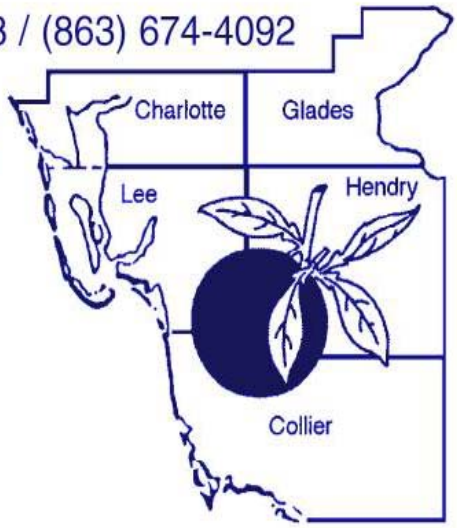
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA | IFAS EXTENSION

Hendry County Extension / P.O. Box 68 / LaBelle, Florida 33875-0068 / (863) 674-4092

Flatwoods Citrus



Vol. 7, No. 11 **November 2004**

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

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

Hendry County Extension Office, LaBelle

Citrus canker decontamination training program for harvesting crew leaders and managers in English and Spanish.

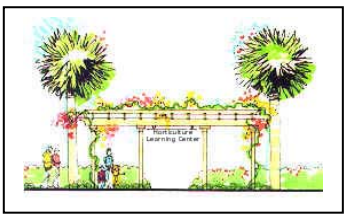
This training is structured to meet the **DPI requirement** that ALL harvesting crew leaders will need to receive citrus canker decontamination training.
Date: November 4, 2004, 9:30 AM – 12:00 Noon
Location: Hendry County Extension Office, LaBelle.
Speakers: Holly Chamberlain, Cesar Asuaje, Gene McAvoy, and Mongi Zekri
Pre-registration is required, please call 863 674 4092.
More information is enclosed.

If you want to print a color copy of the Flatwoods Citrus Newsletter, get to the Florida Citrus Resources Site at http://flcitrus.ifas.ufl.edu/
You can also find all you need and all links to the University of Florida Citrus Extension and the Florida Citrus Industry

SW Florida Yard & Garden Show

November 13 & 14, 2004

Saturday - 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Sunday - 10 AM to 4:00 PM



Location: SW Florida Horticulture Learning Center
Collier County University Extension Education & Training Center
14700 Immokalee Road, Naples, FL
For information, call (239) 353-4244

Citrus Canker Harvester/Handler Compliance Agreement Decontamination Training for Harvesting Crews

Please find enclosed information issued by DPI regarding the new harvester compliance agreements, mandatory decontamination training for harvesting crews and crew leaders, and some locations and dates that have been scheduled for trainings through the DPI office.

For SW Florida,

November, 17, 2004 - 9:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.
November, 18, 2004 - 9:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.

Location: Immokalee IFAS Center

Pre-registration is required, **Please call the Citrus Canker Helpline at 1-800-282-5153 to schedule training and for additional training dates and locations.**

Seminar at the Immokalee IFAS Center

Date & time: Tuesday, December 14, 2004, 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Topics: ***Freeze protection, the weather, flower bud induction, and winter foliar application of urea and phosphorous acid to increase flowering, fruit set, and fruit yield.***

Speakers: Drs. Larry Parsons and Gene Albrigo

1 CEU for Pesticide License Renewal
2 CEUs for Certified Crop Advisors

Hendry County Extension Office, LaBelle

Workshop on scouting for insect pests and diseases

Date: Tuesday, January 11, 2005, 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Speakers: Drs. Pete Timmer, Steven Rogers, and Phil Stansly

5 CEUs for Pesticide License Renewal, 5 CEUs for Certified Crop Advisors

Special Thanks **to the sponsors of the Flatwoods Citrus newsletter for their generous contribution and support. If you would like to be among them, contact me at 863 674 4092.**

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Special Thanks **to the sponsors of the Flatwoods Citrus newsletter for their generous contribution and support. If you would like to be among them, contact me at 863 674 4092.**

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ATTENTION

New Requirements for 2004
Citrus Canker Harvester/Handler Compliance Agreements Decontamination Training for Harvesting Crews

The Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services has revised the Citrus Canker Eradication Program Harvester/Handler Compliance Agreements for the coming year. These agreements contain new requirements for decontamination and related compliance issues. One notable change includes mandatory annual decontamination training by certified trainers.

All citrus harvesting company owners and harvesting crew leaders must register a request for authorized training for each harvesting field foreman and crew leader prior to commencing work in citrus.

Please note: All citrus harvesting, handling, and hauling companies including independent contractors must sign a new 2004 compliance agreement with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services prior to starting any harvesting activities and then must complete decontamination training within 60 days of signing a compliance agreement.

Compliance agreements are available in English and Spanish at area CCEP offices, on DPI Web site at: www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/canker/compliance.html, or call the DPI Helpline to request a copy.

Please call the Citrus Canker Helpline at 1-800-282-5153 to schedule training and for additional training dates and locations.

Training Dates and Locations:

Ft. Pierce
11/8/2004 - 2:00 p.m.
11/9/2004 – 9:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.
Indian River Research & Education Center
2199 South Rock Road
Ft. Pierce, FL 34945

Avon Park
11/15/2004 - 2:00 p.m.
11/16/2004 - 9:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.
South Florida Community College
Conference RM 100
Citrus Center
600 W. College DR
Avon Park, FL 33825

Immokalee
11/17/2004 - 9:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.
11/18/2004 - 9:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.
Southwest Florida Research and Education Center
2686 State Road 29 North
Immokalee, FL 34142

Arcadia
11/18/2004 - 9:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.
11/23/2004 - 9:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.
De Soto County Extension Office
2150 NE Roan Ave
Arcadia, FL 34266

Bartow
11/22/2004 - 2:00 p.m.
11/23/2004 - 9:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.
FDACS - Bob Crawford
Regional Agriculture Center
605 E Main ST, Suite 106
Bartow, FL 33830

Tavares
11/30/2004 - 9:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.
12/1/2004 - 9:00 a.m. & 2:00 p.m.
Lake County Extension Office
30205 State Road 19
Tavares, FL 32778

SAVE YOUR GROVE, NURSERY, AND THE FLORIDA CITRUS INDUSTRY FROM CITRUS CANKER

1. Whenever possible lock the gates of the property and restrict access at all times.
2. Before entering and leaving groves or nurseries, equipment should be first cleaned of all plant material, debris and soil and then disinfected with approved decontamination products.
3. Prior to entering and leaving groves, blocks and nurseries, all workers should disinfect hands and shoes with antimicrobial soap or other approved disinfectants.
4. All workers including fruit picking personnel should wear freshly laundered clothes each day.
5. All grove and nursery traffic including personal vehicles, equipment and visitors should be limited as much as possible.
6. Exchange of personnel, vehicles and equipment between groves, blocks and nurseries should be limited as much as possible.
7. It is very important to require grove service contractors to practice stringent decontamination and sanitation procedures.
8. Restrict access of all personnel, vehicles, and equipment and movement in groves or nurseries when foliage is wet with rain or dew. Do not harvest fruit before the trees dry.
9. Restrict irrigation to nighttime hours to reduce worker exposure to wet foliage.
10. Before entering and leaving a grove, all harvesting equipment including trucks, trailers, tractors, “goats”, ladders, tubs, boxes, picking bags and gloves must be decontaminated.
11. Do not collect canker specimens. Flag adjacent trees, map the location and immediately contact the DPI at 1 800282 5153 or 1 800 850 3781.

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
CHARLES H. BRONSON, Commissioner
The Capitol • Tallahassee, FL 32399-0800

September 27, 2004

RE: REVISED CITRUS CANKER ERADICATION PROGRAM 2004 COMPLIANCE AGREEMENTS

Dear Citrus Industry Member:

The Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services has revised the Citrus Canker Eradication Program (Canker Program) Compliance Agreements for the coming year. These agreements contain new requirements for decontamination and related compliance issues. Some notable changes in the Harvester / Handler Compliance Agreement include mandatory decontamination training by a certified trainer (I.1.2.), mandatory decontamination upon entering and upon departing a citrus grove (I.2.1.), and the requirement to renew compliance agreements each year (I.1.1.). The new Harvester / Handler Compliance Agreement is now available on our web site, and can be identified by the new Agreement Number: CA-C_HARV-DR41C. Please note that other updated agreements with similar new language, and printed copies of the stipulations for the citrus industry will be available September 27, 2004.

The new compliance agreements are available in three different formats; completing and signing any one of these forms is equally acceptable for Canker Program Compliance. All required sub-attachments (or *Schedules*) are listed on the last page of each agreement, and may be requested from any Canker Program office or may be located and printed from our official web site: www.doacs.state.fl.us/canker/index.htm.

1. The standard form, which can be found under *Compliance Agreements* on our web site, is designed for printing on plain white paper by any applicant with a personal computer and printer, or by any Canker Program office. Applicant should fill out this agreement as indicated herein; sign, date, and deliver the original to the state by mail or in person; and keep an extra copy of the signed and dated agreement available at applicant's place of business.
2. The multi-part form consists of a single-page general agreement in duplicate accompanied by an attachment containing stipulations for the selected compliance agreement(s). The new Harvester / Handler Compliance Agreement Stipulations can be identified by Agreement Number CA-C_STIP_HARV-DR41C, which contains the new Harvester / Handler Compliance Agreement language without the header and footer tables. The stipulations for the type agreement desired must accompany the General Compliance Agreement, and the agreement type(s) must be indicated by the applicant at the top of the general agreement by checking the appropriate box(es) and by signing initials in the blank(s) provided. Applicant should fill out this agreement as indicated; sign, date, and deliver the original to the state by mail or in person, and keep the extra copy and all pertinent compliance agreement stipulations available at applicant's place of business.
3. The Canker Program Compliance Update form is the best method for renewing an existing compliance agreement. This form is not available on our web site, but may be requested from any of our Canker Program offices. This compliance agreement format provides a pre-populated form printed directly from our database, which provides regulated companies or individuals with a copy of their previously submitted compliance agreement data inserted into a new compliance agreement. Upon checking and correcting this agreement for errors and omissions, applicant may simply sign, date and deliver the original to the state by mail or in person, keeping an extra copy and all pertinent compliance agreement stipulations available at applicant's place of business.

Instructions by Form Section Number:

These instructions are specific to the *HARVESTER / HANDLER Compliance Agreement,* which can be found on our web site. Gray areas of forms are generally intended for official use only. Applicants should print legibly in the white spaces provided for each area that applies to applicant's operation.

1.	Please fill in section 1 with business or individual's name and mailing address.
1.1	Applicant's ten-digit telephone number.
1.2	Check the appropriate box(es), as pertains to applicant regarding quarantine status of grove or property, or the handling of citrus fruit, trees, or plant material by applicant.
1.3	Select the appropriate specialty or subcategory (i.e.: Harvester, Hauler, Handler) and enter on this line.
2.	Print physical address (Item 2) and county (Item 2.1) of your primary facility or field operation headquarters. If other groves are indicated, attach a list providing names, addresses, & counties.
2.1	Please list all counties in which you operate. Attach a list if more space is needed.
2.2	Township - Range - Section (T-R-S) location information is required in all quarantine areas. If you need help, contact your local Canker Program office for assistance.
2.3	GPS: Reserved for future use by state officials.
2.4	H/H Type: Mechanical loader, mechanical harvester, small truck hauler.
2.5	List license or identification numbers for all buses, transporting and harvesting equipment.
2.6	Other Detail: Vehicle or equipment type.
2.7	Training: CCEP Training Certificate Number.
3.	Regulated Articles are the items defined and regulated by federal and state authorities.
4.	Applicable State Quarantine(s) or Regulations are defined in Rule Chapter 5B-58, F.A.C.
5.	Authorized Signature requires the signature of applicant or authorized agent.
6.	Printed Name & Title requires the printed name and title of person signing this agreement.
7.	Date Signed is the date that the agreement was signed by applicant or authorized agent.
8.	Agreement No. is reserved for state use, and indicates the agreement revision series.
9.	Date of Agreement is The State's effective date of this Canker Program document.
10.	Official Name & Title is reserved for use by state Canker Program officials.
11.	Official Address is reserved for any one of our state Canker Program office addresses.
12.	Official Signature is reserved for a state Canker Program official's signature.
Note:	Schedules listed prior to the signature block are legal attachments and integral parts of this compliance agreement, which should be read and printed as needed from our official web site.

All agreements should be completed and returned to the nearest Canker Program office or to the state address as listed in Form Section 11 by December 31, 2004. Enforcement of the new rules will be phased in through March 15, 2005 to allow adequate time for people to respond and become familiar with the new requirements. Please be aware that existing compliance regulations will continue to be enforced. For additional information, please visit our official web site, stop by a field office, or contact our help line at 1-800-282-5153.

Thank you for your continued cooperation with our Citrus Canker Eradication Program. Your efforts are essential to the success of this program and are sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely,

CHARLES H. BRONSON
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE

Richard Gaskalla
Division Director

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services -Division of Plant Industry

Comprehensive Report on Citrus Canker Eradication Program in Florida Through 22 May 2004

Background

Florida is currently fighting Asian-strain (A-strain) bacterial citrus canker in 15 counties: Brevard, Broward, Collier, DeSoto, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, Orange, Manatee, Martin, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Okeechobee, Palm Beach and Sarasota. A history of the disease by county is presented below. Key points which impact the entire state's citrus canker eradication program include:

- 1910 –Canker identified in Florida for first time.
- 1933 –Canker eradicated.
- 1986 –New detection in Manatee County 53 years later.
- 1994 –Eradication declared.
- 1995 –Canker detected for a third time in 1995 near Miami International Airport.
- Possibility of canker spread is monitored with routine surveys by Federal and State agriculture officials.

Eradication Program

- Citrus trees suspected of being infected with canker are examined by on-site pathologists and samples are sent to the Department's laboratory for diagnostic confirmation.
- Using geographic positioning system (GPS) coordinates, a 1900-ft. circle is drawn around infected trees.
- All positive and exposed trees within 1900 ft. of an infected tree are destroyed.

Quarantine Areas

- Quarantine areas may be established to prevent spread of the disease.
- Strict policies are enforced. The movement of citrus plant material from quarantine areas is prohibited (though under certain conditions, citrus fruit may be moved when certified by the Department).
- Citrus cannot be planted for two years after the last positive tree detection, except with permission of the area CCEP Director.

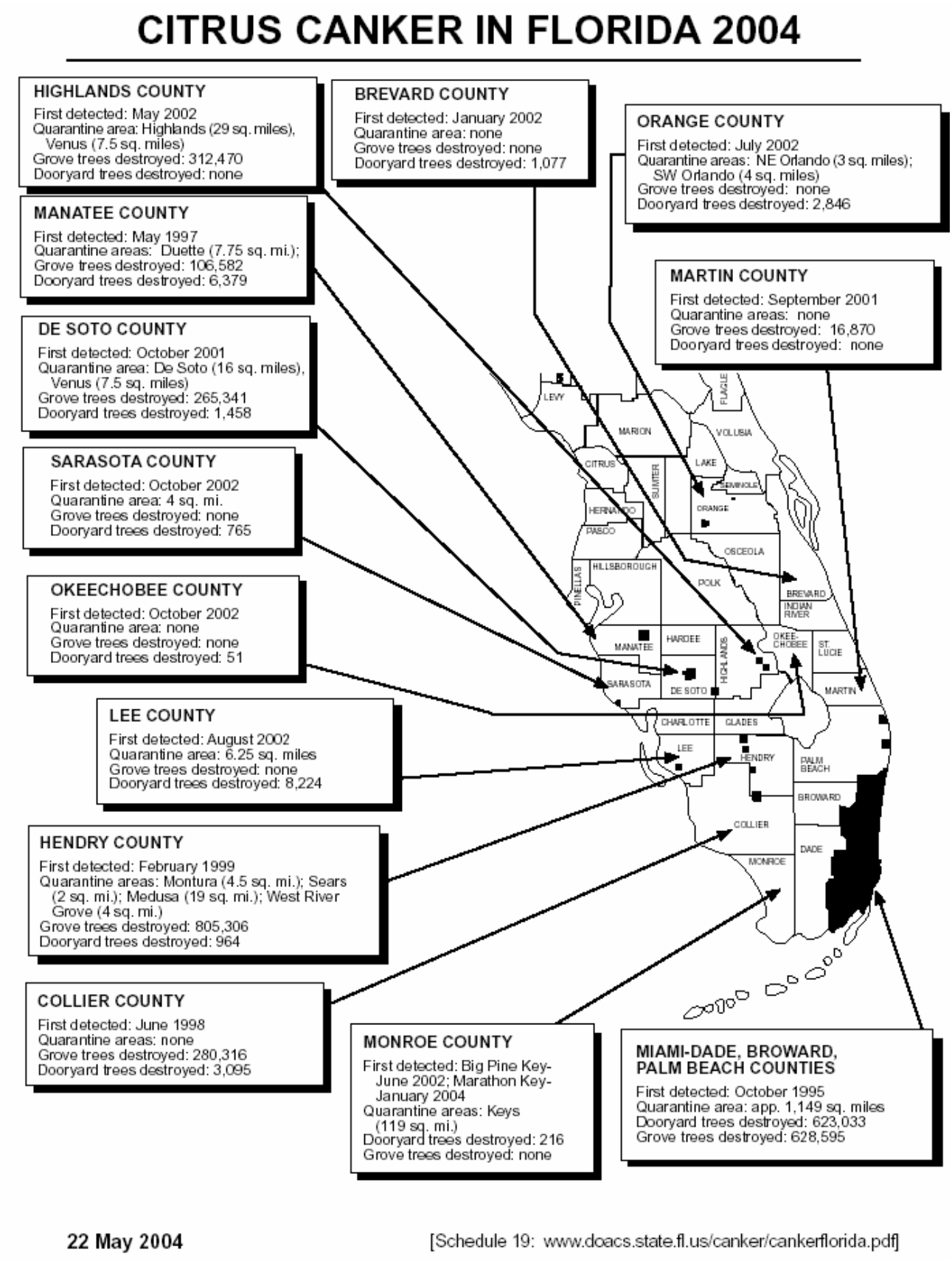
Total trees destroyed to date statewide:

Residential	650,153
Commercial/Grove	2,425,754
Total	**3,075,907**

Information by county presented on following pages

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Plant Industry
Charles H. Bronson, Commissioner
Richard Gaskalla, Director

CITRUS CANKER IN FLORIDA 2004



22 May 2004

[Schedule 19: www.doacs.state.fl.us/canker/cankerflorida.pdf]

Increasing Efficiency and Reducing Cost of Nutritional Programs

Economics, nutrition, and Florida soils

- To maintain a viable citrus industry, it is necessary to produce large, high quality crops of fruit economically.
- Good production of high quality fruit will not be possible if there is a lack of understanding of soils and nutrient requirement of the grown trees.
- Most Florida citrus is grown on soils with inherently low fertility and low CEC and thus unable to retain enough amount of soluble plant nutrient against the leaching action of rainfall and irrigation.

Importance of N & K

- N & K are the most important nutrients for Florida soils and citrus.
- An adequate level of N is required for vegetative growth, flowering, and fruit yield.
- K also plays an important role in determining yield, fruit size, and quality.
- Fertilizer ratios of N to K_2O are usually 1:1. However, a ratio of 1:1.25 is recommended for high pH or calcareous soils.

Management practices to improve fertilizer efficiency

They include:

♦ Evaluation of leaf analysis data

♦ Adjustment of N rates to the level based on expected production and IFAS recommendations

♦ Selection of fertilizer formulation to match existing conditions

♦ Careful placement of fertilizer within the root zone

♦ Timing to avoid the rainy season

♦ Split application

♦ Irrigation management to maximize production and minimize leaching

Tissue and soil analysis

- Leaf sampling and analysis is a useful management tool for fertilizer decisions.
- The best indication of successful fertilizer management practices for citrus trees is having leaf nutritional standards within the optimum ranges.
- Trends in leaf N and K over several years provide the best criteria for adjusting rates within the recommended ranges.
- Soil analysis is useful for determining the pH and concentrations of P, Ca, and Mg.

N requirements for mature trees

- In a mature grove where there is little net increase in tree size, N used for leaf growth is largely recycled as leaves drop, decompose, and mineralize. Replacement of the N removed by fruit harvest becomes the main requirement, and nutrient requirements should vary as the crop load changes.

Fertilizer Sources

- Inorganic and synthetic organic nitrogen fertilizers are high-analysis materials and are generally most economical to use in citrus groves. They are rapidly available, unless they have been formulated in a controlled-release form.
- The use of high analysis fertilizers eliminates much of the filler. A great deal of the mixing, transportation, and application cost is reduced.
- The use of controlled-release fertilizers for resets in established groves is a feasible option.

Timing and frequency of application

- 2/3 of the tree's nutritional requirements should be made available between January and early June, with most of it in place during flowering and fruit-setting period. The remaining 1/3 can be applied in September or October.
- Split fertilizer application or fertigation combined with sound irrigation management increase fertilizer efficiency by maintaining a more constant supply of nutrients and by reducing leaching if unexpected rain occurs. Less fertilizer will be required.
- Less fertilizer may also be required if fertilizer is confined to the root zone and if timing is adjusted to avoid rainy periods.

Foliar feeding

- Foliar feeding is useful under calcareous soil or any other condition that decreases the tree's ability to take up nutrients when there is a demand.
- Foliar applications of low-biuret urea (25-28 lbs N/acre) or phosphorous acid (2.6 quarts/acre of 26-28% P_2O_5) in late Dec.-early Jan. are known to increase flowering, fruit set, and fruit yield.
- Postbloom foliar applications of potassium nitrate or mono-potassium phosphate (8 lbs/acre K_2O) in late April have been found to increase fruit size and yield.

Phosphorus

- P applied to established groves had not leached but had accumulated in the soil at high levels and is available slowly so that P application may be reduced or omitted in established groves.
- P does not leach readily where the soil pH is 6 or higher and the fruit crop removes very little.
- Therefore, regular P applications are not necessary.
- However, some soils used for new citrus plantings may have low native P and P fertilizers should be applied for several years.

Micronutrients

- The use of most micronutrients is recommended only when deficiency symptoms persist.
- Copper should not be included in fertilizers if Cu sprays are used and if the grove soil test show adequate Cu (5-10 lbs/acre).
- Molybdenum (Mo) deficiency occurs on soils that have been allowed to become very acid. Liming those soils should fix the problem.
- Foliar spray applications of micronutrients (Mn, Zn, Cu, B, and Mo) are more effective and economically practical than soil applications when included with postbloom or summer foliar sprays after full expansion of the new flush.

Soil pH & liming

- Soils should have a pH ranging from 5.5 to 6.5 with the higher values used for soils containing high Cu levels.
- Under normal conditions, a clear advantage of pH 6 over pH 5 has been demonstrated in several studies. A pH of 7 was no better than a pH of 6.
- Soil pH can be increased by application of either calcite or dolomite. Dolomite supplies both Ca and Mg. Therefore, the choice of dolomite would be more appropriate to supply Mg and have a good balance between Ca and Mg.

Overliming

- Liming soils having a pH at or above 6 will be costly and not useful. In groves, where soils have adequate pH but low Ca levels, gypsum ($CaSO_4$) can be used as a source of Ca without affecting the soil pH.
- Applying dolomite as a source of Mg is not recommended if the soil pH is in the desired range. Under these conditions, soil application of either $MgSO_4$ or MgO and foliar application of $Mg(NO_3)_2$ are effective for correcting Mg deficiency.

Nutritional balance

- Correct ratios of nutrients are critical to fertilizer management and sustainability.
- If an element is below the critical level, yield production will fall even though the other elements are kept in good supply.
- Too much N with too little K can reduce fruiting and result in lost crop yield and quality.
- High K with low N and P supply will induce luxury consumption of K, delay fruit development and reduce juice content.

From the Florida Agricultural Statistics Service

ALL ORANGES 176.0 MILLION BOXES. The 2004-05 Florida orange forecast, released in October 2004 by the USDA Agricultural Statistics Board, is a hurricane reduced 176.0 million boxes. The forecast is 66 million boxes, or 27 percent, less than last season's near record 242.0 million boxes. The total is divided into the early-midseason-Navel forecast of 92.0 million boxes and the Valencia portion of 84.0 million.

EARLY-MIDSEASON-NAVEL 92.0 MILLION BOXES. The early-midseason-Navel forecast is 92.0 million boxes, 27 percent less than harvested last season, and is the smallest crop since the 83.4 million boxes produced in the 1991-92 season.

Excluding Navels, 32.0 million bearing trees were used in the expansions, down 1.3 percent from last season. Bearing tree numbers have been declining since the 1998-99 season.

VALENCIA ORANGES 84.0 MILLION BOXES. The Valencia forecast of 84.0 million boxes is the lowest since the 74.0 million boxes harvested in the 1998-99 season. This forecast is 28 percent less than the record 116.0 million boxes harvested last season.

TEMPLES 800,000 BOXES. The Temple forecast of 800,000 boxes is the lowest amount since the series began in 1954-55. If realized, this crop will be 43 percent less than last season's utilization of 1.4 million boxes, and 87 percent below the record 6.0 million boxes.

TANGELOS 1.4 MILLION BOXES. The tangelo forecast of 1.4 million boxes is 40 percent more than last season's greatly reduced 1.0 million boxes. Although not a record low, last season's production is the lowest in a downward trend dating back to 1979-80.

ALL GRAPEFRUIT 15.0 MILLION BOXES. The forecast of grapefruit for certified utilization is 15.0 million boxes. This forecast is greatly reduced from previous seasons because of the effects of four hurricanes that hit the State's growing areas in August and September. Only the Southern area was not directly affected with Hendry, Collier, and Lee counties receiving primarily heavy rainfall amounts on several occasions. If realized, this forecast will be 63 percent less than last season's production.

ALL TANGERINES 4.7 MILLION BOXES. The forecast of all tangerines at 4.7 million boxes is 28 percent less than produced last season (due to the hurricanes) and is the lowest production since the 1995-96 season. The forecast is comprised of the early varieties (Fallglo and Sunburst) at 2.5 million boxes and the Honey variety at 2.2 million.

From the Florida Agricultural Statistics Service

Florida Citrus Production (Million Boxes)

	Production						Forecast	Difference in 2004-05 compared with 2003-04
Cultivar	**1997-98**	**1998-99**	**1999-00**	**2001-02**	**2002-03**	**2003-04**	**2004-05**	
Early/Mid orange	140.0	112.0	134.0	128.0	112.0	126.0	92.0	**-27%**
Valencia orange	104.0	73.7	99.0	102.0	91.0	116.0	84.0	**-28%**
All oranges	244.0	185.7	233.0	230.0	203.0	242.0	176.0	**-27%**
All grapefruit	49.55	47.05	53.4	46.7	38.7	40.9	15.0	**-63%**
Temples	2.25	1.80	1.95	1.55	1.30	1.40	0.80	**-43%**
Tangelos	2.85	2.55	2.2	2.15	2.35	1.00	1.40	**+40%**
All tangerines	5.2	4.95	7.0	6.6	5.5	6.5	4.7	**-28%**
Limes	0.44	0.50	0.60	0.15				
Lemons	0.12	0.235		0.085				
Total	**304.450**	**242.865**	**298.15**	**287.235**	**250.850**	**291.800**	**197.9**	**-32%**

2003-2004 Southwest Florida Citrus Production (Boxes) & Florida Citrus Prices ($)

Cultivar	Charlotte	Collier	Glades	Hendry	Lee	Total		Avg. On-Tree Prices & Returns/Box		
								Fresh	Processing	All
Early/Mid orange	1,898,000	4,819,000	2,009,000	12,726,000	1,167,000	22,619,000		4.65	1.63	**1.76**
Valencia orange	3,691,000	5,782,000	1,637,000	17,832,000	1,929,000	30,871,000		3.15	2.99	**3.00**
White grapefruit	47,000	35,000	5,000	772,000	12,000	871,000		7.50	-0.08	**1.48**
Colored grapefruit	1,292,000	494,000	69,000	1,829,000	304,000	3,988,000		7.27	-0.13	**3.82**
Early tangerines	173,000	70,000	31,000	115,000	42,000	431,000		10.50	-1.73	**6.11**
Honey tangerine	93,000	154,000	53,000	384,000	51,000	735,000		12.70	0.79	**9.13**
Temples	9,000	38,000	----	135,000	1,000	183,000		3.65	0.14	**1.00**
Tangelos	11,000	21,000	2,000	59,000	5,000	98,000		13.85	-0.47	**7.33**
TOTAL	**7,214,000**	**11,413,000**	**3,806,000**	**33,852,000**	**3,511,000**	**59,796,000**				

Southwest Florida Citrus Acreage and Tree Numbers

	1970	1990	1998		2000		2002		2004	
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Trees (million)	Acres	Trees (million)	Acres	Trees (million)	Acres	Trees (million)
Charlotte	6,734	11,718	21,522	3.172	21,756	3.201	20,493	3.032	20,183	2.999
Collier	5,052	23,565	35,655	5.251	35,302	5.209	33,567	4.948	34,878	5.101
Glades	1,572	7,523	10,776	1.684	10,506	1.692	10,384	1.665	10,103	1.641
Hendry	22,447	73,754	100,124	15.409	99,437	15.325	94,139	14.445	93,155	14.298
Lee	7,439	9,692	11,871	1.649	11,594	1.626	11,874	1.666	11,067	1.549
SW FL Total	**43,244**	**126,252**	**179,948**	**27.165**	**178,595**	**27.053**	**170,457**	**25.756**	**169,386**	**25.588**
State of Florida	941,471	732,767	845,260	107.110	832,275	106.679	797,303	103.172	748,555	97.945
SW FL (%)	4.6	17.2	21.3	25.4	21.5	25.4	21.4	25.0	22.6	26.1

In **1970**, the Southwest Florida Citrus Acreage was 43,244 (**less than 5%** of the State of Florida Total Citrus Acreage '941,471'). Since **1998**, in Southwest Florida, Citrus Acreage has been **over 20%** of the State of Florida Total Citrus Acreage and the Number of Citrus Trees is **over 25%** of all Citrus Trees in the State.

Gulf Citrus Growers Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

P. O. Box 1319, LaBelle, Florida 33975 (863) 675-2180 / Fax: (863) 675-8087 / Email: gulfcitrus@aol.com

About the Gulf Citrus Growers Association

The citrus growers of southwest Florida are committed to supporting education as a long-term investment in the future of our industry. The first Gulf Citrus scholarship was awarded in 1992 through the Gulf Citrus Growers Association, a trade organization representing growers in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry and Lee Counties. These scholarships were created specifically to assist students pursuing degrees in citrus-related programs.

The Gulf Citrus Growers Association Scholarship Foundation was established in 2000 as a non-profit entity to oversee the distribution of these awards. Scholarship applications are accepted throughout the year and are reviewed semi-annually by a Scholarship Selection Committee comprised of academic and industry members. The number and amount of awards vary depending upon the number of applications received and available funds.

Applicants who are not selected may submit a new application for consideration in the next selection cycle. Previous award winners may also reapply.

Scholarship Criteria

Preferred requirements for scholarships are as follows:

Edison Community College / AA Degree:

- Completion of all placement testing.
- Completion of **12 credit hours** with continuous enrollment.
- Minimum overall grade point average of **2.5.**
- A demonstrated **commitment** to complete the AA degree with citrus courses.

BS, MS and **PhD Degrees:**

- Completion of all placement testing and a **declared major** in citrus or a citrus-related major.
- Completion of **12 credit hours** towards a citrus degree.
- Minimum overall grade point average of **2.5** for a BS degree; **3.0** for MS and PhD degrees.
- A demonstrated **commitment** to complete the degree at a state college or university.

Applicants must complete the attached application, which includes a statement of release giving the selection committee permission to verify information submitted.

Gulf Citrus Growers Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

Membership:

Membership in the Scholarship Foundation is open to all Gulf Citrus Growers Association (GCGA) members for just $25 per year. Members are able to vote for and serve on the Board of Directors for the Foundation.

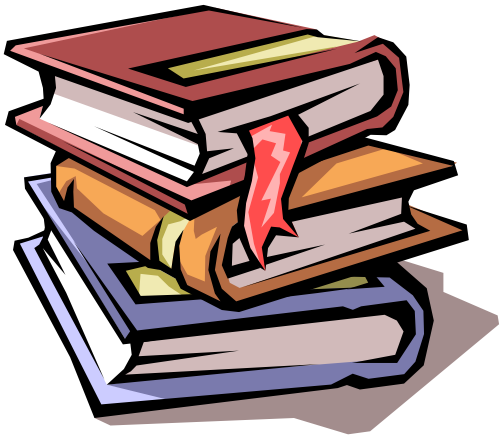
Donations:

Donations are a crucial source of funding for scholarship awards and may be made to the Foundation at any time during the year in any denomination, regardless of membership status. Checks should be made payable to the Foundation.

The GCGA Scholarship Foundation is a non-profit corporation operating under Section 501 © (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Scholarship applications

Scholarship applications may also be requested by calling the GCGA office at 863 675 2180 or by contacting Dr. Mongi Zekri at the Hendry County Extension office at 863 674 4092. Applications deadline is December 1 for the spring semester. Applicants who are not selected may reapply for the next cycle. Previous award recipients may also reapply



Gulf Citrus Growers Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

P. O. Box 1319, LaBelle, Florida 33975 (863) 675-2180 / Fax: (863) 675-8087 / Email: gulfcitrus@aol.com

Scholarship Application

Personal Data

Name: _____ SS #:_____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Employer: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Does your employer reimburse you for tuition or other expenses incurred toward your degree? Yes _____ No _____

Educational Information

College or University in which you are enrolled: _____

Department / Degree Program: _____

I am working toward the following: AA ____ BS _____ MS _____ PhD _____ Other _____

Courses Taken in Major *(both completed and those in which you are currently enrolled)*:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Total Credit Hours Toward Degree: _____ Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA): _____

Expected Date of Graduation: _____

Please answer the following questions in complete sentences with as much detail as possible.

What are your career goals? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

What is the potential value of your education to the citrus industry *in southwest Florida*?

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

I authorize the release of this application and any relevant supporting information to persons involved in the selection of recipients for Gulf Citrus Growers Association scholarships.

_____ _____

Applicant's Signature Date

*****APPLICATION DEADLINES ARE DECEMBER 1 AND JULY 1*****

Please return this application to:

Gulf Citrus Growers Association Scholarship Foundation, Inc.
Dr. Mongi Zekri, Application Coordinator
Hendry County Extension Office
P. O. Box 68
LaBelle, Florida 33975
(863) 674-4092 / Fax: (863) 674-4636

FLATWOODS CITRUS NEWSLETTER

☐ 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