

Flatwoods Citrus. In order to save papers and postage, we would like to send you the "Flatwoods Citrus" newsletter electronically. <u>Please</u> <u>provide us with your e-mail address</u>. Send it to maz@ifas.ufl.edu

UPCOMING EVENTS



FARM SAFETY DAY IN SW FL

Date: Saturday, 6 June 2009 Location: Immokalee IFAS Center <u>Coordinator</u>: Mongi Zekri Information on registration and program agenda is enclosed in this issue of the newsletter.

Florida State Horticultural Society & The Soil and Crop Science

Society of Florida, June 7 through 9, 2009, Wyndham Jacksonville Riverwalk. <u>For</u> <u>more information see enclosed sheet</u> (Page 14).

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Steve Fletcher Fletcher Flying Service, Inc. Phone: 239 860 2028 Fax: 863 675 3725

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Larry Bridge 321 303 7437

Nufarm Agriculture USA Craig Noll

Office-239 549 2494 Mobile-239 691 8060 craig.noll@us.nufarm.com

<u>Gary Simmons</u>

Phone: 772 260 1058

<u>Jay Hallaron</u>

Chemtura Corporation

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

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Stacey Howell BAYER CropScience

239-272-8575 (mobile) 239-353-6491 (office/fax)

stacey.howell@bayercropscience.com

Garry Gibson BASF Corporation

1502 53rd Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32966 Cell: 772 473 1726 Fax: 772 567 2644 w.garry.gibson@basf.com

GREASY SPOT

Management of greasy spot must be considered in groves intended for processing and fresh market fruit. Greasy spot is usually more severe on leaves of grapefruit, pineapples, Hamlins, and tangelos than on Valencias, Temples, Murcotts, and most tangerines and their hybrids.

Greasy spot spores germinate on the underside of the leaves and the fungus penetrates through the stomates (natural openings on lower leaf surface). Warm humid nights and high rainfall, typical of Florida summers, favor infection and disease development.



On processing Valencias, a single spray of oil (5-10 gal/acre) or copper + oil (5 gal/acre) should provide acceptable control when applied from mid-May to June. With average quality copper products, 2 lb of metallic copper per acre usually provide adequate control. The strobilurin fungicides (Abound, Gem, or Headline), as well as Enable 2F, are also suitable with or without petroleum oil. On early and mid-season oranges and grapefruit for processing, two sprays may be needed especially in the southern part of the state where summer flushes constitute a large portion of the foliage. Two applications also may be needed where severe defoliation from greasy spot occurred in the previous year. In those cases, the first spray should be applied from mid-May to June and the second soon after the major summer flush has expanded. Copper fungicides provide a high degree of control more consistently than oil sprays. Control of greasy spot on late summer flushes is less important than on the spring and early summer growth flushes since the disease develops slowly and defoliation will not occur until after the next year's spring flush. Thorough coverage of the underside of leaves is necessary for maximum control of greasy spot, and higher spray volumes and slower tractor speeds may be needed than for control of other pests and diseases.

The program is essentially the same for fresh fruit. That is, a fungicide application in May-June and a second in July should provide control of rind blotch.



A third application in August may be needed if rind blotch has been severe in the grove. Petroleum oil alone is less effective than other fungicides for control of greasy spot rind blotch (GSRB). Heavier oils (455 or 470) are more effective for rind blotch control than are lighter oils (435). Copper fungicides are effective for control of GSRB, but may result in fruit spotting especially if applied at high rates in hot, dry weather or if applied with petroleum oil. If copper fungicides are applied in summer, they should be applied when temperatures are moderate, at rates no more than 2 lb of metallic copper per acre, without petroleum oil or other additives, and using spray volumes of at least 125 gal/acre. Enable 2F can be applied for greasy spot control at any time but is especially indicated in mid to late summer for rind blotch control.

The strobilurin fungicides (Abound, Gem, or Headline) or Enable 2F can be applied at any time to all citrus and provide effective control of the disease on leaves or fruit. Use of a strobilurin (Abound, Gem, or Headline) is especially indicated in late May and early June since it will control both melanose and greasy spot and avoids potential fruit damage from the copper fungicides at that time of year. A strobilurin fungicide should not be applied more than once a year for greasy spot control. Addition of petroleum oil increases the efficacy of these products.

Processed fruit

May-June

- Petroleum oil (455, 470) 5-10 gal
- Cu fungicides 2-4 lb metal
- Abound, Gem, Headline + 5 gal oil
- Enable

July

- Petroleum oil (455, 470) 5-10 gal
- Cu fungicides 2-4 lb metal
- Abound, Gem, Headline + 5 gal oil
- Enable

Fresh fruit

May-June

- Petroleum oil (455, 470) 10 gal
- Cu fungicides < 2 lb metal, <u>No oil</u>
- Abound, Gem, Headline + 5 gal oil

July

- Petroleum oil (455, 470) 10 gal
- Cu fungicides < 2 lb metal
- Abound, Gem, Headline + 5 gal oil
- Enable 8 oz. + 5 gal oil

For more information on greasy spot, go to http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/document_cg018

Southeast Climate Consortium (SECC)

-April 2009

Current Climate Phase: Neutral

The Pacific Ocean has returned to Neutral conditions signaling the end of La Niña.

SECC Spring/Early Summer Climate Outlook

Drought worsens in peninsular Florida, persists in North Georgia and the Carolinas.

South of a diagonal line from Gainesville to St. Augustine, the peninsula received only 1-2 inches during the month of March and continued the string of months with below-normal rainfall. With winter rainfall deficits from 5 to 10 inches. drought continues to worsen across central and south Florida. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, most of the peninsula is now classified as being in moderate or severe drought. Fortunately, Lake Okeechobee levels are higher this year (due to tropical storm Faye) heading into the critical spring period than they were during the last drought years of 2007 and 2008. The big lake is a critical resource for municipal and agricultural water supply in south Florida.



Intensity:





Released Thursday, April 30, 2009 Author: Brad Rippey, U.S. Department of Agriculture

The Pacific Ocean has returned to Neutral signaling the end of La Niña.

Ocean temperatures have warmed to nearnormal in the past month near the Pacific equator and the atmosphere over the region is now behaving more like neutral conditions. All sea-surface temperature indices have now risen above the -0.5 C threshold commonly used to designate La Niña events. Atmospheric indicators including easterly trade winds, cloudiness and rain over the western tropical Pacific, and surface pressure patterns (usually tracked with the Southern Oscillation Index) have all returned to near-normal.

Normal patterns should set in through spring and summer. With La Niña no longer influencing the weather patterns of the Southeast, we can anticipate normal

spring and early summer climate patterns. Normal does not necessarily imply that seasonal temperature and/or precipitation will be near the long-term average, rather that there is no inclination towards wetter, drier, warmer, or colder due to events in the Pacific Ocean. Near normal rainfall and temperature is the most likely, but we can also anticipate the normal variability of weather and climate to be a factor in the next several months.

April and early May is the spring dry season in Florida, so the peninsula should continue to dry as temperatures and evapotranspiration increase.

During the summer the Southeast is characterized by hot, humid conditions and convective thundershowers. Coverage and frequency of these afternoon thunderstorms is higher in Florida and extreme South Georgia, but more "hit and miss" in the remainder of Georgia, Alabama, and the Carolinas. While normal summer rainfall is not enough to make up for the long term deficits, these rains may mitigate drought effects in selected areas. Over Florida, the onset of the summer rainy season is usually anywhere from mid-May to early June. The summer rains effectively end the wildfire season in the state, but potential for large fires will continue until rains begin in earnest. The wildfire season rarely lasts past mid-June. Unlike Georgia and Alabama, summer is the season for recharge in Lake Okeechobee.

For more detailed information on El Niño/ La Niña climate shifts in your particular county, please refer to the Climate Risk Tool at AgroClimate:

Wildfire Season

Dangerously dry conditions persist across Central and South Florida. The peninsula of Florida (South of Gainesville) has missed most of the heavy

rainfall and is still in moderate to severe drought according to the U.S. Drought Monitor. The Keetch-Byrum Drought Index is 600 to 650 over most of South Florida and over 700 in Hendry and Collier Counties, corresponding to the severe risk. Widespread heavy rains across south Alabama, South Georgia, and north Florida in March and early April eased wildfire concerns here for the foreseeable future. Florida is now well into the spring dry season when brush and forests dry due to rising temperatures and normally light rainfall. Several winter freezes that penetrated into South Florida also helped kill or brown small vegetation and provide additional fuel.

Our Keetch-Byrum Drought Index forecast indicates there is a good likelihood that high wildfire risk will persist through May over the Florida peninsula. Keep in mind that wildfires are a normal fixture of Florida's climate in the late spring. The peninsula is generally fairly dry throughout the winter season and vegetation and fuels continue to dry through the spring until the summer convective rains set in. The summer rains effectively end the wildfire season in the state, but potential for large fires will continue until rains begin in earnest. The wildfire season in Florida rarely lasts past mid-June.



For more information, go to: http://agroclimate.org/

CITRUS PSYLLID AND CITRUS LEAFMINER

Citrus Psyllid



The Asian citrus psyllid has become the most important insect pest of Florida citrus due to the presence of citrus greening disease which is spread by the psyllid. The products recommended in this chapter for psyllid suppression have been demonstrated in field trials conducted by the University of Florida to be effective for reducing psyllid populations. However, it should be noted that *most of* these products will have negative effects on natural enemy populations that keep other potential pests below damaging levels. Thus, it is likely that new pest problems may develop as a result of increased insecticide use for psyllid suppression. However, the problems posed by these other potential pests are far less serious than the threat posed by citrus greening disease. New flush is required for psyllid females

to lay eggs as well as for subsequent development of the psyllid nymphs. Female psyllids lay their eggs in developing leaf buds and on feather-stage flush which has not yet unfurled. Once young leaves have begun to expand, they are no longer attractive to psyllids for egg laying.

Nonbearing Trees

Young trees that produce multiple flushes throughout the year are at greater risk of greening infection than mature trees because of the attraction of adult psyllids to the new flush. Even without greening, young trees in the field need to be protected for about 4 years from psyllids and leafminers to grow optimally. Soilapplied systemic insecticides will provide the longest lasting control of psyllids with the least impacts on beneficials. Currently only two soil-applied insecticide active ingredients (aldicarb and imidacloprid) are available that provide effective control of psyllids on young non-bearing trees. Aldicarb is a systemic carbamate insecticide that can be applied to both young trees and large bearing trees. Applications of aldicarb may not be suitable, however, for newly planted trees (less than 1 year after planting) since the root system might not have spread far enough away from the trunk of the tree to allow proper placement of the aldicarb granules by the applicator. Aldicarb applications applied to young trees (less than 8 ft in height) will require 2-3 weeks for product uptake by the root system and subsequent transport to the leaves. Aldicarb applications can only be made by a certified applicator and are limited to the period of November 15 through April 30. Soil-drenches of imidacloprid are best applied using an applicator metered to deliver 8-10 oz of formulated drench solution to each tree. Drench applications should be applied directly at the soilrootstock interface. Use restrictions limit imidacloprid applications to no more than 0.5 lbs AI/A per growing season, regardless of application method. Therefore, this allotment is best used only

as a drench. This equates to 14 fluid ounces per acre for 4.6F formulations or 32 fluid ounces per acre for 2F formulations. Due to the restrictions on the amount of imidacloprid that can be used in a growing season, drenches in solid blocks are only feasible in young trees up to about 6 feet in height and only once or twice a year depending on tree size. These are best applied once in the spring and again, if possible, in the fall. This timing corresponds to the period when the trees are flushing most and rainfall is less likely to move the material past the root zone before it can be taken up by the plant. Soil applications of imidacloprid can be applied to resets within blocks of mature trees at greater frequency or higher rates as long as the 0.5 AI/A limit is not exceeded. Foliar sprays not containing imidacloprid should be used between soil-drench applications to provide additional control of psyllid populations. When making multiple foliar insecticide applications within a season for psyllid control, rotate between products with different modes of action to reduce the likelihood of pesticide resistance development. **Bearing Trees**

Management options for psyllid control on bearing trees are much more limited than for nonbearing trees. Currently, the only soil-applied insecticide that has been shown to provide any reduction in psyllid numbers on large trees is aldicarb. If aldicarb is applied to bearing trees as a part of a program for psyllid management, application should be made at least 30 days prior to the initiation of flushing. This timing will allow for the material to move from the roots up to the tree canopy. At present, the only other chemical control option that has been demonstrated to be effective for reducing psyllid populations on bearing trees is the use of broad-

spectrum foliar insecticide applications. Broad-spectrum foliar sprays are most effective when used to control adult psyllids prior to the presence of new flush. Once psyllids begin reproducing on new flush, it becomes increasingly difficult to gain control of rapidly increasing populations. Psyllid management programs should begin by first targeting overwintering adult psyllids during the winter months when the trees are not producing flush. By eliminating these overwintering adults, psyllid populations will be greatly reduced on the following spring flushes. By targeting psyllids early in the year, this should provide enough suppression in psyllid populations to reduce the need for psyllid sprays during bloom when pollinators are present and most pesticide products cannot be applied. Additional sprays for psyllids should be made when observing an increase in adult populations in a grove.

Foliar insecticide applications should only be used when needed to minimize the impact on natural enemies that maintain psyllids at lower levels later in the year. Excessive sprays could result in resurgence of these pests such as scales, mealybugs, whiteflies, etc... Other Management Considerations Management practices used within a grove can also affect psyllid populations, especially those practices that promote new flush such as hedging and topping and fertilization. Trees should always be sprayed with a broad spectrum insecticide prior to or just after hedging and topping before any flush develops. Citrus growers should be aware that most of the broadspectrum insecticides recommended for

psyllid control cannot be applied when

products may have on pollinators.

citrus is blooming due to the impact these

Citrus Leafminer



Leafminer populations decline to their lowest levels during the winter due to cool temperatures and the lack of flush for larval development. Populations of leafminer build rapidly on the spring flush, although their presence is not apparent until late spring as populations increase while the amount of new foliage decreases. Throughout the ensuing warm season, leafminer populations vary with the flushing cycles and subsequent flushes are often severely damaged. The summer period of high leafminer damage coincides with the rainy season when canker spread is most likely.

Citrus leafminer greatly exacerbates the severity of citrus canker. This insect is not a vector of the disease. Nevertheless, leafminer tunnels are susceptible to infection much longer than mechanical wounds. Tunnels infected by canker produce many times the amount of inoculum than in the absence of leafminer. Control of leafminer should be optimized in areas where infection by canker is high. Natural enemies already present in Florida have responded to leafminer infestations, causing up to 90% mortality of larvae and pupae. These natural enemies include the introduced parasitoid Ageniaspis citricola that has established throughout most of Florida and is responsible for up to 30% of this mortality mostly later in the year.

Nonbearing Trees

On young trees, use of the soil-applied systemic insecticide imidacloprid is the most effective means of preventing mining damage on the new flush and has little direct effect on natural enemies. Soil drenches directly to the base of the tree with imidacloprid have been shown to provide at least 8 weeks control of leafminer. Injection through the irrigation system is less effective because a large portion of the material falls beyond the root zone. Compared to soil-applications of imidacloprid, foliar-applied insecticides provide a shorter duration of protection lasting only about 2 weeks depending on weather conditions and the uniformity of flush pattern.

Soil applications of imidacloprid should be made about 2 weeks prior to leaf expansion to allow time for the pesticide to move from the roots to the canopy. Avoid applications 24 hr prior to significant rainfall events which will result in movement of the product out of the root zone before it can be taken up by the plant. Because of limits on the amount of imidacloprid that may be applied on a per acre basis each season, only one application in the spring and possibly one in the fall are recommended. When the residual effects of the spring application have worn off, typically during the midsummer rainy season, foliar sprays of other materials can be used on small trees to reduce leafminer damage if necessary. Reapplication of imidacloprid is not recommended during this part of the season because of the likelihood of the material being washed away by frequent summer rains. Foliar sprays should be timed to coincide with the appearance of the first visible leaf mines which occur immediately following the feather leaf stage or about 13 days after budbreak. At this time, insecticide applications will

provide protection for most of the leaves in the new flush.

Bearing Trees

If canker is present in a grove (or in a nearby grove), healthy trees with leafminer damaged leaves are more likely to become sites for new canker infection. The only products currently available for leafminer control on large trees are foliar insecticide sprays. Soil applications of imidacloprid are not effective for leafminer control on large trees due to use rate restrictions that limit the effectiveness of the product on trees greater than 6-8 feet in height. It should also be noted that aldicarb (Temik[®]), which has been demonstrated to suppress psyllid populations on large trees, does not provide control of leafminers. While a number of products are effective against this pest, achieving control of leafminer using foliar sprays on large trees is difficult due to the unsynchronized flush typically encountered during summer and fall. However, since leafminers affect only developing leaves, coverage of peripheral leaves in the canopy should be adequate to exert suppression when applying foliar pesticides.

Recommended Chemical Controls

READ THE LABEL

<u>Table 1. Recommended Chemical Controls for Citrus Leafminer</u> (Nonbearing/Young Bearing Citrus)

Pesticide	Other Pests Controlled
Admire 2 F	Aphids, citrus psyllid
Agri-Mek 0.15 EC + Oil	Citrus rust mites, citrus bud mite, broad mite
Assail 70 WP	
Micromite 80WGS + Oil	Citrus root weevils, citrus rust mites
Delegate WG + Oil	Psyllids
Oil	
Spintor 2SC	Orangedog

Table 2. Recommended Chemical Controls for the Asian Citrus Psyllid

Pesticide /	Other nests controlled	
<u>Trade name</u>	<u>Other pests controlled</u>	
Aldicarb	Aphids, citrus rust mites, citrus nematodes	
Temik 15G		
Carbaryl	Adult root weevils, scale insets,	
Sevin XLR Plus	grasshoppers, crickets, katydids	
Chlorpyrifos	Mealybug, orangedog, katydids,	
Lorsban 4E	grasshoppers, aphids, thrips	
Dimethoate	Aphids, scales except snow scale and black scale, flower thrips	
Dimethoate 4 E		
Fenpropathrin	Element and apphid thring adult root	
Danitol 2.4EC	Flower and orenia unips, adult foot weevils	
Imidacloprid (foliar application)		
Couraze 1.6F		
Nuprid 1.6F	Aphids	
Pasada 1.6F		
Provado 1.6F		
Imidacloprid (soil-drench)		
Admire Pro 4.6F		
Admire 2F		
Alias 2F	Aphilos, citrus learminer	
Couraze 2F		
Nuprid 2F		
Phosmet	Citrus root weavils	
Imidan 70 W	Citrus root weevils	
Spinetoram		
Delegate WG + Oil	Citrus leaiminer	
Spirotetramat	Citrus rust mites, some seele inseets	
Movento 240 SC + Oil	Citrus rust mites, some scale insects	
Zeta-cypermethrin		
Mustang Insecticide	Citrus root weevils	
Mustang Max EW		

For more information on psyllid and leafminer, go to http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/document_in686

Florida State Horticultural Society

& The Soil and Crop Science Society of Florida

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—The Florida State Horticultural and Florida Soil and Crop Science Societies will hold their joint, annual meeting June 7 through 9, 2009 at the Wyndham Jacksonville Riverwalk, located at 1515 Prudential Drive, Jacksonville, Florida.

Don't miss our Keynote Speaker, Dr. Robert L. Fireovid, USDA National Program Leader for Biosecurity, who will speak on "From Biomass to Biofuel: The Technologies and the Production Potentials." Our Horticultural breakfast speaker will be Dr. Nicholas Comeford, Center Director of the NFREC in Quincy, and our Extension luncheon speaker will be Dr. Jim Horne, President and CEO of The Kerr Center for Sustainable Agriculture. There will be over 170 presentations reporting on applied research into new technologies and practices for growers, processors, allied industries, and other horticultural and agronomic interests in Florida. Members and nonmembers of both societies are welcome to attend. There will be two evening receptions for friends and colleagues. Programs from the FSHS sections will include talks on:

- **CITRUS**: Citrus Greening detection and control of psyllids, advanced production systems, freeze tolerance and water use of trees, and mechanical harvesting;
- HANDLING AND PROCESSING: Citrus production and packing in China, pre- and postharvest factors affecting fresh and fresh-cut fruit and vegetable quality/aroma, and issues relating to citrus juice quality;
- GARDEN AND LANDSCAPE: Performance of new ornamental varieties, biological and conventional control of pests, fertility management, nutrient leaching, and export shipping of palms;
- **KROME**: Blueberry production practices, market potential for Florida's subtropical peaches, and evaluation of new cultivars;
- VEGETABLE: Greenhouse production systems, vegetable quality and market opportunities, and the latest in new cultivars, irrigation, nutrition, and pest management.

On the afternoon of Tuesday June 9, the University of Florida/IFAS will also offer inservice training for County Extension faculty on "Profitable business management of an agricultural operation."

For information about the Florida State Horticultural Society, including meeting details, on-line registration and FSHS membership dues payment, please visit <u>www.fshs.org</u>. For additional assistance, contact the Program Coordinator at the number below.

UTURA

The Nineteenth Annual Farm Safety Day

Saturday, 6 June 2009

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO EMPLOYERS

Safe and competent equipment operators are important to you as an employer. Accidents, which cause damage, injury or death to employees, equipment and crops are costly. We believe all types of accidents can be reduced with proper employee training. Our training has been designed to help your employees perform better, operate safely to prevent accidents, fulfill necessary training requirements and build pride in themselves and their farm company.

Certificates

The 2009 Southwest Florida Farm Safety Day is almost here. Farm Safety Day is an educational event designed to emphasize the importance of farm/equipment safety. Each participant is presented with a certificate of attendance and the employer will be provided with a certificate of training that can be placed into the employee's file.

Registration Info

The deadline for registration is May 26th. It is the employer's responsibility to assure that the employee is present at 7:30 AM on Satuday, June 6th at the Immokalee IFAS Center, 2686 State Rd. 29 North, Immokalee, FL 34142 to receive their nametag. Upon arrival each participant will check in at the registration table and receive a packet containing their nametag, instructions (in both English and Spanish) session handouts, an evaluation form, rodeo cap and pencil. They will be directed to their respective course sessions.

Please give us the names of those who will be attending our 19th Farm Safety Day on **Saturday, 6 June 2009**. The cost is \$15.00 per person, which will include educational sessions, handouts, refreshments, lunch, and a cap.

Make checks payable to: SW Florida Citrus Advisory Committee Mail registration and checks to: Hendry County Extension Office University of Florida, IFAS Attention: <u>Mongi Zekri</u> P.O. Box 68 LaBelle, FL 33975 Or fax registration to: 863 674 4636 Entry Deadline is Friday, May 26, 2009

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact Mongi Zekri or Gene McAvoy at 863 674 4092.

NINETEENTH ANNUAL SAFETY DAY

Saturday, June 6, 2009

Location: University of Florida, IFAS, SWFREC 2686 State Rd. 29 North Immokalee, FL 34142



SCHEDULE:

7:30-8:10	Check In and Coffee
8:10-9:00	Sessions 1, 2, 3, 4 (Begin sessions by group no.)
9:00-9:10	Break (change session)
9:10-10:00	Sessions 1, 2, 3, 4
10:00-10:10	Break (change session)
10:10-11:00	Sessions 1, 2, 3, 4
11:00-11:10	Break (change session)
11:10-12:00	Sessions 1, 2, 3, 4
12:00-1:00	Lunch

CONCURRENT SESSIONS: UF/IFAS Farm Worker Health and Safety Fair

- 1. Pesticide handlers and the Worker Protection Standard Gene McAvoy/ Monica Ozores Hampton - 50 min
- 2. Human Trafficking and Advocacy for Victims Right –States Attorneys Office 50 min
- 3. Sexually Transmitted Diseases Health Department 30 min
- 4. Rotary Mower Safety Les Baucum/Cesar Asuage 30 min

Plus table top displays and literature from the Health Department, Emergency Management, Department of Forestry, Hendry Regional Health Clinic and others.

The 2009 FARM SAFETY DAY REGISTRATION FORM

Please give us the names of those who will be attending our 19th Farm Safety Day on **Saturday, 6 June 2009** at the Immokalee IFAS Center, 2686 State Rd. 29 North, Immokalee, FL 34142. The cost is \$15.00 per person, which will include educational sessions, handouts, refreshments, lunch, and a cap.

Make checks payable to:
SW Florida Citrus Advisory Committee

Mail registration and checks to: Hendry County Extension Office Attention: <u>Mongi Zekri</u> P.O. Box 68 LaBelle, FL 33975

Or fax registration to: 863 674 4636 Entry Deadline is Friday, May 26, 2009

Company Name:

Administrative Contact Person:

E-mail address:

Mailing Address:

Telephone: _____ Fax:_____ County:_____

Please list the employees who will be attending our safety training and please check their language preference*. If there is not enough space to fill in all attendants, please attach an additional sheet with the necessary information.

English	<u>Spanish</u>	English	<u>Spanish</u>
C	<u> </u>	E	<u>C</u>
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*Please Note: It is very important that we know the language capabilities for each attendee. Next to each attendee's name please mark in which language they are more fluent.

Flatwoods Citrus

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Multi-County Citrus Agent
Hendry County Extension Office
P.O. Box 68
LaBelle, FL 33975
E-mail: maz@ifas.ufl.edu

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Racial-Ethnic Background			
-		Racial-Ethnic Background	

American Indian or native Alaskan	White, non-Hispanic
Asian American	Black, non-Hispanic
Hispanic	

Gender

__Female