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772 462-1660 <http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu>

Treasure Coast Citrus Notes

March - 2010

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2010 Citrus Pest Management Guide, SP 43

I still have a limited number of copies of the "bible" for citrus pest management at the St. Lucie Extension office for the cover price of \$15. Come by and pick one up so I don't wind up holding inventory I don't need. Copies are also available from the IFAS Extension Bookstore, \$15 *plus shipping*. Call (800) 226-1764 with a credit card handy and you can get copies of any for-sale publication within a couple of days.

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

Florida Citrus Growers' Institute

This year's institute will be at the new auditorium at the South Florida Community College in Avon Park on **Tuesday, April 13, 2010**. This will be an all day program with numerous timely topics, including segments on:

- Asian Citrus Psyllid Management & Practical HLB Field Experience
- HLB Management
- Plant Improvement and Genomics

There are a total of 20 presentations on the program which is another effort by UF/IFAS/Citrus Extension to keep growers aware of the latest information available in the war against HLB. Lunch is going to be provided, so **registration** for this program is **required**. A copy of the program with registration and CEU/CCA information and directions to South Florida Community College is available at the following link:

<http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu//events/PDF/2010%20Institute%20Brochure.pdf>

Citrus Nutrition Workshop

Make your plans to attend a **Citrus Nutrition Workshop** on Wednesday, March 31 at the Indian River REC, 2199 S. Rock Road. Topics to be presented include:

- **Foliar Potassium Applications to Optimize Fresh Grapefruit Size**
Dr. Brian Boman, IRREC, Ft. Pierce
- **Use of Foliar Nutrients in Managing Citrus Greening**
Dr. Bob Rouse, SWFREC, Immokalee
- **Variable Rate Granular & Liquid Fertilization and Advanced Citrus Production Systems for Enhanced Efficiency**
Dr. Arnold Schumann, CREC, Lake Alfred

The program starts with registration at 9:30 AM and concludes at noon. **Registration is Requested** so that we can plan for the appropriate number of attendees. Call the St. Lucie Extension office at (772) 462-1660 prior to **Monday, March 29** to register or for more information.

<http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu/pdfs/citrus/Citrus%20Nutrition%20Workshop.pdf>

Citrus Agent Greening Programs Survey

An important part of the programming effort by UF/IFAS Citrus Extension Agents is attempting to determine if the information offered at our various programs is useful and appropriate and if knowledge learned is being applied in the field by our grower clients. Post-program surveys are one method that we utilize to quantify our success in that regard. If you attended the [2009 Florida Citrus Growers' Institute](#) in Bartow last April or one of the [Citrus Low Volume Application Technology](#) Workshops that were held around the state last fall, would you please take the time (5 minutes) to participate in an important online survey? All you have to do is click on the following link, answer the 12 questions (choices are supplied) and hit the "Done" button. We would greatly appreciate your participation in this survey.

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BWBDFYH>

Postbloom Fruit Drop (PFD) Recommendations

PFD has historically been the most severe on navel and Valencia oranges in Florida. Severity will vary according to the time of bloom in relation to rainfall and disease history in a block. Groves with persistent calyxes (buttons) from the previous year should be monitored twice weekly once the bloom begins. We've experienced a relatively wet winter up to this date and the forecast is for above average rainfall for the spring period. A PFD disease prediction model, called the PFD-FAD system, has been developed that takes into consideration the disease history in the grove, the cultivar susceptibility and the time of the last fungicide application. A link to that model can be found at the end of this paragraph. Pesticide recommendations for PFD control can be found on page 107 of the **2010 Citrus Pest Management Guide, SP 43**. Pesticides recommended for control of PFD include Abound, Gem, Headline and Ferbam. Ferbam is not sufficiently effective to be used alone but can be combined with low rates of the other products to maximize protection and reduce the risk of resistance development.

<http://pfd.ifas.ufl.edu>

St. Lucie Soil and Water Conservation District Mobile Irrigation Lab

One of the free public services offered by the St. Lucie Soil and Water Conservation District is an on-site evaluation of agricultural irrigation systems. The evaluation begins with observations and measurements of the system in operation. The information collected is then analyzed to identify potential problems with the system design, operation and maintenance. A confidential report is generated which makes recommendations for system improvements if needed. In addition, an irrigation scheduling guide is developed for the specific crop and site. The end result of such an evaluation could result in water and fuel savings for the grower. In St. Lucie County, an evaluation can be arranged by calling the St. Lucie Soil and Water Conservation District Office at (772) 461-4546. Contact numbers for the NRCS county offices throughout the state can be located by clicking on the following link:

<http://www.fl.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/index.html>

UF/IFAS CEU Day

This annual event is a remote Polycom broadcast from the UF campus and will be held on Tuesday, March 30 at the Indian River REC, 2199 S. Rock Road. Registration for the program starts at 8:30 AM and the program runs until 4:00 PM. The program topics focus on herbicide activity, resistance, new weed pests, and minimizing non-target effects. **6 Certified Pesticide Applicator** CEU's will be offered in virtually all of the applicator categories. Sorry, no General Standards (CORE) CEU's will be available. In addition, **6 Certified Crop Advisor (CCA)** CEU's will be offered in the **Pest Management** category. The program is free and **pre-registration is requested**. Call (772) 462-1660 to get registered or for more information. Click on the following link for a copy of the program and the Pesticide Applicator categories for which CEU's will be offered:

http://pested.ifas.ufl.edu/pdfs/IFAS_CEU_Day_2010.pdf

This program is also being broadcast to almost 50 other locations around the state. Click on the following link for the other locations and their contact numbers:

http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu/pdfs/citrus/IFAS%20CEU%20Day%20Contact%20List%20_2_.pdf

Pesticide Applicator Training Opportunities

Soil and Water Management and Crop Management Educational Seminar and CEU Session (Remote Polycom Broadcast)

- Wednesday, April 14, 2010. Indian River REC
- 5 CCA **Nutrient Mgt.** CEU's & 5 CCA **Pest Mgt.** CEU's
- Cost is \$100. Registration information mailed soon to CCA's
<http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/cca/>

General Certification Standards (CORE) Training & Testing

- Wednesday, May 5, 2010, 9:00 AM to 10:40 AM with exam to follow.
- Cost is \$20 with checks payable to SLC Extension Advisory Council
- Call (772) 462-1660 to **pre-register** or for more information:
<http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar2.html>

Natural Areas Weed Control Pesticide Licensing Exam Prep

- Thursday, May 6, 2010, 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM with exam to follow.
- Cost is \$20. **Pre-registration Required.** Click on the following link for more information and registration form:
http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu/pdfs/natural_resources/naturalareas-May%202010.pdf

Aquatic Weed Control Pesticide Licensing Exam Prep

- Friday, May 7, 2010, 9:00 AM – 10:40 AM with exam to follow
- Cost is \$20. **Pre-registration Required.** Click on the following link for more information and registration form:
<http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar2.html>

Just for Fun

Think you know horses?

A city slicker was driving through the country when he spotted a horse standing in a field next to a farmers' house. He thought the horse looked really good and pulled over to ask the farmer if it was for sale.

"No, I don't think so," said the farmer.

"I'll give you a thousand bucks!" said the city fella.

"I can't sell you that horse. He don't look too good," replied the farmer.

"I know horses, and he looks fine. I'll give you two thousand!"

"Well, all right, if you want him so bad."

The next day, the man returned the horse, screaming that he had been gyped.
"You sold me a blind horse!"

"Well," said the farmer, "I told you he didn't look too good."



Take Care,

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

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