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Treasure Coast Citrus Notes

April – 2009

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Interactive Greening Training

The Canker and Greening Extension Education group has developed a nifty online module for citrus greening training. The exercise covers general information about the greening disease and how to identify and differentiate the symptoms. Take the test yourself and then let your employees participate.

<http://www.citrusgreeningtraining.org/>

FSHS Annual Meeting

The 2009 Florida State Horticultural Society Annual Meeting is scheduled to be held June 7-9, 2009 at the Windham Riverwalk Hotel in Jacksonville. This meeting will feature both scientific and less formal presentations regarding citrus, vegetable production, subtropical fruits and landscape and ornamental plants. The sessions for the various disciplines are held concurrently so you can focus on the horticultural crops that interest you. In addition, the meeting offers

a great opportunity to meet with researchers and other resource individuals in a relaxed atmosphere without an appointment!

Become a member of the FSHS and join your fellow horticulturists in Jacksonville.

<http://www.fshs.org/index.htm>

Another New Citrus Pest

It's not your imagination that we're hearing about and seeing new intruders on a more frequent basis. The Sri Lankan Weevil has been in Southeast Florida for a while and is rapidly becoming more of a problem. It looks very similar to the familiar Little Leaf Notcher Weevil but seems to have a more varied appetite, which of course, includes your citrus trees. In fact, another common name for the insect is Yellow-headed Ravenous Weevil.



Click on the Pest Alert site below for more information on this new resident.

<http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/enpp/ento/weevil-pest-alert.html>

IPM, Pest Scouting and Asian Citrus Psyllid

Powerpoint Presentations on the SWFREC Website

Dr. Phil Stansly, entomologist at the Southwest Florida REC in Immokalee has a couple of very informative PowerPoint presentations posted on the SWFREC website. Of particular interest are the presentations entitled "Scouting Citrus for Pests" and "Integrated Management of Asian Citrus Psyllid". While we are all focusing so much attention on ACP populations, it is important to remember that the old citrus pests are still out there. In addition, an unwanted result of our control efforts for ACP has been the appearance of some of the old scale insect pests that we haven't had to deal with for a while. Click on the hyperlink below to get to the Entomology Presentations section of the SWFREC site.
<http://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/entlab/pres/index.htm>

Pesticide Recordkeeping Requirements

Now that we are well into the 2009 citrus spray season, I thought it would be timely to review the current pesticide recordkeeping requirements as mandated by the Florida Pesticide Law. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), under the authority of the Florida Pesticide Law, requires certified pesticide applicators to maintain records relating to the application of all restricted-use pesticides.

These pesticide application records are unrelated to, and are in addition to, the Worker Protection Standard requirements that notice-of-application information be conveyed to agricultural workers and pesticide handlers for all pesticide applications.

The restricted-use pesticide application records require that ten primary data elements be kept on record for each restricted-use pesticide application. These include:

1. The name and the pesticide applicator license number of the licensee responsible for the pesticide application;
2. The name of the person who actually applied the pesticide;
3. The date and start time and end time of treatment;
4. The location of the treatment site, which may be recorded using any of the following example designations:
 - County, range, township and section;
 - An identification system utilizing maps and/or written descriptions that accurately identify the location of the treatment and distinguish the treatment site from other sites;
 - The identification system establish the USDA found in 7 CFR 110, which utilizes maps and numbering systems to identify field location;
 - Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates or longitude/latitude points that delineate the treated area; or,
 - The legal property description.
5. The crop, commodity, or type of target site treated;
6. The total size (in acres, square feet, acre-feet, number of animals treated, or other appropriate units) of the treatment site;
7. The brand name and EPA registration number of the pesticide product applied;
8. The total amount (lbs., gal., etc.) of formulated product applied; (not the gallons of finished spray applied);
9. The application method; and,

10. The name of the person requesting or authorizing the application, or a statement of authority to make such application – if the application was made to property not owned or leased by the licensee.

Commercial applicators must, within thirty (30) days of the application of a restricted-use pesticide, provide a copy of the application record to the person for whom the application was made.

The required information shall be recorded no later than two (2) working days after the date of application, and may be incorporated into other business transaction records. All records must be retained for a period of two (2) years, and must be maintained in a manner that is accessible to authorized representatives (FDACS Inspectors).

Any recordkeeping form is acceptable as long as the required data are included. This allows applicators flexibility to fit the recordkeeping requirement into their current recordkeeping scheme.

The bottom line for pesticide applicators is:

- The Worker Protection Standard (WPS) requires that records for ALL pesticide applications must be made available to agricultural workers and pesticide handlers at a central location until the applicable restricted-entry intervals have expired.
- FDACS requires that records of all applications of Restricted Use Pesticides be maintained for a period of 2 years after those applications.

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/PI012> (Pesticide Recordkeeping Fact Sheet)

Label Updates for Low Volume Mist Applications

There have been a number of recent label changes to allow low volume mist applications of pesticides for Asian Citrus Psyllid control. As a result of those changes, dimethoate, Sevin, petroleum oil, malathion and Danitol may be applied at rates as low as 2 gallons per acre of finished spray (mist). It is hoped that by June 1, 2009, Mustang, Delegate and Micromite will also have been granted 24(c) labels for low volume mist applications.

Low volume mist applications at a minimum of 2 gallons per acre should be differentiated from fogging applications such as those used in mosquito control. Mist applicators should be engineered and calibrated to generate particles with a median particle size of 100 microns. When used under proper weather conditions, mist equipment should deposit the pesticide spray on the tree/psyllid and thus kill by contact. Fogging equipment generates particle sizes that are much smaller than 100 microns, stay suspended in the air and thus allow the targeted insects, usually mosquitoes, to fly into the pesticide particles.

IFAS researchers are currently working to establish the most effective working characteristics of mist applicators and also to determine the most economical and efficient application rates of the pesticides currently registered for use against the ACP. Early reports are that the current pesticide materials registered for use against ACP are effective when used in mist applicators.

Aerial Label for Clinch Fire Ant Bait

Syngenta Crop Protections, Inc. has received a Supplemental Label to allow the aerial application of Clinch Fire Ant bait. As always, read the entire label to familiarize yourself with any label restrictions that might be part of the label. Contact your agrichemical supplier for a copy of the new label.

General Standards (Core) Pesticide Applicator Training

Preparation for the General Standards Exam required for all of the Certified Pesticide Applicator Categories. 2 General Standard CEU's will be offered for individuals who are current license holders (This includes Private Applicator and Ag Tree Crop). Ken Gioeli, Natural Resources Agent will be offering this course on May 6, 2009 and then again on June 3, 2009. **Pre-registration is required** and the cost is \$20. Call (772) 462-1660 for details and to pre-register.

Aquatic Applicator Training and Exam

Ken Gioeli will also be offering training for the Aquatic Applicator Exam on Friday, May 8, 2009. Cost is \$20 and **pre-registration is required**. This is a training session and exam only and no Aquatic CEU's will be offered. Call (772) 462-1660 for details and registration information.

Agricultural Tree Crop Training and Exam

The Ag Tree Crop License category is for individuals who intend to apply or supervise application of Restricted-Use pesticide materials on properties other than those owned by their employer. These are generally contract applicators or people who work for organizations that require more training to meet standards higher than required in the Private Applicator Category. Comprehensive training and the exam will be offered on Thursday, May 14, 2009. 3 Ag Tree Crop or Private Applicator CEU's will be offered for current Ag Tree Crop and Private Applicator license holders. Cost is \$15 and **pre-registration is required**. Call (772) 462-1660 for details and to register.

Employment Opportunities

Nichino America, Inc. is currently looking for a technical sales representative with a primary territory on Florida's East Coast. They would prefer someone with a citrus and vegetable background with the ability to cross over into other markets. Sales experience and a working knowledge of crop protection products would be a plus. Submit resume to: Paul Hudson, Regional Sales Mgr., Nichino America, phudson@nichono.net

Just for Fun

While on a trip to Detroit, Clyde wandered into the wrong neighborhood and was jumped by a couple of muggers. He put up a tremendous fight, but eventually the thugs pinned him to the sidewalk and searched his pockets. After all that effort, the bad guys only found forty-three cents in change.

“Why in the devil did you put up such a fight for only forty-three cents?” shouted one of the thugs.

“Forty-three cents?” said Clyde. “I thought you were trying to get the \$300 in my shoe.”

A door-to-door vacuum cleaner salesman was driving past a farm in north Georgia when he noticed a farmer lifting a large hog to the branch of an apple tree. He quickly pulled over and saw the pig pluck an apple off the branch. The farmer put the animal on the ground and picked up another pig to repeat the process. After the fifth hog, the salesman couldn't stand it any longer and got out of his car and approached the farmer.

“Excuse me,” he said, “but wouldn't it be a lot easier if you reached into the tree for the apples and then gave them to the pigs?”

“I don't know,” replied the farmer, reaching for another pig. “What would be the big advantage to doin' that?”

“Well,” said the salesman, trying to be polite. “For one thing, it would save a lot of time”.

“Could be,” said the farmer. “But then again, what's time to a hog?”

Here's hoping you get rained on,

Tim

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St. Lucie County Cooperative Extension

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(Click on the CITRUS tab at the upper left for my citrus section)

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