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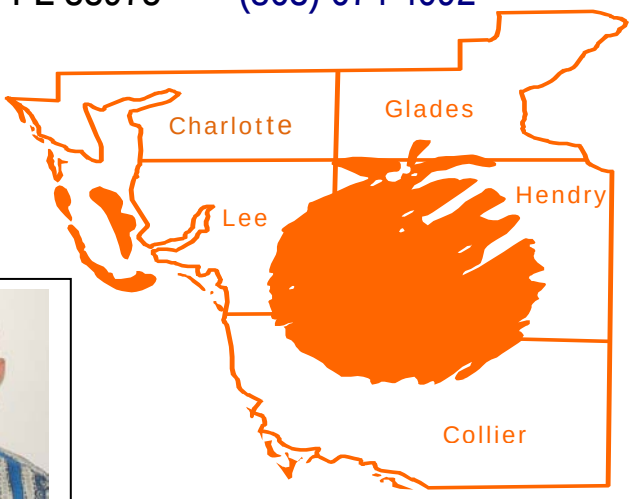
Flatwoods Citrus



Vol. 14, No. 9 **October 2011**

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

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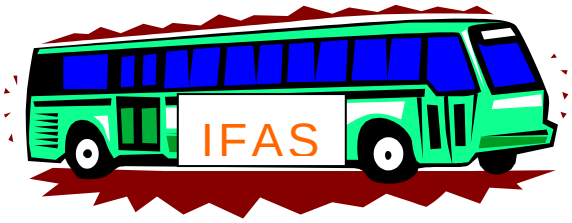
Previous issues of the Flatwoods Citrus newsletter can be found at:
http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/agents/zekri/index.htm
http://irrec.ifas.ufl.edu/flcitrus/

Please take a moment to rate the quality and usefulness of the information presented in the Flatwoods Citrus newsletters this year. Go to Page 23.

I M P O R T A N T E V E N T S

HENDRY COUNTY EXTENSION AG TOURS



Saturday, 3 December 2011
Saturday, 4 February 2011
For more information or to sign up,
call Debra at 863 674 4092

Agriculture Labor Compliance

November 1, 2011, 9:00 AM, Immokalee IFAS Center
For more details and RSVP, see page 8

Citrus Research Field Day

November 15, 2011
Pre-registration required
See enclosed brochure (on page 24) for more details and registration

The Florida Ag Expo in Balm, November 9, 2011

For registration, go to: http://www.floridaagexpo.com/

The Florida Citrus Show in Fort Pierce, January 25-26 2012

For more information and registration, go to: http://www.citrusshow.com/

International Symposium on Mechanical Harvesting & Handling Systems of Fruits & Nuts

April, 2-4, 2012, Lake Alfred CREC

ANNUAL FLORIDA CITRUS GROWERS' INSTITUTE

Date & Time: Tuesday, 10 April 2012, 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM
Location: Avon Park Campus of South Florida Community College

I M P O R T A N T W E B S I T E S

Citrus Extension: http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/

Citrus Health Management Areas (CHMAs):

http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/chmas/chma_overview.shtml

Florida Citrus Extension Agents:
http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/Citrus_Agents_Home_Page/Citrus_Agents_Home.html

Southwest Florida Research and Education Center (SWFREC):
http://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/

Citrus Research & Education Center:
http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/

Florida Citrus Resources: http://irrec.ifas.ufl.edu/flcitrus/

Florida Citrus Pest Management Guide:
http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_book_florida_citrus_pest_management_guide

Citrus Greening (Huanglongbing)
http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/greening/index.shtml

History | Regulations | Transmission | Pathogen | Alternate Hosts | Symptoms | Nutrient Deficiencies Compared to Citrus Greening | Diagnostics | Management | Photo Gallery | Links | Contacts

Citrus Canker
http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/canker/index.shtml

History | Eradication | Decontamination | Pathogen Symptoms & Susceptibility | Diseases Commonly Mistaken for Citrus Canker | Spread | Management | Links | Contacts

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

Susan S. Thayer

Maxijet

"The Standard of Quality in Low-Volume Irrigation"

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Estero, FL 33928
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SEHouk@dow.com

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Moore Haven: 863 946 1515

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Cody Hoffman

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Jack Kilgore, II
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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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Phone: 863-675-2180
Fax: 863-675-8087
Website: www.gulfcitrus.org

Manager's Memo

Date: October 11, 2011
Subject: Agriculture Labor Compliance Seminar November 1, 2011
From: Ron Hamel, Executive V. P., Gulf Citrus Growers Association

In January 2004, the Gulf Citrus Growers Association signed an historic "Partnership Agreement" with the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division to work together to improve compliance with federal labor laws. One of the key components of the partnership agreement was to improve communications between growers and the Department of Labor. These efforts include co-sponsoring seminars and educational activities to inform the agricultural community about the AG "labor-related" rules and regulations and how to be "in compliance" with them.

This season's first jointly-sponsored "COMPLIANCE SEMINAR" is scheduled for Tuesday, November 1st at the UF/IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center in Immokalee (located at 2685 SR 29 N). The seminar will begin at 9:00 a.m. LUNCH WILL BE SERVED AFTER THE SEMINAR!

Please, RSVP to Julie Carson at UF/IFAS SWFREC at (239) 658-3462 not later than October 26th!

Lunch provided courtesy of Everglades Harvesting & Hauling, Inc.

This year's compliance seminar will focus on USDOL, Wage & Hour Issues; OSHA News; Workers' Compensation and AG Transportation Updates.

PLEASE PUT THE DATE NOVEMBER 1ST ON YOUR CALENDAR AND RSVP TO REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE TODAY!

2012 Syngenta Crop Protection Florida Internship Opportunities

We are initiating our recruiting efforts for our 2012 Florida Intern Program. As you are aware, our interns play a primary role in supporting our key brands in the Florida citrus industry. Their field activities provide the key link between Syngenta and our growers, while helping ensure optimal product performance.

I would like to provide a list of intern qualifications. These are not meant to be exclusive, but rather to help narrow our search.

- Seeking future employment in agriculture.
- Basic familiarity with production agriculture.
- Basic familiarity with insect, disease, and weed control.
- Basic computer skills.
- Willingness to work outdoors.
- Self motivated, detail oriented, honest, and personable.
- Ability to relocate to or originally from one of the following counties; Orange, Polk, Highlands, Hardee, Desoto, Hendry, Collier, Lee, Okeechobee, Martin, Osceola, St. Lucie, or Indian River.
- Sophomore or Junior level (Seniors will be considered).

As you are aware, these internships represent an outstanding opportunity for the right candidate. In addition to the technical and professional skills gained from Syngenta Crop Protection, students will have an excellent opportunity to demonstrate their abilities to some of the most influential organizations in the Florida Agricultural Industry. Students will be provided with comprehensive training, skilled mentoring and will be part of a respected professional team executing a multi-million dollar sales and marketing strategy.

We are currently recruiting for up to 5 intern positions with an approximate start date of May 14, 2012 and an end date of August 10, 2012.

The internships are to be located as follows;

- 2 east coast - Indian River, St. Lucie, or Martin Counties
- 2 southwest - Lee, Hendry, or Collier Counties
- 2 west central - Highlands, Hardee or Desoto Counties
- 1 central - Orange, Osceola, Polk or Highlands Counties

Please have all interested candidates email their resumes to me at cody.hoffman@syngenta.com I will be available to interview interested candidates now through the end of February 2012, at which time I hope to have my candidate selections complete.

Cody Hoffman
Fax: 239 479 6279
Mobile: 321 436 2591
www.syngenta.com

KILL ANTS. SAVE CASH!

Fire Ants are here and just in time for the fall season – you can receive a rebate on purchases of **Extinguish®** and/or **Extinguish® Plus**. This program **is valid from September 1, 2011 – November 30, 2011 offering you a $0.50 per pound rebate.**

Extinguish® is for your bearing groves. Extinguish® Professional Fire Ant Bait disrupts the normal growth and development of the fire ant colonies. When foraging worker ants take **Extinguish®** to the queens, their ability to reproduce stops. When existing worker ants begin to die naturally, there are no new workers to replace them. Thus, the colony collapses.

Use rate: 1–1.5 pounds per acre

Restricted Use Areas: None! **Extinguish®** can be applied wherever ants are found!

Extinguish® Plus is for your non-bearing groves. Extinguish® Plus Fire Ant Bait is a dual acting bait where it slowly kills the workers while sterilizing the queens. The two-way action of **Extinguish® Plus** assures complete control of fire ants.

Use rate: 1.5 pounds per acre

Restricted Use Areas: Bearing groves. Approved for non-bearing groves, pastures, turf, home, and more.

KILL FIRE ANTS & SAVE CASH REBATE FORM

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Distributor Name: _____

Number of Acres Applied with Extinguish® _____ &/or Extinguish® Plus _____

Rebate Calculator: _____ X $0.50 = _____
Lbs. (minimum 100 lbs.) Grower Rebate

Mail completed form along with a copy of your invoice(s) to:
Extinguish® / Extinguish® Plus Rebate Offer
Central Life Sciences
Attn: Mark Taylor
1501 East Woodfield Rd., Suite 200 West
Schaumburg, IL 60173

All rebate requests must be postmarked by Dec. 31, 2011
Allow 6 – 8 weeks for processing
No resellers are eligible
Open to Florida citrus growers only

Registration required.

Registration cost, $7.00/person.

Please make your check **payable to University of Florida** and mail the check and registration form to:

TREC
c/o Jonathan Crane
18905 S.W. 280 St.
Homestead, FL 33031-3314

Name: _____

Email: _____

Tel. number: _____

Who may be interested in attending this workshop: grove owners/ operators, people interested in starting a new grove, and tropical fruit enthusiasts.

Presented by the University of Florida/IFAS Tropical Research and Education Center.

Instructors: Dr. Edward Evans, Agricultural Economist, TREC; Dr. Jorge Peña, Tropical Fruit Entomologist, TREC; Dr. Randy Ploetz, Tropical Fruit Plant Pathologist, TREC; Dr. William Castle, Horticulturist, CREC; Dr. Robert Rouse, Horticulturist, SWF-REC; Dr. Arnold Schumann, Citrus Horticulturist, CREC; and Jonathan Crane, Tropical Fruit Crop Specialist, TREC.

Location: TREC Classroom

Time: 9:00PM to 4:30PM

Morning break, lunch and handouts included.

'Tahiti' limes – a second look

Thursday, November 17, 2011

TREC

18905 S.W. 280 St.

Homestead, FL 33031

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IFAS Extension

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'Tahiti' limes—a second look workshop
Agenda

9:00AM	Introduction/welcome	Jonathan H. Crane, Tropical Fruit Crop Specialist
9:05AM-9:50AM*	Economics of lime production	Edward A. (Gilly) Evans, Agricultural Economist
10:00AM-10:50AM*	Insect control for 'Tahiti' lime	Jorge E. Peña, Entomologist Tropical Fruit Crops
11:00AM-11:50PM*	Citrus diseases and control for 'Tahiti' lime	Randy C. Ploetz, Tropical Fruit Crops Plant Pathologist
12:00PM-1:00 PM	Lunch (provided)	
1:00PM-1:50PM*	Rootstocks for 'Tahiti' lime	William S. Castle, Horticulturist (retired)
2:00PM-2:50PM*	Mitigating citrus greening through plant nutrition	Robert E. Rouse, Citrus Horticulturist
3:00PM-3:50PM*	Advanced citrus production	Arnold Schumann, Citrus Horticulturist
4:00PM *=10 min. for questions	Questions, comments	Jonathan H. Crane, Tropical Fruit Crop Specialist

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

CITRUS

OCTOBER FORECAST
MATURITY TEST RESULTS AND FRUIT SIZE

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
2290 Lucien Way, Suite 300, Maitland, FL 32751
(407) 648-6013 · (407) 648-6029 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/fl

October 12, 2011

All Orange Production Up 5 Percent
Non-Valencia Orange Production Up 5 Percent
Valencia Orange Production Up 4 Percent
All Grapefruit Production Up 2 Percent
All Tangerine Production Up 1 Percent
Tangelo Production Down 4 Percent

2011 FORECAST DATES
2011-2012 SEASON
November 9, 2011
December 9, 2011

Citrus Production by Type and State – United States

Crop and State	Production			Forecasted Production
	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)	(1,000 boxes)
Non-Valencia Oranges [1]				
Florida	**84,600**	**68,600**	**70,300**	**74,000**
California	34,500	42,500	48,000	44,000
Texas	1,300	1,360	1,700	1,380
Arizona [2]	150			
United States	120,550	112,460	120,000	119,380
Valencia Oranges				
Florida	**77,900**	**65,100**	**70,000**	**73,000**
California	12,000	15,000	13,500	13,500
Texas	159	275	249	329
Arizona [2]	100			
United States	90,159	80,375	83,749	86,829
All Oranges				
Florida	**162,500**	**133,700**	**140,300**	**147,000**
California	46,500	57,500	61,500	57,500
Texas	1,459	1,635	1,949	1,709
Arizona [2]	250			
United States	210,709	192,835	203,749	206,209
Grapefruit				
Florida-All	**21,700**	**20,300**	**19,750**	**20,100**
White	**6,600**	**6,000**	**5,850**	**5,600**
Colored	**15,100**	**14,300**	**13,900**	**14,500**
California	4,800	4,500	4,100	3,400
Texas	5,500	5,600	6,300	5,100
Arizona [2]	25			
United States	32,025	30,400	30,150	28,600
Lemons				
California	21,000	21,000	21,000	20,000
Arizona	3,000	2,200	2,500	800
United States	24,000	23,200	23,500	20,800
Tangelos				
Florida	**1,150**	**900**	**1,150**	**1,100**
Tangerines				
Florida-All	**3,850**	**4,450**	**4,650**	**4,700**
Early [3]	**2,550**	**2,250**	**2,600**	**2,500**
Honey	**1,300**	**2,200**	**2,050**	**2,200**
California [4]	6,700	9,900	9,900	10,300
Arizona [4]	250	350	300	200
United States	10,800	14,700	14,850	15,200

[1] Early, midseason, Navel, and Temple varieties.
[2] Estimates discontinued beginning with the 2009-2010 crop year.
[3] Fallglo and Sunburst varieties.
[4] Includes tangelos and tangors.

All Oranges 147.0 Million Boxes

The 2011-2012 Florida all orange forecast released today by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board is 147.0 million boxes, 5 percent more than last season's production. The total is comprised of 74.0 million boxes of non-Valencia oranges (early, midseason, Navel, and Temple varieties) and 73.0 million boxes of Valencia oranges. The Navel orange forecast is 2.7 million boxes, 4 percent of the non-Valencia total.

The hurricane seasons of 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 have been excluded from the usual 10-year regression analysis and from comparisons of the current season to previous seasons. For those previous 8 seasons, average actual production is 176.9 million boxes. The October forecast has deviated from final production by an average of 3 percent with 6 seasons above and 2 below, with differences ranging from 3 percent below to 5 percent above.

The estimated number of bearing trees for all oranges is 57.4 million, down 1 percent from the previous season. Trees planted in 2008 and earlier are considered bearing this season. Field work for the latest Commercial Citrus Inventory was completed in July 2011. Attrition rates were applied to the results to determine the number of bearing trees which are used to weight and expand objective count data in the forecast model.

The estimated fruit per tree for all oranges is 711, a decrease of 3 percent from last season. Average fruit per tree includes regular bloom and the first late bloom. Limb Count survey records indicate 2 fruit per tree considered first late bloom. Second late bloom fruit is measured to be 1 fruit per tree this season and is not included in the forecast.

Weather patterns during early 2011 were very dry with drought conditions covering the majority of the citrus producing region. Steady irrigation helped maintain adequate moisture in most areas. Seasonal showers in August and September brought relief to the drought in the Northern, Western and Southern citrus production areas. Overall trees and fruit are in good condition in well cared for groves. Heavy and widespread citrus bloom covered the citrus region in late February and early March.

The procedures used in this forecast are the same as used in past seasons. The methodology is described on page 5 of this report. All references to "average" refer to the average of the previous 8 non-hurricane seasons.

Non-Valencia Oranges 74.0 Million Boxes

The **non-Valencia** forecast of 74.0 million boxes is 5 percent higher than last season's production. The estimated number of bearing trees (excluding Navels) is 23.9 million, down 1 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree for early-midseason oranges is 919, a decrease of 1 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is above average, requiring an estimated 239 pieces of fruit to fill a 90-pound box. Projected droppage is above average at 10 percent.

The prorated forecast shows an increase of 600 thousand boxes in the Southern area compared to last season. The Indian River area shows a decrease of 400 thousand boxes and all other areas show a combined increase of 3.5 million boxes when compared to 2010-2011.

The **Navel** forecast of 2.7 million boxes is 2 percent higher than last season's production. The estimated number of bearing trees is 1.0 million, down 4 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree is 481, a decrease of 1 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is below average, requiring an estimated 136 pieces of fruit to fill a 90-pound box. Projected droppage is above average at 11 percent.

Valencia Oranges 73.0 Million Boxes

The **Valencia** forecast of 73.0 million boxes is 4 percent higher than last season's production. The estimated number of bearing trees is 32.5 million, down 1 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree is 567, a decrease of 5 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is just above average, requiring an estimated 207 pieces of fruit to fill a 90-pound box. Projected droppage is just above average at 15 percent.

The prorated forecast shows an increase in production across all production areas compared to last year. The Southern area shows the largest increase of 1.9 million boxes, a 9 percent increase from last season. The Indian River area shows an increase of 800 thousand boxes and all other areas show a combined increase of 300 thousand boxes when compared to 2010-2011.

FCOJ Yield 1.60 Gallons per Box

The projection for frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) is 1.60 gallons per box of 42° Brix concentrate. Last season's final yield for all oranges was 1.586081 gallons per box, as reported by the Florida Department of Citrus. Projections for the components will be published in January. Record yields are 1.597195 gallons per box for the early-midseason variety in 2008-2009, and 1.790343 gallons per box for Valencias which occurred in 2007-2008. The record yield for all oranges is 1.672737, set in 2007-2008.

All Grapefruit 20.1 Million Boxes

The forecast of grapefruit production is 20.1 million boxes, nearly 2 percent higher than last season's production. The total is comprised of 5.6 million boxes of white grapefruit and 14.5 million boxes of colored grapefruit. All grapefruit bearing trees are estimated to be 4.9 million, down 3 percent from last season.

The **white** grapefruit forecast of 5.6 million boxes is 4 percent lower than last season's production. The estimated number of bearing trees is down 4 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree is 443, a decrease of 7 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is below average, requiring an estimated 95 pieces of fruit to fill an 85-pound box. Projected droppage is above average at nearly 15 percent.

The **colored** grapefruit forecast of 14.5 million boxes is 4 percent higher than last season's final production. The estimated number of bearing trees is down 3 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree is 430, a decrease of 4 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is slightly above average, requiring an estimated 100 pieces of fruit to fill an 85-pound box. Projected droppage is above average at 13 percent.

All Tangerines 4.7 Million Boxes

The forecast of all tangerines is 4.7 million boxes, 1 percent more than last season's production but below the average of post-hurricane seasons. The total is comprised of 2.5 million boxes of the early varieties (Fallglo and Sunburst) and 2.2 million boxes of the late maturing Honey variety. All tangerine bearing trees are estimated to be 1.8 million, down 4 percent from last season.

The **Fallglo** tangerine forecast of 650 thousand boxes is equal to last season's final production. The estimated number of bearing trees is down 1 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree is 841, a decrease of 11 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is slightly above average, requiring an estimated 257 pieces of fruit to fill a 95-pound box. Projected droppage is above average at 18 percent.

The **Sunburst** tangerine forecast of 1.85 million boxes is 5 percent lower than last season's final production. The estimated number of bearing trees is down 5 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree is 904, a 21 percent decrease from last season. Projected fruit size is above average, requiring an estimated 301 pieces of fruit to fill a 95-pound box. Projected droppage is slightly above average at 12 percent.

The **Honey** tangerine forecast of 2.2 million boxes is 7 percent higher than last season's final production. The estimated number of bearing trees is down 3 percent from last season. The estimated fruit per tree is 1,098, an increase of 16 percent from last season and greater than all but the 2007-2008 value used in the regressions. Projected fruit size is slightly below average, requiring an estimated 264 pieces of fruit to fill a 95-pound box. Projected droppage is above average at 39 percent.

Tangelos 1.1 Million Boxes

The tangelo forecast of 1.10 million boxes is 4 percent lower than last season's final production. The estimated number of bearing trees is down 6 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree is 687, a decrease of 13 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is above average, requiring an estimated 236 pieces of fruit to fill a 90-pound box. Projected droppage is above average at 10 percent.

Forecast Procedures

All citrus forecasts are based on actual fruit counts and measurements. The objective count method uses four components:

(1) bearing age trees provided from the latest Commercial Citrus Inventory;
(2) average fruit per tree obtained from the Limb Count survey using randomly selected trees and limbs;
(3) fruit size from the fruit measurement survey and
(4) fruit loss from the drop survey.

These measurements are used in the forecast models, which use data from the 2001-2002 through 2010-2011 seasons, excluding the hurricane seasons of 2004-2005 and 2005-2006.

The latest tree inventory is used to determine estimated tree numbers. All trees planted in 2008 and earlier are included for the current season. An attrition factor was applied to these tree numbers (by age and area) to account for losses since the inventory period.

Statistically valid procedures are used to provide unbiased estimates of fruit count. Samples are drawn with known probabilities from the Commercial Citrus Inventory, taking into account the variability in fruit per tree. Limbs are randomly selected from sample trees. Fruit on these limbs are counted in the mid-July to mid-September period.

Fruit size and loss surveys were conducted in August and September. Results of these surveys are used in the models to project the fruit size at harvest and the fruit population expected to be available for harvest.

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

CITRUS COMMERCIAL CITRUS INVENTORY PRELIMINARY REPORT

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
2290 Lucien Way, Suite 300, Maitland, FL 32751
(407) 648-6013 · (407) 648-6029 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/fl

September 22, 2011

Orange Acreage Down 2 Percent
Grapefruit Acreage Down 2 Percent
Specialty Acreage Down 6 Percent

Results of the annual commercial citrus inventory show total citrus acreage is 541,328, down 2.3 percent, from the last survey. Compared to the previous inventory, the net decrease of 12,709 acres is less with a lower gross loss (21,769) and fewer new plantings (9,060). Of the 30 counties included in the survey, 23 recorded decreases in acreage, 5 showed increases, and 2 are unchanged. Martin County, down 4,567 acres, has suffered the greatest loss for three straight years and has been declining since 1994. Desoto County has recorded gains in the last 4 surveys and this year's gain of 739 is the most of any county. Polk remains the leader in acreage with 82,577 and has taken the lead in trees with 9.9 million.

Orange acreage declined for the seventh consecutive survey to 473,086 the lowest since the record low of 466,252 tallied in the 1986 inventory. Only the Western area showed an increase in orange acreage. Valencias comprise 56 percent of the total orange trees, non-Valencias account for 43 percent, with the unidentified trees as the remainder. Bearing trees comprise 93 percent of the total trees, similar to recent years.

Grapefruit acreage fell to a new low of 48,990, representing only 55 percent of the pre-hurricanes figure. The combined white and colored seedless varieties lost nearly 1,300 acres since the previous inventory. The Indian River District still holds 74 percent of the total grapefruit acreage even after losing more than 500 acres. Only 561 acres of seedy grapefruit remain.

Specialty acreage continued to decline to a record low of 19,252. All tangerine acreage fell 4 percent to 13,127. Honey tangerines account for 48 percent of the tangerine total with 6,342 acres. Despite losses, Sunburst acreage is 78 percent of the early tangerine total with 5,326, while Fallglo is down to 1,459. Tangelo acreage decreased 7 percent to 4,383. Over 58 percent of the specialty acreage is located in the Central and Northern areas.

All Citrus: Acreage, by Variety and Survey Year, and Changes Between Surveys – Florida

Survey year	Oranges	Grapefruit	Specialty fruit	Total	Change [3]		Net change	Total
					Gross loss	New plantings		
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)
1974	642,431	130,326	91,341	864,098	40,181	26,260	-13,921	864,098
1976	628,567	137,909	85,893	852,369	40,518	28,789	-11,729	852,369
1978 [1]	616,020	136,342	78,873	831,235	49,127	27,993	-21,134	831,235
1980	627,174	139,944	78,165	845,283	25,925	39,973	+14,048	845,283
1982 [1]	636,864	139,939	71,053	847,856	51,942	54,515	+2,573	847,856
1984 [1]	573,991	134,680	52,694	761,365	159,719	73,228	-86,491	761,365
1986 [1]	466,252	117,845	40,395	624,492	185,598	48,725	-136,873	624,492
1988	536,737	119,606	41,586	697,929	52,240	125,677	+73,437	697,929
1990 [1]	564,809	125,300	42,658	732,767	85,858	120,696	+34,838	732,767
1992	608,636	135,166	47,488	791,290	74,704	133,227	+58,523	791,290
1994	653,370	146,915	53,457	853,742	45,214	107,666	+62,452	853,742
1996	656,598	144,416	56,673	857,687	35,947	39,892	+3,945	857,687
1998	658,390	132,817	54,053	845,260	49,325	36,898	-12,427	845,260
2000	665,529	118,145	48,601	832,275	59,516	46,531	-12,985	832,275
2002	648,806	105,488	43,009	797,303	77,197	42,225	-34,972	797,303
2004 [2]	622,821	89,048	36,686	748,555	88,875	40,127	-48,748	748,555
2006 [2]	529,241	63,419	28,713	621,373	150,805	23,623	-127,182	621,373
2008	496,518	56,881	23,178	576,577	66,924	22,128	-44,796	576,577
2009	492,529	53,863	22,422	568,814	19,918	12,155	-7,763	568,814
2010	483,418	50,189	20,430	554,037	25,109	10,332	-14,777	554,037
2011	473,086	48,990	19,252	541,328	21,769	9,060	-12,709	541,328

[1] January freezes in 1977, 1981, 1982, 1985, and 1986. December freezes in 1983, 1985, and 1989.
[2] August and September hurricanes in 2004, October hurricane in 2005.
[3] One year change beginning in 2009.

All Citrus: Acreage and Trees, by County and Year of Inventory

County	2008	2009	2010	2011	2008	2009	2010	2011
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(1,000 trees)	(1,000 trees)	(1,000 trees)	(1,000 trees)
Brevard	4,451	3,622	3,691	3,430	477.5	410.4	422.9	396.7
Charlotte	11,991	12,098	12,258	12,607	1,710.5	1,716.1	1,741.6	1,796.2
Citrus	138	139	130	122	15.5	15.7	14.8	14.0
Collier	31,596	31,247	30,366	30,078	4,634.0	4,579.5	4,443.5	4,406.1
DeSoto	61,426	62,304	62,508	63,247	8,239.5	8,304.5	8,334.6	8,435.5
Glades	9,052	9,090	8,571	8,433	1,392.8	1,389.7	1,285.7	1,265.9
Hardee	45,109	47,130	46,921	47,121	5,463.5	5,714.6	5,701.2	5,749.9
Hendry	69,927	66,821	66,814	64,797	10,576.8	10,038.6	10,019.9	9,723.1
Hernando	895	917	906	813	101.9	104.2	103.3	88.2
Highlands	62,599	62,443	62,440	62,301	8,025.6	8,018.5	8,044.0	8,004.2
Hillsborough	11,248	10,946	9,677	8,715	1,259.0	1,236.8	1,103.3	1,009.9
Indian River	39,013	38,377	35,497	34,899	4,344.1	4,204.0	3,843.2	3,781.6
Lake	13,100	12,884	12,397	11,903	1,829.2	1,797.3	1,729.3	1,680.4
Lee	10,373	10,477	10,511	10,490	1,417.1	1,433.1	1,436.4	1,429.5
Manatee	18,389	18,609	18,400	18,410	2,391.9	2,413.8	2,389.0	2,378.3
Marion	1,180	1,183	1,166	1,180	143.8	144.1	141.1	142.0
Martin	23,169	18,999	14,613	10,046	3,388.1	2,769.7	2,126.2	1,499.9
Okeechobee	8,327	7,930	7,627	7,079	940.1	901.2	876.3	843.3
Orange	3,674	3,618	3,572	3,515	437.8	433.4	426.2	420.8
Osceola	9,197	9,718	9,936	9,871	1,082.2	1,154.7	1,191.0	1,195.5
Palm Beach	997	1,013	453	346	170.6	164.5	80.1	48.8
Pasco	7,957	7,615	7,423	7,097	1,113.6	1,063.9	1,036.6	993.1
Polk	81,375	82,629	83,471	82,577	9,699.1	9,841.8	9,952.3	9,878.6
Putnam	190	203	202	196	29.5	30.5	30.3	29.7
St. Lucie	48,073	45,800	41,535	39,223	6,151.0	5,883.7	5,368.1	5,118.7
Sarasota	1,502	1,411	1,403	1,398	170.5	159.3	160.1	157.7
Seminole	491	482	428	422	56.9	55.4	50.2	49.8
Volusia	1,083	1,065	1,090	981	108.7	106.5	110.9	100.6
Other Counties [1]	55	44	31	31	5.3	5.0	2.7	2.7
Total	**576,577**	**568,814**	**554,037**	**541,328**	**75,376.1**	**74,090.5**	**72,164.8**	**70,640.7**

[1] Includes Alachua and Pinellas.

United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

CITRUS ABANDONED ACRES

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
2290 Lucien Way, Suite 300, Maitland, FL 32751
(407) 648-6013 · (407) 648-6029 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/fl

September 22, 2011

Abandoned Acreage Down 5 percent

In combination with the latest commercial citrus tree inventory, abandoned citrus groves were also identified. Experienced agricultural personnel evaluated tree condition and made an overall assessment of citrus groves contained in the maps of Florida citrus growing areas. The amount of abandoned citrus acreage is updated and published on an annual basis to keep pace with constant changes. Some citrus groves previously identified as abandoned have been removed and destroyed. Additional groves are added each year when they meet the abandoned grove criteria.

A grove is considered abandoned when the following conditions exist: no production care during the past 2 years, no weed control or grass mowing, livestock present, weather damage, neglected trees that are not economically feasible to maintain, or no commercial harvest during the last 2 seasons. In some cases, property owners or caretakers were contacted and questioned regarding future use of their citrus groves.

The Indian River District leads with 50,658 abandoned acres, or 37 percent of the total. The greatest increase of abandoned acres is 690 in Okeechobee County. Increases in total abandoned acreage occurred only in the Northern area. Eight of the counties have more abandoned grove acres compared to the last survey, and 4 counties had an increase in understory acres. Results of this survey include 5,388 understory acres comprised of pine stands and forested areas with abandoned, unintentional, or feral citrus trees scattered under their canopy. These acres pose a potential threat as a possible source of pests and diseases.

Florida Citrus: Abandoned Acreage by County and Survey Year

County	Parcels			Abandoned								
				Grove			Understory			Total		
	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011	2009	2010	2011
	(number)	(number)	(number)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)
Brevard	596	589	581	6,056	5,763	5,166	70	70	70	6,126	5,833	5,236
Charlotte	194	191	179	2,481	2,606	2,431	-	-	-	2,481	2,606	2,431
Citrus	11	11	11	175	120	120	27	90	90	202	210	210
Collier	27	22	17	430	338	256	-	-	-	430	338	256
DeSoto	488	388	364	5,343	3,498	3,393	-	-	-	5,343	3,498	3,393
Glades	35	46	48	565	769	809	-	-	-	565	769	809
Hardee	446	410	384	3,195	3,152	2,844	-	-	-	3,195	3,152	2,844
Hendry	416	434	357	12,399	12,575	8,809	37	37	37	12,436	12,612	8,846
Hernando	51	49	55	933	909	938	11	37	37	944	946	975
Highlands	194	200	206	2,147	2,393	2,540	-	-	-	2,147	2,393	2,540
Hillsborough	522	577	580	4,358	5,217	4,815	-	-	-	4,358	5,217	4,815
Indian River	792	724	734	13,234	11,947	12,118	-	124	124	13,234	12,071	12,242
Lake	809	928	946	9,766	10,230	9,911	1,242	2,287	2,727	11,008	12,517	12,638
Lee	109	110	101	897	825	796	-	-	-	897	825	796
Manatee	336	348	324	3,226	3,460	3,232	-	-	-	3,226	3,460	3,232
Marion	26	57	58	213	310	317	82	573	573	295	883	890
Martin	387	451	586	14,827	17,541	17,368	-	-	-	14,827	17,541	17,368
Okeechobee	87	100	145	1,998	1,984	2,674	-	-	-	1,998	1,984	2,674
Orange	273	297	291	2,621	3,197	3,245	49	100	320	2,670	3,297	3,565
Osceola	360	348	347	3,315	3,036	2,930	-	237	-	3,315	3,278	2,930
Palm Beach	169	176	180	5,618	5,936	6,071	-	-	-	5,618	5,936	6,071
Pasco	236	227	219	2,160	2,085	1,963	271	316	332	2,431	2,401	2,295
Polk	1,343	1,266	1,176	11,712	10,791	9,339	118	315	410	11,830	11,106	9,749
Putnam	12	13	15	98	101	85	-	-	-	98	101	85
St. Lucie	911	1,019	1,050	26,807	27,321	26,685	548	548	548	27,355	27,869	27,233
Sarasota	18	18	18	132	131	131	-	-	-	132	131	131
Seminole	93	79	77	646	483	440	-	8	8	646	491	447
Volusia	192	199	193	1,707	1,727	1,675	-	112	112	1,707	1,839	1,787
Others [1]	11	10	17	85	71	45	-	-	-	85	71	45
Total	**9,144**	**9,287**	**9,259**	**137,144**	**138,516**	**131,146**	**2,455**	**4,854**	**5,388**	**139,599**	**143,370**	**136,534**

- Represents zero.
[1] Alachua and Pinellas counties.

Gulf Citrus BMP Cost Share

Eligibility: Must have a signed Notice of Intent (NOI) with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Limited to $50,000 between now and June 31, 2012 on a first come, first serve basis

For Producers Currently Enrolled in FDACS BMP Program

1. Contact David "Bo" Griffin in the FDACS Okeechobee office at 863-462-5881 or by email at David.Griffin@freshfromflorida.com
2. Discuss the BMPs that you would like to install between October 2011 and June 2012. Provide cost estimates and a time frame for implementation and receive approval to proceed.
3. Sign up for NRCS EQIP program prior to October 31, 2011 to apply for eligible practices
4. Keep all original receipts and have them marked paid with the date, amount and check number
5. Contact David "Bo" Griffin in the Okeechobee FDACS office to review the implementation of BMPs
6. A Request for Payment will be generated for the appropriate amount of reimbursement

For Producers Who Are Not Currently Enrolled in FDACS BMP Program

1. Contact David "Bo" Griffin in the FDACS Okeechobee office at 863-462-5881 or by email at David.Griffin@freshfromflorida.com or Darren Cole at dc32@ufl.edu or 941-915-1936 to schedule a Citrus Assessment of your property. They will need the sections, townships and ranges of the property so they can have the appropriate documents prepared.
2. Once an assessment is complete and the Notice of Intent to Implement BMPs is signed then a grove is eligible to request FDACS cost share.

Gulf Citrus BMP Cost Share

Eligibility: Must have a signed Notice of Intent (NOI) with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Eligible BMPs and Cost Share Amounts

Producers are encouraged to sign up for NRCS Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) funding in order to receive greater cost share percentages. FDACS will pay cost share in conjunction with EQIP at a rate of one half of the producer's share. NRCS will cost share on the following practices:

- Conversion/Repair of Flashboard Risers
- Conversion to Low Volume Irrigation System
- On-Site Water Detention/Retention

FDACS Direct Cost Share is payable at the following rates:

Practice Title	Maximum Direct Cost Share	Maintenance Period
Chemigation/Fertigation Infrastructure	70%	5 years
Conversion/Repair of Flash Board Riser Water Control Structures	75%	5 years
Conversion to Low Volume Irrigation System	75%	10 years
On-Site Water Detention/Retention	70%	10 years
Precision Application Equipment	60%	5 years

Quick Overview of the Federal Worker Protection Standard (WPS)

Key Definitions Relating to WPS

Agricultural establishment --- any farm, forest nursery or greenhouse.
Agricultural employer --- any person who hires or contracts for services of workers/handlers, for any type of compensation, to perform activities related to the production of agricultural plants, or any person who is an owner or responsible for the management or condition of an agricultural establishment that uses workers/handlers.
Agricultural plant --- any plant grown or maintained for commercial or research purposes and includes, but is not limited to, food, feed, and fiber plants; trees; turfgrass; flowers; shrubs; ornamentals; and seedlings.
Handler --- any person, including a self employed person, who mixes, loads, transfers, applies, disposes pesticides or pesticide containers, cleans, adjusts, handles or repairs application equipment, acts as a flagger, etc.
Restricted entry interval (REI)--- the time after the completion of a pesticide application during which entry into the treated area is restricted.
Worker --- any person, including a self employed individual, who performs hand labor tasks, including weeding, harvesting, topping, sucker removal, packing produce in the field, thinning, etc.

What Employers Must Do for Both Workers and Handlers

Information at a central location

Information must be made available to workers and handlers at a central location where it can be easily accessed during normal business hours and must include the following information:

- EPA WPS Safety Poster
- Name, address and telephone number of the nearest medical facility
- Facts about each pesticide application (from before each application begins to 30 days after the REI)
  - Application list which includes the location and description of the area to be treated.
  - Product name, EPA registration number, and active ingredient(s) of the pesticide.
  - Time and date the pesticide is scheduled to be applied.
  - Restricted entry interval for the pesticide.

Pesticide Safety Training

Agricultural workers must be trained within the first 5 days of employment. Handlers must be trained before any handling activity is performed. Workers and handlers must each be trained at least once every 5 years. Trainers must:

- Use written and/or audiovisual materials,
- Use EPA approved materials for training,
- Conduct the training orally and/or audiovisually in a manner the employees can understand with an opportunity to answer questions and
- Meet one of the following criteria to perform training:
  - Currently be a certified applicator of Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs) or
  - Currently be designated by a State, Federal or Tribal agency having jurisdiction, as a trainer of pesticide applicators or
  - Have completed a pesticide safety Train the Trainer program conducted by a State, Federal or Tribal agency having jurisdiction.

Decontamination Supplies

Employers must establish a decontamination site within 1\4 mile of where workers and handlers are performing their duties. Handlers mixing pesticides must have a decontamination site at the mixing area.

The decontamination site must include:

- Enough water for routine washing and for eye flushing,
- An adequate supply of soap and single use towels,
- Enough water to wash the entire body (for handlers only) and
- A clean change of clothes such as coveralls (for handlers only).

Employer/Commercial Applicator Information Exchange

Before any application, commercial handler employers must make sure the operator of the agricultural establishment where a pesticide will be applied is aware of:

- Specific location and description of area (s) to be treated,
- Time and date of application,
- Product name, EPA registration number, and active ingredient,
- Restricted entry interval for the pesticide,
- Notification requirements; oral/posting and
- Any other specific requirements for the protection of workers and other persons during or after the application.

Operators of agricultural establishments must make sure any commercial pesticide establishment operator they hire is aware of:

- Specific location and description of all areas on the establishment where pesticides will be applied or where an REI will be in effect while the commercial handler is on the establishment and
- Restrictions on entering those areas.

Emergency Assistance

Agricultural employers must make emergency transportation available for workers and handlers to an emergency medical facility. In the event of a suspected poisoning, they must also provide information to the victim and medical personnel about the pesticide including:

- product name, EPA registration number and active ingredients,
- all first aid and medical information from the label,
- description of how the pesticide was used and
- information about the victim's exposure.

Additional Duties for Handler Employers

- Do not allow handlers to apply a pesticide so that it contacts, either directly or through drift, anyone other than trained and PPE equipped handlers.
- Make sight or voice contact at least every 2 hours with anyone handling pesticides with a skull and crossbones on the label.
- Make sure a trained handler equipped with labeling-specific PPE maintains constant voice or visual contact with any handler in a greenhouse who is doing fumigant-related tasks, such as application or air-level monitoring.
- Before any handling task, inform handlers, in a manner they can understand, of all pesticide labeling instructions for safe use.
- Keep pesticide labeling accessible to each handler during entire handling task.
- Before handlers use any assigned handling equipment, tell them how to use it safely.

Additional Duties for Worker Employers

- During any REI, do not allow workers to enter a treated area and contact anything treated with the pesticide to which an REI applies.

FALL NUTRITION OF CITRUS TREES

To increase fertilizer efficiency, soil and leaf analysis data should be studied and taken into consideration when generating a fertilizer program and selecting a fertilizer formulation. Dry fertilizer application should be split into 3 to 4 applications per year with a **complete balanced fertilizer**. Based on tree demands, 1/4 to 1/3 of the yearly fertilizer amount should be applied in the fall to satisfy vegetative growth demand. However, late fall fertilizer applications may delay fruit color development and fruit maturity for early season tangerine cultivars.

MAGNESIUM NUTRITION

Magnesium deficiency symptoms occur on mature leaves following the removal of Mg to satisfy fruit requirements. During the summer, when a rapid increase in fruit size occurs, the symptoms appear on leaves close to the developing fruit. Magnesium deficiency symptoms appear as a result of translocation of Mg from the leaves to the developing fruit, although there may also be a translocation from older leaves to young developing leaves on the same shoot.

Disconnected yellow areas or irregular yellow blotches start near the base along the midribs of mature leaves that are close to fruit. They become gradually larger and eventually coalesce to form a large area of yellow tissue on each side of the midrib. This yellow area enlarges until only the tip and the base of the leaf are green, showing an inverted V-shaped area pointed on the midrib. In acute deficiency, the yellow area may gradually enlarge until the entire leaf becomes yellow or bronze in color. Leaves that have lost most of their green color due to Mg deficiency drop freely under unfavorable conditions. Defoliated twigs become weak and usually die by the following spring. Severe defoliation will reduce the average size of individual fruit and cause a general decline in fruit production. In Florida, Mg deficiency in citrus is caused primarily by low levels of Mg on acid light sandy soils and on calcareous soils. Leaching of added Mg is particularly serious and substantially rapid when the soil pH is 4.5 to 5.0. Under such conditions, the use of dolomite to bring the pH to 6.5 will furnish Mg too.

FIXING Mg DEFICIENCY

Soil application of Mg sulfate or oxide to provide 50-60 lbs of Mg per acre can be successful in correcting Mg deficiency when the soil pH is adjusted. Under calcareous soils, the amounts of Mg applied must be greater than those applied on soils low in calcium or potassium. Foliar spray applications of Mg nitrate (3-5 gallons/acre) can be effective when applied on the spring and summer flush leaves when they are about fully expanded. Remember that Magnesium should be applied regularly at 1/5 (or 20%) of the N rate unless leaf analysis shows more than 0.50% Mg. If leaf Mg deficiency symptoms occur, Mg should be applied in the fertilizer, and the rate should be increased up to 30% of the N rate until symptoms are no longer present in mature leaves of subsequent flushes.

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 or fax to: 863 674 4636. 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?

_____ Grower	____ Chemical Industry	____ Service Provider
_____ Production Manager	____ Regulator	____ University
_____ Consultant	____ 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