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## Treasure Coast Citrus Notes

### January - 2011

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### CHMAs and Getting the Jump on Psyllids

In my November newsletter, I mentioned the new Citrus Health Management Area initiative that will be an important part of the HLB (citrus greening disease) management effort in Florida. One function of these cooperative efforts between neighboring growers will be to assist in coordinating wide area sprays for psyllid control. It is important to know that vigorous psyllid control is recommended for groves where HLB has not been detected and for groves that have a high rate of infection (and all points in between). Research and grower experience has documented that **well-timed dormant season sprays** are very effective in reducing overall psyllid numbers and subsequently improving prospects for psyllid control during the growing season.

While effective psyllid control will be the main goal of this pest management effort, it is important that pesticide resistance management and the effects of such a program on other insect and mite pests and beneficials be considered. One informational tool that might help growers who may not be included in a CHMA at this time can be found on the new CHMA website. A document entitled "**Citrus Health Management Areas (CHMAs): Developing a Psyllid Management Plan**" is contained in the **CHMA Toolkit** on the website and is intended to assist growers in developing a sound psyllid management program. A planning template is part of the document and incorporates the calendar months, growth stages, insecticide options and other important factors to be considered in planned a psyllid control program. Click on the following link to access the document and the template:

[http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/chmas/PDF/CHMA\\_spray%20plan\\_10\\_11\\_10.pdf](http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/chmas/PDF/CHMA_spray%20plan_10_11_10.pdf)

Reducing the total number of pesticide sprays applied for psyllid control while effectively controlling the insect is a goal of the whole Florida citrus industry. Becoming a part of the CHMA concept and cooperating with your grower neighbors should pay off in the short and long term for you and the industry. If you haven't already done so, click on the following link to access the CHMA website and then navigate to the **CHMA Overview** and **Active CHMA Websites** pages for more information about the CHMA concept:

<http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/chmas/index.shtml>

## Flower Bud Induction Website

Dr. Gene Albrigo, Horticulturist Emeritus at the CREC continues to collect the necessary data for The Flowering Monitor Model which assists in predicting bloom dates for Florida citrus. The dates are largely influenced by the accumulation of inductive cooling hours of temperatures in the 50's or below. It's always interesting to see how closely the Model prediction is to when the bloom actually occurs. The predicted bloom dates might also help you to plan for the first of your spring sprays. Dr. Albrigos' latest advisory, released on January 18, 2011 follows:

[CURRENT FLOWER BUD INDUCTION ADVISORY #5 for 2010-2011-01/18/11](#)

This is a fortnightly service to our citrus growers posted on the CREC website.

**Current Status:** The Flowering Monitor Model indicated that a first wave of flower buds was initiated to grow between December 17th and 28th depending on the location. The inductive cool hours had reached 800 to 940 in southern areas and 1000 to 1250 in central and northern areas of Florida's citrus industry. The model now indicates that a second wave of flower buds has been initiated to grow in all areas from Sebring and to the south with 1030 to 1220 hours below 68 ° F. **The full bloom dates for the first wave of flower buds are about February 22 to 25 in southern, flatwoods areas** and March 1 to 8 for central and northern areas. The second wave will bloom about March 4th to 11th.

**Induction levels are now excellent for all citrus areas** and raise the possibility of too many flowers on mandarin and seedless cultivars such as navel and Ambersweet, particularly if the current crop was low. For areas south of Sebring it may be too late to reduce flowering levels with a GA3 (gibberellin) spray, but for areas north of Sebring this week may be an excellent time to prevent more flowering. Temperatures are projected to be in the mid-70s for 3 to 4 days. This will likely cause initiation of more flower bud growth where only one wave has started so far. A single spray of 20 ppm in 80 to 125 gal of water per acre is the recommended rate. Pro-Gibb will have an active ingredient (ai) rate/acre on the label.

Some growers may still want to apply urea or phosphorous acid (phosphites) to boost flowering. Only trees north of Sebring may show enhanced flowering from one of these sprays but application would be required this week while temperatures are in the mid-70s, however a response is less likely since induction levels are fairly high. For more details regarding these sprays, see advisory #3.

If you have any questions, please contact me ([albrigo@ufl.edu](mailto:albrigo@ufl.edu)).

Access the site anytime at: <http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/flowerbud/>

## Citrus Tour to Brazil

Dr. Steve Futch, is again coordinating a trip to Brazil for interested citrus growers. The group will leave Miami on Saturday, June 11 and return on Saturday, June 18. Steve has made a number of trips to Brazil with Florida growers and has again scheduled a very interesting and informative agenda for this tour. Price per person with single occupancy is \$3,225 with 10 participants and \$2,725 with 15 participants, including travel from Miami. Interested persons should contact Dr. Futch directly at 863-956-1151 or at [shf@crec.ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:shf@crec.ifas.ufl.edu) for

all the details. Don't wait if you are interested, because openings are limited and travel visas and other issues are involved.

## Supplemental Citrus Label for Platinum®75SG Insecticide

An updated copy of the supplemental label for Platinum 75SG in citrus has recently been issued. There are no changes to the directions for use on citrus other than the expiration date of the supplemental label has been extended to July 15, 2012. The existing supplemental labels expired January 15, 2011. Until the directions for use for citrus have been added to all container labels, growers will need to have a copy of this supplemental label in their possession to be in compliance. Print a copy if you need it from the following link:

<http://www.cdms.net/LDat/ld8IH001.pdf>

## Citrus Economics Resources

Dr. Ron Muraro, Extension Economist at the CREC maintains a webpage with a number of resources dealing with Citrus Economics. These include current production costs for the various citrus producing areas, packing charges, custom caretaking rates, harvesting rates and others. It's no secret that costs continue to rise for virtually every segment of the citrus production budget. You might find it interesting to see how your costs compare to the rest of the industry.

<http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/economics/>

The presentations from the **2010 International Citrus Economics Conference**, held in October of 2010 can also be found at the following link:

<http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/economics/icec2010/index.shtml>

## 2011 Citrus Pest Management Guide, SP043

The 2011 pest management "bible" for Florida citrus is now available in hard copy for the 2011 growing season with updated pesticide products and recommendations. The cost is \$15 per copy plus shipping from the IFAS Extension Bookstore in Gainesville. Call 1-800-226-1764 and ask for publication SP 043. Use a credit card and they'll have your guide(s) to you in a couple of days. The guide can also be accessed online at the following link:

<http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/pest/>

## USDA Horticultural Research Laboratory Open House

The Horticultural Research Laboratory in Ft. Pierce has scheduled an Open House on Friday, April 1, 2011 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The Lab is located at 2001 S. Rock Road, or just north of the Indian River Research and Education Center. The Open House will feature tours of this impressive facility with researchers providing short narratives about their work. If you haven't previously visited this facility, this is a great chance to see what is going on for the benefit of the citrus industry and other facets of Florida agriculture. And, if it fits your schedule, a simple lunch will be provided at noon. Pre-registration is not required for this event.

## Pesticide Applicator Training Opportunities

### General Certification Standards (CORE) Training & Testing

- Wednesday, February 2, 2010, 9:00 AM to 10:40 AM with exam to follow.
- Cost is \$20 with checks payable to SLC Extension Advisory Council or click on the link below:
- Call (772) 462-1660 to **pre-register** or for more information:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/event/1111830515>

### Aquatic Weed Control Training & Testing

- Friday, February 4, 2011, 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM with exam to follow.
- Cost is \$20 with registration information (REQUIRED) on the link below:
- Call (772)462-1660 for more information.

[http://www.eventbrite.com/event/1133906545?utm\\_source=eb\\_email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=new\\_eventv2&utm\\_term=eventurl\\_text](http://www.eventbrite.com/event/1133906545?utm_source=eb_email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=new_eventv2&utm_term=eventurl_text)

### Citrus Industry Magazine

- Why Should Pesticide Applicators Care About Heat Stress?
- One General Standards (CORE) CEU

<http://citrusindustry.net/ceu3.html>

### Florida Grower Magazine

- A Large Selection of General Standards (CORE) CEU's

<http://www.growingproduce.com/floridagrower/ceu/>

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

- **USDA Horticultural Research Lab Open House**  
Friday, April 1, 2011, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM  
2001 S. Rock Rd., Ft. Pierce, FL
- **2011 Citrus Growers Institute**  
Wednesday, April 6, 2011, South Florida Community College, Avon Park  
(More details forthcoming)

## Just for Fun

### Bubba calls 911

Bubba's wife Emily Sue fell deathly ill one evening and Bubba called 911. The 911 operator told Bubba that she would send an ambulance out right away. "Where do you live?" asked the operator. Bubba replied, "At the end of Eucalyptus Drive."

The operator asked, "Can you spell that for me?"

"There was a long pause and finally Bubba said, "How 'bout if I drag her over to Oak Street and you pick her up there?"

### Redneck Personal Hygiene

- Unlike clothes and shoes, a toothbrush should never be a hand-me-down item
- If you need to vacuum the bed, it's time to change and wash the sheets
- While ears need to be cleaned regularly, this is a job that should be done in private using one's OWN truck keys.
- Plucking unwanted nose hair is time-consuming work; a cigarette lighter and a small tolerance for pain can accomplish the same goal and save valuable minutes. Note: It's a good idea to keep a bucket of water handy when using this time-saving tip.

### Redneck Etiquette for All Occasions

- Never take a beer to a job interview or ask if they press charges for employee theft.
- Always attempt to identify people in your yard before shooting at them.
- Always say "Excuse me" after getting sick in someone else's truck
- It's considered tacky to take a cooler to church.
- Even if you're certain that you are included in the will, it's considered tacky to drive a U-Haul truck to the funeral home
- Always provide an alibi to the police for family members.
- A centerpiece for the dining room table should never be anything prepared by a taxidermist.
- Do not allow the dog to eat at the table when you have guests.....no matter how good his manners are.

Take Care,

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(Click on the **CITRUS** tab at the upper left for my **CITRUS** pages)



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