

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

Flatwoods Citrus



Vol. 15, No. 10

October 2012

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/>

SW Florida AGRICULTURAL Water Management Conference
October 23, 2012 (9:30 a.m.--3:00 p.m.)
Dallas Townsend Agricultural Center
LaBelle, Florida



As you are acutely aware...farmers, growers and ranchers continue to face an increasing number of complex issues related to water management. These issues are centered on the “quality” and “quantity” of this precious natural resource here in Southwest Florida. This conference is aimed at providing the latest updates on these water issues.

The 2012 SW Florida AGRICULTURAL Water Management Conference is being co-hosted by the following agricultural organizations:

Florida Farm Bureau Federation (FFBF)
Gulf Citrus Growers Association (GCGA)
Hendry County Cattlemen’s Association (HCCA)

Please plan to participate in this water conference featuring the top water management professionals such as Jacksonville District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Senior Leader **Dave Hobbe** ; South Florida Water Management District, Executive Director **Melissa Meeker**; Florida Department of Agriculture, Office of Agricultural Water Policy, Director **Rich Budell**; Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Environmental Assessment & Restoration, Director **Drew Bartlett**. These and other speakers will present the latest information on Lake Okeechobee operations and management, the establishment of Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs) for the Caloosahatchee River Basins, the setting of “Total Maximum Daily Loads” (TMDLs), EPA’s “numeric nutrient criteria”, agricultural “Best Management Practices” (BMPs), water supply planning, innovative water shortage initiatives, and other strategically significant issues impacting water resources for agricultural users.

THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THE CONFERENCE OR THE BBQ LUNCHEON, HOWEVER YOU MUST “RSVP” TO PARTICIPATE!
DUE TO ROOM SIZE, ATTENDANCE IS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 120!

Please complete the form below and return it to the Gulf Citrus Growers Association by Friday, October 19, 2012. **Reservations are on a first come, first served basis!** For further information, please contact GCGA at (239) 690-0281.

SW Florida Agricultural Water Management Conference
 October 23, 2012 (9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.) at the Dallas Townsend Agricultural Center, LaBelle, Florida
Please RSVP to Bernadette Rashford via mail, fax, phone or email before October 19, 2012



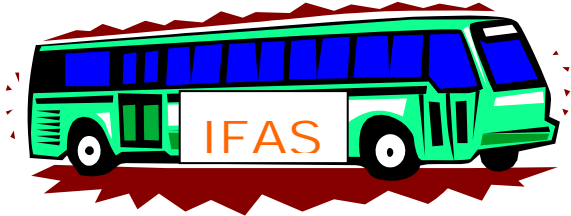
Gulf Citrus Growers Association
 11741 Palm Beach Blvd., #202
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 Email: gulfcitrus@embarqmail.com

Company Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone #: _____ Fax #: _____
 Name: _____
 Name: _____

Please take a moment to fill out the survey on [page 20](#) and to rate the quality and usefulness of the information presented in the Flatwoods Citrus newsletter on [page 21](#).

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

HENDRY COUNTY EXTENSION AG TOURS



Saturday, 1 December 2012
Saturday, 2 February 2013
Saturday, 9 March 2013
For more information or to sign up,
call Debra at 863 674 4092

Citrus Research Field Day

December 13, 2012

Pre-registration required

For more details and registration, call Jane Wilson at 863 956 8643

The Florida Ag Expo in Balm, November 7, 2012

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

The Florida Citrus Show in Fort Pierce, January 23-24 2013

Havert L. Fenn Center, Ft. Pierce, FL

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

3rd International Research Conference on HLB

February 4-8, 2013, Caribe Royale Orlando All-Suites Hotel and Convention Center. For more information, visit <http://irchlb.org>

ANNUAL FLORIDA CITRUS GROWERS' INSTITUTE

Date & Time: Tuesday, 2 April 2013, 8:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Location: Avon Park Campus of South Florida Community College

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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2012 WATER WATCH

Keeping an Eye on Water Resources

District-Wide Conditions for September 25, 2012

The South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) is issuing the following briefing:

Following a dry period earlier in the rainy season, water levels across South Florida have significantly increased in recent weeks as a result of Tropical Storm Isaac and subsequent summer rains. On Aug. 26-27, Isaac brought an average of 4.76 inches of rain across the District's 16-county region — the third-highest two-day rainfall total for the region in at least 20 years. The heaviest rainfall was concentrated in Palm Beach and Broward counties, with local maximums of nearly 15 inches. Rainfall so far in September has been near or above average throughout the region.

With above average rainfall directly over Lake Okeechobee and in the Kissimmee Basin, the lake level has increased 3 feet in the last month and continues to rise. Water levels in the Everglades Water Conservation Areas also remain at or above their regulation schedules.

The District continues to monitor water levels and operate the system to maintain flood control while capturing as much water as possible for the upcoming dry season. For more information on the rainy season and other water updates, visit:

- [Flood and Rainy Season Readiness](#)
- [SFWMD Weather/Rainfall Data](#)
- [Climate Prediction Center Precipitation Forecast](#)

Lake Okeechobee Levels

Today	15.38 feet
Historical Average for Today	14.75 feet
This Date One Year Ago	11.01 feet
One Month Ago	12.38 feet
One Week Ago	15.11 feet

Water Levels in Key Locations

LOCATION	CURRENT WATER LEVEL	ONE MONTH AGO	HISTORICAL AVERAGE FOR TODAY
Lake Istokpoga	38.88 feet	38.24 feet	39.02 feet
WCA-1	17.09 feet	16.43 feet	16.35 feet
WCA-2	13.97 feet	12.27 feet	13.23 feet
WCA-3	11.32 feet	10.17 feet	10.55 feet
Lake Kissimmee	51.29 feet	50.76 feet	51.07 feet
For a map of wet season rainfall totals in all District basins, click here .			

Tropical Storm Isaac Response and Recovery

- The primary SFWMD flood control system, including pump stations, gates and locks, has fully recovered from Tropical Storm Isaac and returned to normal rainy season operations. Groundwater conditions remain seasonally high.
- A post-storm analysis showed the District moved an estimated 105 billion gallons of water away from residents in Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties during and immediately following Tropical Storm Isaac.
- To aid in local flooding relief efforts, SFWMD engineers and field staff designed and constructed an emergency weir and flow-way to relieve pressure on a levee separating the J.W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area from a residential area in western Palm Beach County. Water levels in the Corbett Area have declined to an acceptable level.
- More information on the District's storm response is available at www.sfwmd.gov/isaac.

Other Actions

Lake Okeechobee releases

- On Sept. 19, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began releasing water from Lake Okeechobee to the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers as part of its efforts to manage the rising lake level. The Corps is responsible for managing Lake Okeechobee and makes decisions whether to retain or release water based on its lake regulation schedule, which aims to keep the lake level between 12.5 and 15.5 feet NGVD.
 - District staff recommended last week that the Corps follow the guidance in the regulation schedule. The District's current operational position statement is available [here](#).

Navigation

- All Kissimmee River navigation locks are open.
- The S-193 Lock, located on Taylor Creek on the north shore of Lake Okeechobee, is closed due to ongoing renovation work to refurbish the lock and ensure decades of reliable service.
- Due to rising Lake Okeechobee levels, lock operations have resumed at the S-310 Lock, located near Clewiston on the south shore of the lake. Boaters must now "lock through" to navigate between the lake and the Clewiston Canal.

Water Conservation Measures

- South Florida is under the District's Year-Round Landscape Irrigation Rule that limits residential and business landscape irrigation to two or three days per week based on location.
 - To determine watering days and times in your area, contact your local government or visit www.sfwmd.gov/2days.
- Permitted water users such as nurseries, agriculture, golf courses and utilities should continue following the water use conditions in their permits.
 - Permit details can be found in the Application/Permit records search online at www.sfwmd.gov/ePermitting.
- For information about water conservation, visit www.savewaterfl.com.

#

Media inquiries can be directed to:

Randy Smith

South Florida Water Management District

Office: (561) 682-2800 or Cellular: (561) 389-3386



CITRUS

2011-2012 CITRUS SUMMARY
PRODUCTION, PRICE AND VALUE
PRODUCTION BY COUNTY AND PER TREE

Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
2290 Lucien Way, Suite 300, Maitland, FL 32751-7057
(407) 648-6013 · (407) 648-6029 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/fl

September 20, 2012

All Citrus Production Up 3 Percent, Value Down 1 Percent

The \$1.35 billion preliminary on-tree value of the 2011-2012 citrus crop is 1 percent less than the revised value of \$1.37 billion for 2010-2011. Florida accounted for 65 percent of the total U.S. citrus production with 170.9 million boxes of citrus in the 2011-2012 season, up 3 percent from the previous season's 166.1 million boxes. Production of oranges increased while production of grapefruit and tangerines decreased. Tangelo production remained unchanged from the 2010-2011 season.

All orange production increased by over 4 percent to 146.6 million boxes. Navel production is 2.65 million boxes, unchanged from the 2010-2011 season. All grapefruit production is down 5 percent to 18.9 million boxes. Production of Honey tangerines is down 4 percent and early tangerine production is down 10 percent, resulting in an 8 percent decrease in all tangerines.

The price per box is higher for grapefruit and tangelos but lower for all other citrus. The tangelo on-tree value increased nearly 73 percent from last season. Non-Valencia oranges and all grapefruit also had increases in the value of production of 5 percent and 2 percent respectively.

Florida Citrus Production, Utilization, Price, and Value, by Variety: Crop Years 2010-2011 and 2011-2012

Variety	Production (1,000 boxes)	Crop utilization		On-tree	
		Fresh use (1,000 boxes)	Processing (1,000 boxes)	Price per box (dollars)	Value of Production (1,000 dollars)
Non-Valencia Oranges					
2010-2011	70,300	4,122	66,178	7.11	500,040
2011-2012	74,200	3,998	70,202	7.09	525,773
Valencia Oranges					
2010-2011	70,200	1,837	68,363	9.71	681,858
2011-2012	72,400	2,134	70,266	8.85	641,068
All Oranges					
2010-2011	140,500	5,959	134,541	8.41	1,181,898
2011-2012	146,600	6,132	140,468	7.96	1,166,841
White Grapefruit					
2010-2011	5,850	1,378	4,472	5.66	33,126
2011-2012	5,350	1,147	4,203	6.24	33,365
Colored Grapefruit					
2010-2011	13,900	7,005	6,895	7.17	99,621
2011-2012	13,500	6,784	6,716	7.55	101,985
All Grapefruit					
2010-2011	19,750	8,383	11,367	6.72	132,747
2011-2012	18,850	7,931	10,919	7.18	135,350
Tangelos					
2010-2011	1,150	443	707	5.58	6,423
2011-2012	1,150	434	716	9.65	11,101
Early Tangerines ¹					
2010-2011	2,600	1,742	858	9.43	24,525
2011-2012	2,330	1,665	665	7.49	17,448
Honey Tangerines					
2010-2011	2,050	1,265	785	11.17	22,889
2011-2012	1,960	1,173	787	10.66	20,888
All Tangerines					
2010-2011	4,650	3,007	1,643	10.23	47,558
2011-2012	4,290	2,838	1,452	8.99	38,554
All Citrus					
2010-2011	166,050	(X)	(X)	(X)	1,368,626
2011-2012	170,890	(X)	(X)	(X)	1,351,846

Citrus Production by County and Production Area, by Type — Florida: 2011-2012

County	All Citrus (1,000 boxes)	Oranges			Grapefruit		
		Non-Valencia (1,000 boxes)	Late (Valencia) (1,000 boxes)	All (1,000 boxes)	White (1,000 boxes)	Colored (1,000 boxes)	All (1,000 boxes)
Brevard.....	637	302	236	538	21	37	58
Charlotte.....	3,393	1,023	1,752	2,775	8	333	341
Collier.....	9,352	4,212	4,582	8,794	23	328	351
DeSoto.....	18,579	7,730	10,642	18,372	45	68	113
Glades.....	2,720	1,568	1,042	2,610	-	20	20
Hardee.....	13,760	9,193	4,298	13,491	19	64	83
Hendry.....	19,924	7,961	10,816	18,777	153	598	751
Hernando.....	249	223	3	226	-	7	7
Highlands.....	23,692	8,796	13,605	22,401	283	448	731
Hillsborough.....	2,541	1,737	653	2,390	4	7	11
Indian River.....	9,369	1,528	1,007	2,535	2,724	3,962	6,686
Lake.....	4,174	2,285	771	3,056	30	487	517
Lee.....	3,042	1,117	1,530	2,647	20	223	243
Manatee.....	6,398	3,630	2,664	6,294	18	20	38
Marion.....	381	275	43	318	2	18	20
Martin.....	1,853	492	1,215	1,707	61	66	127
Okeechobee.....	1,769	820	621	1,441	58	169	227
Orange.....	1,227	746	380	1,126	4	29	33
Osceola.....	3,451	1,936	1,031	2,967	185	224	409
Pasco.....	2,915	2,291	507	2,798	3	36	39
Polk.....	31,229	14,822	12,936	27,758	461	1,220	1,681
St. Lucie.....	9,378	1,080	1,874	2,954	1,212	5,033	6,245
Sarasota.....	344	105	143	248	14	41	55
Seminole.....	128	86	14	100	-	15	15
Volusia.....	210	159	24	183	2	17	19
Other ²	175	83	11	94	-	30	30
Total.....	170,890	74,200	72,400	146,600	5,350	13,500	18,850
Indian River.....	19,048	2,500	3,100	5,600	4,000	9,100	13,100
Northern.....	9,341	6,109	1,744	7,853	39	615	654
Central.....	57,945	25,291	27,456	52,747	911	1,885	2,796
Western.....	41,627	22,400	18,400	40,800	100	200	300
Southern.....	42,929	17,900	21,700	39,600	300	1,700	2,000
Total.....	170,890	74,200	72,400	146,600	5,350	13,500	18,850



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 20, 2012

All Citrus Acreage Down 2 Percent

Results of the annual Commercial Citrus Inventory show total citrus acreage is 531,493, down almost 2 percent from the last survey and the lowest in a series which began in 1966. Orange, grapefruit, and specialty acreage also set new lows in the series. Compared to the previous inventory, the net decrease of 9,385 acres is less with a lower gross loss (19,383) and more new plantings (9,548). Of the 29 counties included in the survey, 24 recorded decreases in acreage, and 5 showed increases. Martin County, down 2,863 acres, has suffered the greatest loss for four straight years and has been declining since 1994. Desoto County has recorded gains in the last 5 surveys and this year's gain of 1,011 is the most of any county. Polk remains the leader in acreage with 82,572 and trees with 9.9 million.

Orange acreage declined for the eighth consecutive survey to 464,918, down 2 percent from the previous survey. 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 orange trees, similar to recent years.

Grapefruit acreage fell 2 percent from the last survey to 48,191, a 54 percent reduction in the last decade. The combined white and colored seedless varieties lost 756 acres since the previous inventory. Only the Southern Area showed an increase in grapefruit acreage. The Indian River District still holds 75 percent of the total grapefruit acreage even after losing more than 560 acres.

Specialty acreage continued to decline and is down 5 percent from the last survey at 18,384. All tangerine acreage fell 4 percent to 12,552. Honey tangerines account for 49 percent of the tangerine total with 6,135 acres. Despite losses, Sunburst acreage is 79 percent of the early tangerine total with 5,080, while Fallglo is down to 1,337. Tangelo acreage decreased 5 percent to 4,173. Over 57 percent of the specialty acreage is located in the Central and Southern areas.

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

Survey year	Oranges (acres)	Grapefruit (acres)	Specialty fruit (acres)	Total (acres)	Change ³		Net change (acres)	Total (acres)
					Gross loss (acres)	New plantings (acres)		
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
2012	464,918	48,191	18,384	531,493	19,383	9,548	-9,385	531,493

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

County	2009	2010	2011	2012	2009	2010	2011	2012
	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(acres)	(1,000 trees)	(1,000 trees)	(1,000 trees)	(1,000 trees)
Brevard.....	3,622	3,691	3,430	3,330	410.4	422.9	396.7	387.3
Charlotte.....	12,098	12,258	12,607	13,071	1,716.1	1,741.6	1,796.2	1,869.7
Collier.....	31,247	30,366	30,078	30,780	4,579.5	4,443.5	4,406.1	4,503.3
DeSoto.....	62,304	62,508	63,247	64,258	8,304.5	8,334.6	8,435.5	8,595.2
Glades.....	9,090	8,571	8,433	8,149	1,389.7	1,285.7	1,265.9	1,240.9
Hardee.....	47,130	46,921	47,121	46,792	5,714.6	5,701.2	5,749.9	5,726.8
Hendry.....	66,821	66,814	64,797	63,792	10,038.6	10,019.9	9,723.1	9,553.4
Hernando.....	917	906	813	800	104.2	103.3	88.2	88.1
Highlands.....	62,443	62,440	62,301	61,525	8,018.5	8,044.0	8,004.2	7,898.3
Hillsborough.....	10,946	9,677	8,715	8,023	1,236.8	1,103.3	1,009.9	938.6
Indian River.....	38,377	35,497	34,899	32,820	4,204.0	3,843.2	3,781.6	3,592.3
Lake.....	12,884	12,397	11,903	11,060	1,797.3	1,729.3	1,680.4	1,577.4
Lee.....	10,477	10,511	10,490	10,589	1,433.1	1,436.4	1,429.5	1,444.6
Manatee.....	18,609	18,400	18,410	18,300	2,413.8	2,389.0	2,378.3	2,368.0
Marion.....	1,183	1,166	1,180	1,151	144.1	141.1	142.0	137.7
Martin.....	18,999	14,613	10,046	7,183	2,769.7	2,126.2	1,499.9	1,102.7
Okeechobee.....	7,930	7,627	7,079	6,850	901.2	876.3	843.3	819.4
Orange.....	3,618	3,572	3,515	3,373	433.4	426.2	420.8	405.5
Osceola.....	9,718	9,936	9,871	9,502	1,154.7	1,191.0	1,195.5	1,164.0
Pasco.....	7,615	7,423	7,097	7,040	1,063.9	1,036.6	993.1	984.4
Polk.....	82,629	83,471	82,577	82,572	9,841.8	9,952.3	9,878.6	9,938.8
Putnam.....	203	202	196	193	30.5	30.3	29.7	29.6
St. Lucie.....	45,800	41,535	39,223	37,424	5,883.7	5,368.1	5,118.7	4,865.6
Sarasota.....	1,411	1,403	1,398	1,336	159.3	160.1	157.7	151.4
Seminole.....	482	428	422	428	55.4	50.2	49.8	52.5
Volusia.....	1,065	1,090	981	815	106.5	110.9	100.6	85.8
Other Counties ¹	1,196	614	499	337	185.2	97.6	65.5	44.1
Total.....	568,814	554,037	541,328	531,493	74,090.5	72,164.8	70,640.7	69,565.4

Citrus Statistics- 2011-2012 season

Area	Fruit production (1,000 boxes)	Acreage (acres)	Tree number	Abandoned acreage (acres)
Charlotte	3,393	13,071	1,869,700	2,378
Collier	9,352	30,780	4,503,300	288
Glades	2,720	8,149	1,240,900	800
Hendry	19,924	63,792	9,553,400	7,919
Lee	3,042	10,589	1,444,600	767
SW Florida	38,431	126,381	18,611,900	12,152
Florida	170,890	531,493	69,565,400	136,533
Percentage SW FL/FL	22.5%	23.8%	26.8%	8.9%

FDACS approval of the Special Local Need 24(c) Registration Request for Admire Pro

We are happy to pass along communication of the conditional acceptance of the Bayer CropScience request for a 24(c) SLN Registration of Admire Pro for use on young citrus trees in Florida. This effort will provide additional assistance in suppressing ACP populations on young citrus trees that are 5-9 feet tall and are vulnerable to psyllid infestation. [Click here for correspondence from FDACS detailing the 24\(c\) approval and showing the label.](#) **Please refer to the label and note the specifics of use that are provided for with this registration:**

Details include:

- Change in the annual amount that can be applied to young citrus trees 5-9 feet tall in Florida
- Application to this tree size class cannot occur between November 1 and full petal fall
- Changes only apply to the specific tree size targeted with this request
- The SLN approval is for a fixed period which ends December 31, 2014

CRDF wants to thank the Florida Department of Agriculture, US, EPA for their thorough evaluation and determination in approving this registration. In addition, the participation of Florida citrus growers, the CRDF Commercial Product Development Committee, and University of Florida researchers assisted the process by establishing the basis for the need and by providing information to support the request. Our thanks to Bayer CropScience for working with the industry and the regulatory agencies to make this improvement to our ability to manage Asian citrus psyllid. Finally, this process also was greatly assisted through the efforts of Mr. Dan Botts of FFVA, who coordinated the effort and provided the communication link with all involved.

Please pass this information along to those who may be interested, [and remind everyone to follow the label.](#)

Regards,

Harold

Harold W. Browning
Chief Operations Officer
Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc.
700 Experiment Station Road
Lake Alfred, FL 33850
863 207-4612
hwbr@citrusrdf.org

COOPERATIVE DORMANT SPRAY PROGRAM AGAINST ASIAN CITRUS PSYLLID IN SW FLORIDA



The Asian citrus psyllid is the vector for the citrus greening disease or Huanglongbing (HLB). During late fall and early winter, weather in Florida is generally dry and cool, causing citrus trees to cease producing new foliage that psyllids depend on to lay eggs and reproduce. Adults must then “overwinter” by feeding on mature leaves until the spring flush, generally in mid to late February. An effective tool to suppress the pest is the “dormant spray” which is a foliar application of insecticide directed against overwintering adults. The dormant spray attacks the pest at its weakest point, when beneficial insects like ladybeetles and lacewings are generally absent from the groves. The larger the treated area of citrus, the greater is the effectiveness of dormant sprays.

For the last several years, the Gulf region has been launching coordinated spray programs to deal with the psyllids. We are seeking cooperation and support from ALL citrus growers. We are recommending 2 dormant sprays, the first in Nov-Dec after fall flush, and the second one in Jan-Feb before bud break or initiation of the new spring flush. These can be put on by air or by ground with any recommended insecticide to control psyllid adults.

To schedule an aerial spray in SW Florida, growers can contact Steve Fletcher, Fletcher Flying Service, Inc. Phone: 239 860 2028, e-mail: fletcherflying@hotmail.com and Jeff Summersill, Thomas R. Summersill, Inc., at 561 722 4502, e-mail: trsummersill@msn.com

For more information, contact
Dr. Phil Stansly (239 658 3400, pstansly@ufl.edu),
Dr. Mongi Zekri (863 674 4092, maz@ufl.edu)
or Mr. Ron Hamel (239 690 0281, gulfcitruscapron@embarqmail.com)

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-10-11/florida-s-orange-crop-forecast-5-bigger-on-favorable-weather.html>

Florida's Orange Crop Forecast 5% Bigger on Favorable Weather

By Patricia Laya - Oct 11, 2012 8:30 AM ET

The [orange](#) crop in Florida, the world's second-biggest grower, will be 5 percent larger than last season, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said, as favorable weather aids crops.

The state will produce 154 million boxes in the harvest that's just getting under way, up from a revised 146.6 million in the previous season and the biggest in four years, the USDA said today in its first [estimate](#) for the crop. The average forecast of seven analysts and traders in a Bloomberg News survey was 152.4 million boxes. A box weighs 90 pounds, or 41 kilograms.

"The trees look great," Michael Smith, the president of T&K Futures and Options in Port St. Lucie, [Florida](#), said in an e-mail before the report. Anything over 155 million boxes would need "perfect growing conditions, and that rarely happens," he said. Orange juice futures have tumbled 34 percent this year amid slowing demand in the U.S. and on expectations for a bigger crop in Florida. Yesterday, the November contract fell 0.6 percent to \$1.113 a pound on ICE Futures U.S. in New York. Florida's yields will average 1.61 gallons per box, down from 1.63 gallons a year earlier, the USDA said.

The state's harvest runs into July.



[Citrus Production Forecast](#)

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Florida/Publications/Citrus/cfp.htm

[October 11, 2012 Forecast](#)

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Florida/Publications/Citrus/cit/2012-13/cit1012.pdf



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 11, 2012

All Orange Production Up 5 Percent from Last Season
Non-Valencia Orange Production Down Slightly
Valencia Orange Production Up 10 Percent
All Grapefruit Production Up 8 Percent
All Tangerine Production Up 3 Percent
Tangelo Production Up 4 Percent

2012-2013 SEASON FORECAST DATES

November 9, 2012 December 11, 2012

Citrus Production by Type and State – United States

Crop and State	Production ¹			Forecasted Production
	2009-2010 (1,000 boxes)	2010-2011 (1,000 boxes)	2011-2012 (1,000 boxes)	2012-2013 (1,000 boxes)
Non-Valencia Oranges ²				
Florida	68,600	70,300	74,200	74,000
California	42,500	48,000	45,500	46,500
Texas	1,360	1,700	1,108	1,130
United States.....	112,460	120,000	120,808	121,630
Valencia Oranges				
Florida	65,100	70,200	72,400	80,000
California	15,000	14,500	13,500	13,000
Texas	275	249	311	286
United States.....	80,375	84,949	86,211	93,286
All Oranges				
Florida	133,700	140,500	146,600	154,000
California	57,500	62,500	59,000	59,500
Texas	1,635	1,949	1,419	1,416
United States.....	192,835	204,949	207,019	214,916
Grapefruit				
Florida-All	20,300	19,750	18,850	20,300
White.....	6,000	5,850	5,350	5,800
Colored.....	14,300	13,900	13,500	14,500
California	4,500	4,310	4,400	4,000
Texas	5,600	6,300	4,800	5,280
United States.....	30,400	30,360	28,050	29,580
Lemons				
California.....	21,000	20,500	20,500	20,500
Arizona.....	2,200	2,500	750	1,700
United States.....	23,200	23,000	21,250	22,200
Tangelos				
Florida.....	900	1,150	1,150	1,200
Tangerines				
Florida-All	4,450	4,650	4,290	4,400
Early ³	2,250	2,600	2,330	2,400
Honey	2,200	2,050	1,960	2,000
California ⁴	9,900	10,600	10,900	11,800
Arizona ⁴	350	300	200	200
United States.....	14,700	15,500	15,390	16,400

All Oranges 154.0 Million Boxes

The 2012-2013 Florida all orange forecast released today by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board is 154.0 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 80.0 million boxes of Valencia oranges. The Navel orange forecast is 2.2 million boxes, 3 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 166.3 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 4 percent below to 5 percent above.

The estimated number of bearing trees for all oranges is 56.8 million, down 1 percent from the previous season. Trees planted in 2009 and earlier are considered bearing this season. Field work for the latest Commercial Citrus Inventory was completed in July 2012. 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 811, an increase of 14 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 2 fruit per tree this season and is not included in the forecast.

Weather patterns during early 2012 were characterized by extreme drought conditions across the citrus producing region. Heavy and widespread citrus bloom covered the majority of the citrus region in March. Steady irrigation during the spring months helped maintain adequate soil moisture prior to the start of the hurricane season. Tropical Storms Debby in June and Isaac in August produced torrential rainfall, which ended Florida's drought situation. Trees and fruit are in good condition in well managed groves.

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," "minimum," and "maximum" refer to the previous 8 non-hurricane seasons.

Non-Valencia Oranges 74.0 Million Boxes

The non-Valencia forecast of 74.0 million boxes is slightly lower than last season's production. The estimated number of bearing trees (excluding Navels) is 23.7 million, down 1 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree for early-midseason oranges is 1,032, an increase of 12 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is below average, requiring an estimated 258 pieces of fruit to fill a 90-pound box. Projected droppage is above average at 12 percent.

The prorated forecast shows a decrease of 100 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 300 thousand boxes when compared to 2011-2012.

The Navel forecast of 2.2 million boxes is 17 percent lower than last season's production. If realized, this will be the lowest production since the 1985-1986 season. The estimated number of bearing trees is 1.0 million, down 3 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree is 409, a decrease of 15 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is below average, requiring an estimated 137 pieces of fruit to fill a 90-pound box. Projected droppage is above average at 16 percent.

Valencia Oranges 80.0 Million Boxes

The Valencia forecast of 80.0 million boxes is 10 percent higher than last season's production. The estimated number of bearing trees is 32.0 million, down 2 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree is 661, an increase of 17 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is below average, requiring an estimated 214 pieces of fruit to fill a 90-pound box. Projected droppage is above average at 17 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 4.6 million boxes, a 21 percent increase from last season. The Indian River area shows an increase of 1.1 million boxes and all other areas show a combined increase of 1.9 million boxes when compared to 2011-2012.

FCOJ Yield 1.61 Gallons per Box

The projection for frozen concentrated orange juice (FCOJ) is 1.61 gallons per box of 42° Brix concentrate. Last season's final yield for all oranges was 1.628480 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 category 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 projections of yield assume the processing relationships this season will be similar to those of the past several seasons.

All Grapefruit 20.3 Million Boxes

The forecast of grapefruit production is 20.3 million boxes, 8 percent higher than last season's production. The total is comprised of 5.8 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 1 percent from the previous season.

The white grapefruit forecast of 5.8 million boxes is 8 percent higher than last season's production. The estimated number of bearing trees is down 5 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree is 550, an increase of 24 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is above the minimum, requiring an estimated 103 pieces of fruit to fill an 85-pound box. Current droppage is above the maximum and projected droppage is above average at 18 percent.

The colored grapefruit forecast of 14.5 million boxes is 7 percent higher than last season's final production. The estimated number of bearing trees is up 1 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree is 492, an increase of 15 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is below average, requiring an estimated 111 pieces of fruit to fill an 85-pound box. Projected droppage is above average at 15 percent.

All Tangerines 4.4 Million Boxes

The forecast of all tangerines is 4.4 million boxes, 3 percent higher than last season's production. The total is comprised of 2.4 million boxes of the early varieties (Fallglo and Sunburst) and 2.0 million boxes of the later maturing Honey variety. All tangerine bearing trees are estimated to be 1.75 million, down 4 percent from last season.

The Fallglo tangerine forecast of 600 thousand boxes is 5 percent higher 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 863, an increase of 2 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is below average, requiring an estimated 300 pieces of fruit to fill a 95-pound box. Projected droppage is below average at 14 percent.

The Sunburst tangerine forecast of 1.80 million boxes is 2 percent higher than last season's final production. The estimated number of bearing trees is down 4 percent from the previous season. The estimated fruit per tree is 981, a 9 percent increase from last season. Projected fruit size is average, requiring an estimated 315 pieces of fruit to fill a 95-pound box. Projected droppage is above average at 15 percent.

The Honey tangerine forecast of 2.0 million boxes is 2 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 1,088, a decrease of only 5 pieces of fruit from last season. Projected fruit size is average, requiring an estimated 267 pieces of fruit to fill a 95-pound box. Projected droppage is above average at 40 percent.

Tangelos 1.2 Million Boxes

The tangelo forecast of 1.2 million boxes is 4 percent higher 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 875, an increase of 27 percent from last season. Projected fruit size is below average, requiring an estimated 264 pieces of fruit to fill a 90-pound box. Current droppage is the highest since 1975, and the projected droppage is above the maximum 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 2002-2003 through 2011-2012 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 2009 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.

EXTENSION EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear “Flatwoods Citrus” newsletter subscriber:

We would appreciate it if you fill out this survey and return it to: **Mongi Zekri**,
P.O. Box 68, LaBelle, FL 33975 E-mail: maz@ufl.edu Fax: 863 674 4636

Why do growers attend IFAS Extension Seminars & Workshops?

Please identify the level of importance for each of the following factors that influence you to participate in an Extension Educational Program.

	Not Important ▼	Slightly Important ▼	Somewhat Important ▼	Moderately Important ▼	Very Important ▼
CEUs & CCAs are offered					
Topics are relevant to your needs . .					
Includes a field day or a site visit . .					
Hands on activities are included . . .					
Production topics are emphasized . .					
Business and marketing topics are emphasized					
Regulatory topics are emphasized. .					
Day of the week and time of the day for the workshop					
Limited to 2-4 hours (1/2 day)					
Workshop occupies a full day (5-8 hours)					
Finding information on workshop in local media outlets					
Learning about workshop from other growers					
The Extension Agent who organizes the workshop					
Providing a brief description of the intended workshop speakers					
The workshop is free					
Refreshment and meals are provided free at the workshop					

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?

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <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