements - Callie Walker, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
5. Grower perspectives
6. Basics of soil testing and interpretation including reasons for change from Mehlich 1 to Mehlich 3 - Rao Mylavarapu, Soil and Water Science Department, IFAS
7. Tissue testing practices and effect of production - Kelly Morgan, Southwest Florida Research and Education Center, IFAS

2 CEUs for Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs)

A complimentary lunch will be provided. Thanks to Steve Kaufman with Helena Chemical Company and Thanks to Mike Roberts with the Fertilizer & Ag Chemical Division of Ben Hill Griffin, Inc.

Advance registration is required for an accurate meal count. Call 863 674 4092, or send an e-mail to Dr. Mongi Zekri at maz@ufl.edu

Annual Certified Pile Burners Course in SW Florida

Pre-registration is required to attend, and class size is limited to the first 50 people.

REGISTRATION FORM MUST BE COMPLETELY FILLED OUT

PRE-REGISTRATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT PAYMENT OF THE REGISTRATION FEE

Date & time: Tuesday, 4 February 2014, 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM.

Location: Immokalee IFAS Center

The Florida Division of Forestry and University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service will be conducting a Certified Pile Burners Course that will show you how to burn piles *legally, safely and efficiently.*

For more details and pre-registration, go to:

http://www.freshfromflorida.com/content/download/32006/788162/Certified_Pile_Burner_Class-2014.pdf

2014 ANNUAL FLORIDA CITRUS GROWERS' INSTITUTE

Date & Time: Tuesday, 8 April 2014, 8:00 AM – 3:45 PM

Location: Avon Park Campus of South Florida Community College



Rootstock Field Day

December 12, 2013



University of Florida, IFAS, Citrus Research and Education Center
700 Experiment Station Road, Lake Alfred, Florida

SCHEDULE

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>DEPART CREC</u>	<u>ARRIVE AT GROVE</u>	<u>DEPART GROVE</u>	<u>ARRIVE AT CREC</u>
1	8:00 am	8:30 am	9:30 am	10:00 am
2	9:00 am	9:30 am	10:30 am	11:00 am
3	10:00 am	10:30 am	11:30 am	12:00 am

Grove location is the St. Helena Grove, care of Mr. Orié Lee

*Registration and light refreshments will be between 7:30 am and 11:30 am

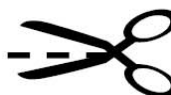
*Groups will be limited to 50 participants each

**Registration will open
November 1st. Early
registration will not be
accepted.**

Four Ways to Register

1. Online at rootstockfieldday.eventbrite.com
2. Fax the registration form below to 863-956-4631
3. Call Anne Burrage at 863-956-8643
4. Email completed registration form to Anne Burrage at aburrage@ufl.edu

**Pre-Registration is
required by December 5th**



REGISTRATION FORM

Rootstock Field Day
December 12, 2013

Anne Burrage, amburr@ufl.edu Phone: 863-956-8643 Fax: 863-956-4631

Participant Name: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

**Please rank your
group preference
by first, second, and
third.**

	8:00 am
	9:00 am
	10:00 am

**Pre-registration required by
Thursday, December 5, 2013.
Registration will be confirmed with group
departure time via email.**

Special Thanks to sponsors of the "Flatwoods Citrus" newsletter for their generous contribution and support. If you would like to be among them, please contact me at 863 674 4092 or maz@ufl.edu



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Fort Myers, FL 33907
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contribution and support. If
you would like to be among
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863 674 4092 or maz@ufl.edu

Nufarm Agriculture USA
Craig Noll
Office-239 549 2494
Mobile-239 691 8060
craig.noll@us.nufarm.com
Gary Simmons
Phone: 772 260 1058

MONSANTO
Jack Conroy
Phone: 863 318 1486
Fax: 886 318 8617
Mobile: 863 559 4468
Andrew.j.conroy@monsanto.co

Jeff Summersill
THOMAS R. SUMMERSILL, INC.
Custom Aerial
Ground Application
Mobile 561-722-4502, Agnet # 33169
trsummersill@msn.com

Chemtura AgroSolutions
Jay Hallaron
Phone: 407 256 4667
Fax: 407 523 1097
Cell: 321 231 2277
jay.hallaron@chemtura.com

Stacey Howell
BAYER CropScience
239-272-8575 (mobile)
239-353-6491 (office/fax)
stacey.howell@bayercropscience.com

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863-773-5088 Fax
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Donald Allen

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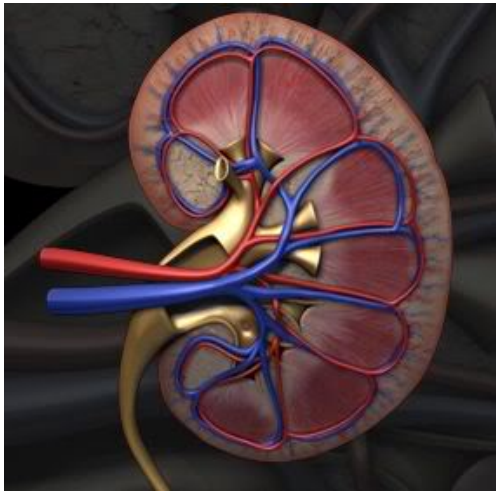
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Component of citrus fruits found to block the formation of kidney cysts

October 3, 2013

A new study published today in *British Journal of Pharmacology* has identified that a component of grapefruit and other citrus fruits, naringenin, successfully blocks the formation of kidney cysts.



Known as [polycystic kidney disease](#), this is an inherited disorder which leads to the loss of [kidney function](#), [high blood pressure](#) and the need for dialysis. Few treatment options are currently available.

The team of scientists from Royal Holloway University, St George's, University of London and Kingston University London used a simple, single-celled amoeba to identify that naringenin regulates the PKD2 protein

responsible for polycystic [kidney disease](#) and as a result, blocks formation of cysts.

"This discovery provides an important step forward in understanding how polycystic kidney disease may be controlled," said Professor Robin Williams from the School of Biological Sciences at Royal Holloway.

"In the study, we have demonstrated how effective the amoeba *Dictyostelium* is in the discovery of new treatments and their targets. Having previously applied the same method of testing in our work into epilepsy and bipolar treatments, it is clear that this new approach could help us reduce reliance on animal testing and provide major improvements."

To test how this discovery could apply in treatments, the team used a mammalian kidney cell-line, and triggered the formation of cysts in these cells. They were then able to block the formation of the cysts by adding naringenin and saw that when levels of the PKD2 protein were reduced in the [kidney cells](#), so was the block in cyst formation, confirming that the effect was connected.

Dr Mark Carew, from the School of Pharmacy and Chemistry at Kingston University, said: "Further investigation is underway to understand the action of naringenin at the molecular level. This work will entail looking at the function of the PKD2 protein as a cell growth regulator."

"Indeed, this study provides a good example of how chemicals identified in plants can help us develop new drugs for the treatment of disease," added Professor Debbie Baines from St George's, University of London.

"Autosomal dominant polycystic kidney disease affects between 1 in 10 people on dialysis and 1 in 8 with a [kidney transplant](#). Kidney Research UK welcomes this publication that may provide hope for a future new treatment for polycystic kidney disease, alongside its own on-going research focusing on tackling this common genetic kidney disease," said Elaine Davies, Head of Research Operations at Kidney Research UK.

DROUGHT

Water stress is the physiological condition to which a plant is subjected whenever the rate of water loss from the leaves by transpiration exceeds the rate at which water is absorbed by the root system. Water stress can be the result of excessive transpiration due to hot weather or slow absorption from a dry soil, flooded soil or saline conditions. Any degree of water imbalance can produce a deleterious change in physiological activity of growth and reproduction. Short-term drought often reduces production and prolonged drought can cause total crop failure. Severe drought between February and June can reduce fruit set, fruit development and fruit growth. The number of fruit, fruit size, and tree canopy are reduced with water stress. Extension growth in shoots and roots, and leaf expansion are all negatively correlated with water stress. Trees subjected to water stress are generally reduced in size. Vegetative growth is particularly sensitive to water deficit. Growth is closely related to turgor and the loss of turgidity reduces photosynthesis, leaf and fruit enlargement, juice content and yield, and increases wilting and leaf and premature fruit drop. Growers cannot afford water stress or water restrictions during critical periods. Irrigation is not only essential during the springtime, but it is also important during dry falls to minimize premature fruit drop.



Information for the next Certified Pile Burners Course:

The Florida Division of Forestry and University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service will be conducting a Certified Pile Burners Course on Tuesday, **4 February 2014**. This course will show you how 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. Also, certified pile burners are allowed to burn up to two hours longer per day and get multiple day authorizations. Don't wait. The number of trainings offered and attendance at each training is LIMITED. This training will be held from 8:00 am till 5:00 pm at the Southwest Florida Research and Education Center located in Immokalee, Florida. Included are a registration form and program agenda. See <http://www.imok.ufl.edu/> for directions to facility.

Registration is required to attend and class size is limited to the first 50 people. To attend please send the following information (see form on next page):

1. Your full name (as wanted on your pile burning certificate).
2. Your mailing address (where you want the certificate mailed).
3. Your Division of Forestry Customer Number (It is the number that you are required to give the DOF when you call in for your burn permits. If you do not know it please call the local DOF office and ask them for it).
4. Your email address (if you have one) and/or contact phone number.
5. A check for **\$50.00** made out to **Hendry County 4-H**.

The first 50 individuals to provide these five requirements will be registered; there will be a 7-day non-refundable fee limit. If you do not make the training and did not contact our office at least one week before the class, you will not receive a refund. There will be a test at the end of the session. You must receive a grade of 70% or higher on the exam and demonstrate a proper pile burn with your local DOF office to become certified. Once you are certified it will be noted with your customer number, thus it is important for us to have the proper number. If you do not have a customer number the DOF office will set one up for you. Fill out the registration form on the next page and return as directed.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mongi Zekri
Multi County Citrus Agent
Office phone: 863 674 4092
Cell: 239 595 5494
maz@ufl.edu

REGISTRATION FORM

Florida's Certified Pile Burner Program

Tuesday, February 4th, 2014

c/o Dr. Mongi Zekri

UF-IFAS Hendry County Extension Office

P.O. Box 68

LaBelle, FL 33975-0068

Registration is required to attend and class size is limited to the first 50 people.

Registration fee: \$50

The \$50 fee covers the training sessions, a booklet with all the presentations in color, other handouts, refreshments, and lunch

Please send this form and a check for **\$50.00**, payable to **Hendry County 4-H** to:

Dr. Mongi Zekri
University of Florida IFAS
Hendry County Extension Office
P.O. Box 68
LaBelle, FL 33975-0068

Name

Mailing address

Email address

Phone Number

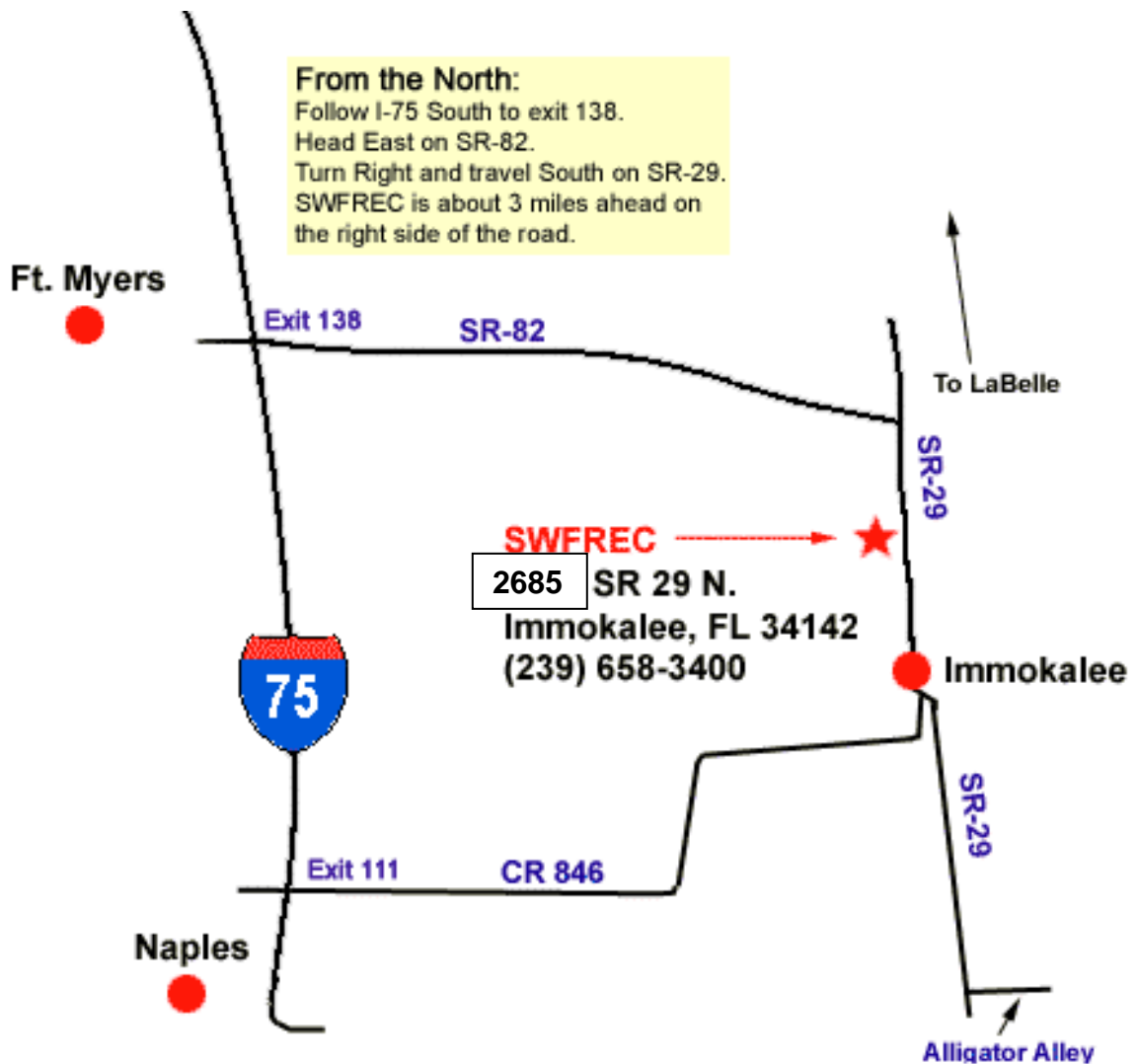
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Florida's Certified Pile Burner Training
Tuesday, February 4th, 2014
UF-IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center
2685 SR 29, Immokalee, FL 34142
See: <http://www.imok.ufl.edu/> for directions

1. Opening Comments and Introduction	08:30 – 09:10	Kawika Bailey
2. Fire Weather	09:10 – 09:50	John Kern
3. BREAK	09:50 – 10:00	
4. Smoke Management	10:00 – 11:20	John Kern
5. Open Burning Regulations	11:20 – 12:15	Kawika Bailey
6. LUNCH	12:15 – 01:15	
7. Planning and Implementation	01:15 – 02:30	Mike Keegan
8. Safety	02:30 – 03:10	Joe Lecea
9. BREAK	03:10 – 03:20	
10. Public Relations	03:20 – 04:00	Mike Keegan
11. Wrap Up and Final Test	04:00 – 05:00	Final Test

Please bring a Pencil for the Exam!





Florida's Certified Pile Burner Training

Frequently Asked Questions



Q: Why should I be a certified pile burner?

A: Certified pile burners are trained to burn piles **legally, safely and efficiently**. Most importantly, it could save a life. Also, when the weather is dry, certified pile burners will receive priority for authorization to burn by the Florida Division of Forestry (DOF). Also, certified pile burners are allowed to burn up to two hours longer per day and get multiple day authorizations.

Q: What is a Pile Burner Customer Number?

A: When you call the DOF for an authorization to burn, you will be assigned a personal customer number. This number references your information so it doesn't need to be gathered each time you call for an authorization. You must have your individual DOF customer number in order to be certified.

Q: Is there a test?

A: Yes, the test is 20 questions and open-book. You must receive a score of at least 70% to pass.

Q: What if I don't pass?

A: Very few people fail the test but if you do, you will be provided another opportunity to take the test at a later date. If you fail the second time, you must re-register and take the training again.

Q: Why do you ask for my email on the application form?

A: Email is the fastest and most convenient method to inform registrants of their registration status. If no email address is provided then all correspondence will be sent through the federal mail. This can take several days to relay messages and this may not be practical if changes are made to the course schedule or for last minute registrations.

Q: How much does it cost to register for the training?

A: Registration for the training is \$50 per person and includes lunch, training materials and testing.

Q: How long does my certification last?

A: As long as the person with the certification uses their number at least 5 times in a period of 5 years their certification will not expire under the current program. You **MUST** complete the certification burn within a year of taking the class.

Q: Will certified burners be notified if their certification expires?

A: Yes, notification will be sent out to them to let them know of their upcoming certification expiration date.

Q: Will I be certified at the end of the one day training?

A: No, you will need to follow the written instructions that you will receive from the Division to become certified. You will need to complete a simple burn plan, have it reviewed and approved locally by the DOF and also have the burn itself reviewed and approved by the DOF. From that point, the local DOF office will send the expected documentation to Tallahassee to recommend certification for you.

Q: Is there a minimum age to be a certified pile burner?

A: Yes, you must be at least 18 years old to take the test and be a certified pile burner.

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT: Dr. Pamela Roberts (pdr@ufl.edu), 239-658-3430; Shea Teems (ssteems@ufl.edu), 239-658-3431; or Julie Carson (carsonj@ufl.edu), 239-658-3462

UF/IFAS' Immokalee HLB Diagnostic Lab Nears Seventh Year of Service to Growers

IMMOKALEE— Since its opening in early 2008, the HLB Diagnostic Laboratory located at the University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Southwest Florida Research and Education Center (SWFREC) in Immokalee has processed and analyzed more than 62,000 citrus samples.

Initially established through the efforts of the Gulf Citrus Growers Association and area elected officials, the lab is critical in identifying HLB (Huanglongbing, also known as "citrus greening disease") in citrus groves not only in Southwest Florida but throughout the state. The lab provides a diagnostic testing service using real-time PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) to detect the causative agent of HLB, *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus* bacteria.

"The service is provided free of charge to citrus growers, homeowners, and UF/IFAS Extension personnel," explains Dr. Pam Roberts, SWFREC's professor of plant pathology who oversees the lab. "The primary purpose of the lab is to provide detection service to citrus growers to aid in their HLB management decisions."

Lab manager Shea Teems leads a team of employees in processing citrus samples so that diagnosis can be reported. Freshly sampled leaves can either be dropped off or shipped to the lab. Once a sample arrives, it is logged into a database, chopped and weighed, freeze-dried, and ground to a powder. DNA is then extracted and PCR analysis is run to detect the presence of an HLB-specific gene. Test results are then sent to the sample submitter.

"We're really glad to be a service to the citrus community," Teems says. "Our web site has a lot of great information, especially about submitting samples for testing, and we're always happy to answer any questions about our service."

For more information about the HLB Diagnostic Lab and details about how to have citrus samples tested, please visit the UF/IFAS SWFREC web site at: http://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/plant_path/hlb_lab/.

TROPICAL REVIEW

We are currently in a Neutral climate phase and most climatologists expect that the climate will continue in Neutral phase through the spring of 2014. This means that ocean temperature and atmospheric conditions in the area of the Pacific Ocean used to determine and predict ENSO phase (El Niño, La Niña, or Neutral) are close to normal. However, it does not mean there is a greater chance for near-normal climate conditions here in the Southeastern U.S.

It has been a somewhat calm tropical season this year. As of the second week of October 2013, there have been no major hurricanes during the 2013 tropical season; the long-term annual average is 2.1 major hurricanes. There were two named hurricanes (not major) during this season, but that was still far below the average of 4.7. There have been a total of 10 named storms this year (long-term average of 9.1 up to end of September).

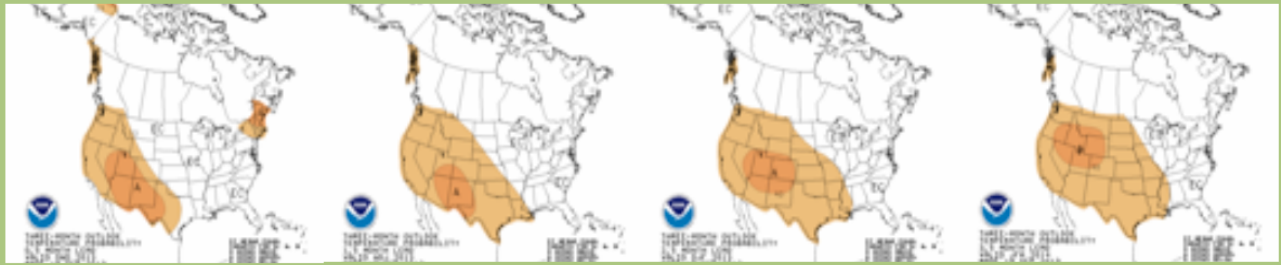
Agricultural Outlook

The current 90-day Seasonal Forecast (<http://agroclimate.org/forecasts/Seasonal-Forecast/>) shows no indication of any tendency in rainfall or temperatures in the next few months in the Southeast. The 2.5 month lead 90-day Forecast, for Dec-Jan-Feb does show increased chances of drier-than-average conditions for parts of the Southeast during the winter.

Temperate Fruits

Most of the devastating freezes of recent years have occurred during Neutral climate phase (the phase we're presently in) <http://agroclimate.org/forecasts/Freeze-Risk-Forecast/>. However, there is no known connection between ENSO phase and last freeze (winter/spring) or first freeze (fall/winter). Chill hour accumulation can be monitored and compared to last season and historical averages at <http://agroclimate.org/tools/Chill-Hours-Calculator/>

Winter Weather Watch



Polk County Cooperative Extension Service

Phone: 863-519-1052

Email: wcoswalt@ufl.edu



UF/IFAS Polk County Cooperative Extension Service

The 2013-14 version of the Winter Weather Watch begins on November 15, 2013.



The 2013-14 edition of the Polk County Winter Weather Watch program will begin on November 15, 2013. The program provides growers with winter weather forecast

information specifically geared toward agricultural interests in West Central and Southwest Florida. The program provides subscribers with an unlisted phone number for (24 hour/7 days a week) access to daily weather forecasts. The zone forecasts are from the National Weather Service (NWS) and are listed on the automated phone menu, so you can select the products you are interested in. Forecasts provided include the zone forecasts, 6-10 and 8-14 day outlook forecasts. In addition to the forecasts we have special weather narratives (from meteorologist Fred Crosby) provided as needed in the event of freezing temperatures and his weekly outlook. When freezing temperatures are predicted in our area additional updates will include the afternoon zone forecast and the modified sunset brunt minimum temperature equation. We will again be providing the weekly citrus leaf freezing temperatures on the FAWN website and you will get a copy of the 2013-14 Winter Weather Watch manual.

This year the Polk County Extension Citrus Advisory Committee has installed additional weather stations in Polk County, along with developing a fee based website for this information. As a bonus of your Winter Weather Watch Subscription, you will have continued free access to this additional information until March 15, 2014.

Subscriptions for the Winter Weather Watch program are only \$100.00 for the entire 4 month period (Nov 15th to Mar 15th). The cost is about the same as one tank of gas for your pickup truck. You can subscribe to the Winter Weather Watch by completing and returning the enclosed "subscription form".



Forecast Schedule

The following schedule lists the products available from the Winter Weather Watch. The times and specific

days of the week and the forecasted minimum temperature dictate when these forecasts products will be updated. Our Winter Weather Watch area includes the following areas by county: Pasco, Hillsborough, Polk, Highlands, Hardee, Manatee, Sarasota, DeSoto, Charlotte, Lee, Glades, Hendry and Inland Collier Counties.

FORECAST SCHEDULE

Forecast Product	Above 32 ° F	32°-29°F	28° F or Below
<i>Zone</i>	<i>Daily 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Daily 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Daily 8:30 a.m.</i>
<i>6-10 & 8-14 Day Outlooks</i>	<i>Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30 a.m.</i>
<i>Weekly Outlook</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Leaf Freezing Temperatures</i>	<i>Available on Friday on the FAWN website</i>	<i>Available on Friday on the FAWN website</i>	<i>Available on Friday on the FAWN website</i>
<i>Special Weather Narratives</i>	<i>As Needed</i>	<i>Daily 4:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Daily 4:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Afternoon Zone</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>Daily 5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Daily 5:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Sunset/Brunt</i>	<i>As Needed</i>	<i>As Needed</i>	<i>Daily 7:00 p.m.</i>

2013 – 2014 WINTER WEATHER WATCH PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 15, 2013 TO MARCH 15, 2014
REGISTRATION FEE: \$100.00



It's once again time to register for the upcoming 2013 - 2014 Winter Weather Watch Program. Upon receiving your \$100.00 registration payment, you will be sent an unlisted telephone



number with which you can retrieve the latest **Ag Forecasts**, 24 hours a day. **Please do not give this number to others.** The *Winter Weather Watch Program* is funded by the registration fees that pay for the telephone service, long distance calls, repairs, additional weather stations and our meteorologist.

2013 – 2014 Winter Weather Watch Program

NAME: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

COMPANY: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

REGISTRATION FEE \$100.00

PLEASE RETURN THIS REGISTRATION FORM AND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:

**POLK COUNTY CITRUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PO BOX 9005, DRAWER HS03
BARTOW, FL 33831-9005**

FLATWOODS CITRUS NEWSLETTER EVALUATION FORM

Please take a moment to rate the quality and usefulness of the information presented in the Flatwoods Citrus newsletter. Please send back the form to:

**Dr. Mongi Zekri
 University of Florida, IFAS
 Hendry County Extension Office
 P.O. Box 68
 LaBelle, FL 33975
 or e-mail to maz@ufl.edu Thank you for your input!!!**

Please circle your answer

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|----|--------------|
| 1 Did the information seem up to date and accurate? | Yes | No | Uncertain |
| 2 Was the information delivered on time to be useful? | Yes | No | Uncertain |
| 3 Was the information relevant to your situation? | Yes | No | Uncertain |
| 4 Was the information easy to understand? | Yes | No | Uncertain |
| 5 Have you had an opportunity to use the information? | Yes | No | Uncertain |
| 6 Have you shared the information with someone else? | Yes | No | Uncertain |
| 7 Overall, how do you feel about the Flatwoods Citrus Newsletter? | | | |
| Satisfied | Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied | | Dissatisfied |

8 **Do you have any suggestions that might improve the newsletter?**

(Please write in any comments)

9. How many years have you been using the Extension Service? _____ Years

10. What is your employment status?

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grower | <input type="checkbox"/> Chemical Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Provider |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Production Manager | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulator | <input type="checkbox"/> University |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consultant | <input type="checkbox"/> Association | Other _____ |

We appreciate your reactions and the time you have given us. Thank you, and please contact us when we may be of service to you.

Flatwoods Citrus

If you did not receive the *Flatwoods Citrus* newsletter and would like to be on our mailing list, please check this box and complete the information requested below.

If you wish to be removed from our mailing list, please check this box and complete the information requested below.

Please send: Dr. Mongi Zekri
Multi-County Citrus Agent
Hendry County Extension Office
P.O. Box 68
LaBelle, FL 33975

Subscriber's Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Racial-Ethnic Background

__ American Indian or native Alaskan

__ Asian American

__ Hispanic

__ White, non-Hispanic

__ Black, non-Hispanic

Gender

__ Female

__ Male