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Treasure Coast Citrus Notes

November – 2008

Scouting for Citrus Greening Fact Sheet

This new publication includes information on when to scout, different scouting methods, symptoms of citrus greening and what to do when a greening-infected tree is identified. The current IFAS recommendation is to scout, identify and remove infected trees so as to remove the inoculum source of the disease, which is spread by the Asian citrus psyllid vector. Effective management of this disease is difficult, but good management decisions can only be based on knowing what the greening situation is in your groves. http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/document_ch200 (Fact Sheet HS1147)

Dormant Season Asian Citrus Psyllid Control

Results from a trial conducted earlier this year by Jawwad Qureshi and Phil Stansly indicated that psyllid populations were significantly reduced for 5-6 months following treatments applied mid-January. Their findings suggest that one or two applications of broad spectrum insecticides applied before the spring flush could ultimately reduce the number of pesticide applications required throughout the growing season to effectively control psyllids. Adult psyllids were fewest at this time and most vulnerable. Avoiding the necessity of insecticide applications during the bloom period would be very beneficial to beekeepers who have reported serious losses in the last couple of years. Additional psyllid sprays later in the season should be based on scouting and made prior to anticipated growth flushes. It has become quite evident that if you have growth flushes, the psyllids will come. Insecticide applications for the insect will probably be more effective in the long term if applications are made before psyllid populations reach very high levels.

<http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/publications/ciu/index.htm> (Citrus Industry Update)

Asian Citrus Psyllids are Spreading!

Florida citrus growers are not alone in having to deal with the Asian citrus psyllid. The pest was found in the first week of August on residential citrus trees in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and South Carolina. In early September, the psyllid was found in San Diego County, California, some 11 miles north of the border with Mexico. California officials are working to delimit the presence of the insect. Good luck with that! Citrus greening disease (HLB) has not been detected in the psyllids found in these states at this time.

<http://pestalert.ifas.ufl.edu/> (IFAS Pest Alert)

2007-2008 Citrus Budget for the Indian River Production Region

Ron Muraro, Extension Citrus Economist had released his citrus production budgets for the 2007-2008 growing season. It will be no surprise to see that average production costs increased 19% between the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 seasons. The high cost of fuel and energy increased equipment application costs 11% over the 2006-2007 season. Overall increase in chemical prices average 8%. However, fertilizer prices had the greatest impact on costs in 2007-2008, increasing an average of 80% over 2006-2007. High demand for plant nutrients throughout the developing world, especially Brazil, China and India, along with increases in transportation costs were the causes for the increase in fertilizer costs.

Additional costs were incurred by those growers attempting to manage citrus greening disease by removing infected trees and controlling the Asian citrus psyllid. Fresh fruit growers also incurred increased costs while attempting to control citrus canker.

<http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/economics/index.htm> (2007-2008 Citrus Budget)

Syngenta Crop Protection 2009 Florida Internship Program

This summer-long internship will allow students to be involved in sales, marketing and field activities as well as building customer relationships through work with growers, retailers and manufacturers.

Syngenta currently recruits sophomores and juniors in college, although seniors will be considered. The candidate should have a background in agriculture and an interest in pursuing a career in the agricultural industries after college. Interns will be responsible for a variety of field activities, including scouting, soil sampling and collecting and analyzing agricultural data. Qualified applicants should be willing to work outdoors and must have basic familiarity with pest, disease and weed control.

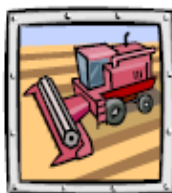
At this time, six intern positions are available, and Syngenta plans to interview candidates through February 2009. Interns will be placed across various regions of Florida and must be willing to relocate if necessary.

Interested candidates should fax their resumes to John Taylor, Syngenta Technical Support Representative at 561-694-7939 or e-mail them to john.taylor@syngenta.com.

International Research Conference on Huanglongbing (HLB)

Orlando, FL, Dec. 1-5, 2008. Citrus Industry leaders and organizations from around the globe will assemble participants from the international research community, regulatory agencies and commercial industry to exchange the latest information on HLB (Citrus Greening). The theme for this conference indicates a coordinated effort to find commercially feasible solutions for this devastating disease. For complete information on the conference, go to the conference website:

http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/hlb_conference/ (International HLB Conference)



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Operation Cleansweep is a mobile pesticide collection program that provides a safe way to dispose of cancelled, suspended, and unusable pesticides at no cost. Pesticide dealers can participate for a fee.



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	<h3>FREE PICK-UP</h3> <p>We want your old pesticides. Deadline for requesting pickup December 15, 2008</p>	
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 Florida Tomato Committee
 Florida Forestry Association
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 Florida Citrus Mutual
 Florida Landscape Maintenance Association
 Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
 Florida Department of Environmental Protection

For more information

CONTACT:

Florida Department of Agriculture &
 Consumer Services
Cleansweep@doacs.state.fl.us

or call Toll-Free
877-851-5285

**To arrange for a pickup
 complete the Contact
 Information sheet below.
 Email or Fax to (386) 418-5527**

CLEANSWEEP WEBSITE: www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/cleansweep-pesticides/
 Revised Date 7/22/08

Citrus Pest Management Course, Spring 2009

Citrus Pest Management (PMA 5205, section no. 2563) will be offered for the Spring 2009 term at the Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred and via polycom at the Department of Entomology and Nematology in Gainesville. Citrus Pest Management is graduate level course (3.0 units) for students and citrus industry personnel working in the area of pest management. Emphasis is given to techniques by which pest and disease organisms are monitored and how this information is used to effectively manage pests with the least risk to the environment. The course will be coordinated by Dr. Larry Duncan, University of Florida/IFAS, Professor of Nematology. For more information, contact Dr. Duncan (863 956-1151; lduncan@ufl.edu)

2008-2009 Florida Citrus Crop Forecast

The initial crop forecast for the 2008-2009 season was released by the Florida Agricultural Statistics Service on October 10, 2008. The next forecast will be released November 10, 2008.

All Oranges 166.0 Million Boxes

This is 2.5 percent less than the 170.2 million boxes recorded as final production last season. It is 32 percent below the record high utilization of 244.0 million boxes (Temples not included) in the 1997-1998 season. Early, midseason and navel production was forecast at 88 million boxes and Valencia production forecast at 78 million boxes.

FCOJ Yield 1.59 Gallons per Box

The yield projection is below the final yields of the past three seasons and slightly below the 10 season average. The record yield of 1.672737 gallons per box was set last season.

All Grapefruit 23.0 Million Boxes

The forecast is 14 percent less than the 26.6 million boxes produced last season. White grapefruit is forecast at 7.0 million boxes, 22 percent less than last season. This production will be the lowest in over 75 years. The forecast for colored grapefruit is 16 million boxes, some 9 percent less than last season. Production will be the lowest since the 1983-84 freeze season.

Navel Oranges 3.3 Million Boxes

The forecast is up 10 percent from last season.

All Tangerines 4.9 Million Boxes

The forecast for all tangerines is 4.9 million boxes, a decrease of 11 percent from last season. Fallglo tangerine production is forecast to be up 8 percent, Sunburst production up 13 percent and Honey tangerines down 31 percent from last season.

All Tangelos 1.5 Million Boxes

The forecast is equal to last season's final production. The number of bearing trees has been declining for the last 10 years.

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Florida/Publications/Citrus/cit/2008-09/cit1008.pdf (NASS Citrus October Forecast)

New Citrus Pest and Disease Identification Posters

This new series of 5, 18 X 27 color posters includes Miscellaneous Insect Pests; Nutrient Associated Patterns; Mites, Insects & Scales; Citrus Diseases and Citrus Greening. The photos are large and clear and should help you and your personnel with correct pest identification. Drop by the St. Lucie County Extension Office at 8400 Picos Rd, Ft. Pierce and pick up a set.

2009 Indian River Citrus Seminar

The 2009 Indian River Citrus Seminar is scheduled for January 28 and 29, 2009 at the new Havert L. Fenn Center in Ft. Pierce. This new venue should provide a great setting for the seminar. A Grove Worker Training Day is going to be held on January 27, 2009 at the St. Lucie County Fairgrounds. More information forthcoming in the near future!

Updated State Canker/Greening Map

Click on the following URL to download a current map of Citrus Canker and Greening finds in the state. There are many finds that have not been reported and you will still note the concentrations in the Indian River Area.

http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/chrp/ArcReader/CC_HLB.pdf

Certified Pesticide Applicator Training

[Private Applicator Pest Control Training and Testing.](#) Preparation for the Private Applicator test or 2 CEU's for current license holders. Testing for the Private Applicator License will follow the training. The date is [November 25, 2008](#) (7:45– 11:30 AM) at the St. Lucie County Extension Office, 8400 Picos Rd, Ft Pierce. Cost is \$15.00 and **pre-registration is required**. Call 462-1660 for registration information.

[Natural Areas Weed Control Pesticide Licensing Exam Prep & Testing.](#) Preparation for the Natural Areas Weed Control Test. This program is designed for individuals who are involved in the management of invasive weed and tree species. The date is [November 21, 2008](#) (9:00 – 10:30 AM). Cost is \$15.00 and **pre-registration is required**. Call 462-1660 for registration information.

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St. Lucie County Cooperative Extension
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