



Highlands Citrus E-Talk

4509 George Boulevard, Sebring, Florida 33875 – (863) 402-6540

The Highlands County Citrus Extension Newsletter

Vol. III No. 7

August 2010

Upcoming Events

Mark Your Calendar !

2010

- Aug. 18 & 19 Citrus Expo, Ft. Myers
- Aug. 25 Rural Energy Conference, Ag Center, Sebring
- Aug. 26 Packinghouse Day, CREC Lake Alfred
- Aug. 27 Indian River Postharvest Workshop, Ft. Pierce
- Sept. 8 Highlands Citrus Grower Forum, Ag Center, Sebring
- Sept 15 Highlands OJ Break – Citrus Black Spot, Ag Center, Sebring
- Sept 30 Citrus Management Strategies Workshop, Ag Center, Sebring
- Nov. 10 Highlands OJ Break – Cold Protection, Ag Center, Sebring
- Dec. 7 Highlands RUP Training Workshop and Exams, Sebring
- Dec 8 Highlands Citrus Grower Forum, Ag Center, Sebring

2011

- Jan. 10-14 International Research Conference on HLB, Orlando
- Jan. 26-28 Indian River Citrus Seminar, Ft. Pierce

Highlands "Citrus Grower Forum" Wednesday, September 8, 2010 8:00 a.m.

**Bert J. Harris, Jr. Agricultural Center
Conference Room # 2
Sebring, Florida**



There will be "Continental Breakfast" **beginning at 7:30 a.m.** with coffee, sweets, fruit, OJ, etc.
We will end about 9:30.

The purpose of the Highlands Citrus Grower Forum is to allow growers to gather together and share information about issues and needs, successes and failures in their citrus management program including canker, psyllid, greening management programs, concerns for citrus black spot, etc. The Forum format allows growers the opportunity to share what each is doing, and how successful we feel we are in what

we have done. Also, to share ideas that may not have come to us from the research community, yet we tried them and found success.

Area-Wide Spraying or Citrus Health Management Areas has become a topic of interest allowing growers the potential to improve effectiveness of spraying and reduce cost. I have been asked to include this as a topic in the forum. Therefore I have asked growers from both Highlands County and other areas who have had experience with Area-wide Sprays to come and share their experiences, benefits, etc. I have also asked Dr. Michael Rogers, Entomologist from the CREC, Lake Alfred to attend, since he is giving statewide leadership to developing Citrus Health Management Areas. Based on this discussion perhaps we can set a course that we can develop here in Highlands County in Area-wide Citrus Sprays for managing the Citrus Psyllid.

I would encourage everyone to attend.

September Highlands County Citrus OJ Break

"Citrus Black Spot Identification and Management"

Wednesday, September 15, 2010
9:30 a.m. – Noon

Bert J. Harris, Jr. Ag Center
Conference Room # 2
Sebring Florida



Topics Include:

- The current status of Citrus Black Spot in Florida
- Background on Citrus Black Spot
- Management of Citrus Black Spot
- Citrus Black Spot Identification and Survey Strategies

Speakers will include:

- Dr. Megan Dewdney, Plant Pathologist, CREC Lake Alfred, and representatives of both FDACS Div. of Plant Industry, and USAD Aphis.

Lunch will be included.

Pre-Registration is required to adequately plan for lunch.

Please call registration to (863) 402-6540 to Katie or email katieduncan@ufl.edu

19th Annual 2010 Citrus Expo

"Research to Real Life: Applying the Latest Citrus Science"

August 18 & 19, 2010
Lee County Civic Center
Ft. Myers, Florida



Additional Details and Information

1. **Informational Brochure**
Attached is a **brochure** including topics and events, registration information, host hotels, etc. or you can go to the web site:
<http://www.citrusexpo.net/>
2. **List of Topics and Speakers**
http://www.citrusexpo.net/seminars_37_1259436171.pdf
3. **Citrus Industry Prayer Breakfast**
Wednesday, August 18, 2010
Meeting Room C 7 - 8 a.m.
4. **Casino Night Fund Raiser for Florida FFA**
Wednesday, August 18, 2010
Holiday inn Ft. Myers at the Gulf Coast Town Center
7:30 p.m. \$50.00 admission donation
<http://www.citrusexpo.net/casinonight.html>
5. **Steak Out Lunch Finale at the end of the Thursday Session**
Grilled Rib eye Steak, Baked potato, Salad, Tomato, rolls and tea
Included with Registration.

Restricted Use Pesticide License Review and Testing

August 11, 2010 9:00 a.m. to Noon
Hardee County Extension Office
Wauchula, Florida

A three-hour pesticide license review and exam will be held in Hardee County. Three CEU's CORE and one in the Private Applicator Category will be offered.

For Registration and questions call (863) 773-2164.

Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) Conference

**Wednesday, August 25, 2010, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Bert J. Harris, Jr. Ag Center, Sebring**

**Topic Title: How to Get Solar Power
That Pays For Itself in Less Than 5 Years,
and Free Power After That.**

For many of us Solar power opportunities to save money on energy cost may not be high on our radar screen right now. There are, however; some lucrative grants and tax advantages that exist right now that can pay big dividends right now for those interested in solar power. Presently through grant opportunities one can get part of the cost of the investment back immediately and the remainder over the next five years. This has special benefit for things such as offices, barns, equipment sheds, irrigation and other water pumps, that may be in remote locations where power distribution might be difficult or unreliable.

I would urge you to attend this conference and learn what benefits may be available to you.

Attached is a flyer and registration information.

For more information, contact Ms. Dee Dee Jacobson, Urban Horticulturist at 404-6540.

Tim Hurner,
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Interim CED
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The Highlands County Citrus Extension Newsletter

Vol. 3 No 7a

August, 2010

Part # 2

Due to the volume of information that I need to pass on to you, I am sending you this newsletter in two parts. I sent the first half last Wednesday, if you did not receive it, let me know.

Upcoming Events Mark Your Calendar !

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- Aug. 18 & 19 Citrus Expo, Ft. Myers
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2011

- Jan. 10-14 International Research Conference on HLB, Orlando
- Jan. 19-20 Indian River Citrus Seminar, Ft. Pierce

**Citrus Management Strategies in a New Disease Era
Workshop,
Thursday September 30, 2010
8:30 a.m. to noon**

**B. J. Harris, Jr. Ag Center
Auditorium
Sebring, Florida**

Topics:

1. Citrus Black Spot Management Update
2. Asian Citrus Psyllid Management
3. Growing a Citrus Tree in the Greening Era
4. Foliar Feeding and SAR for Citrus Trees

This workshop will be presented at six locations. If you cannot make this workshop it will be held:

September 29th	at the Lake County Extension Office,	Tavares
October 5 th	at the Indian River REC,	Ft. Pierce
October 7 th	at the S W Fla. REC,	Immokalee
October 12 th	at the Turner Agri-Civic Center,	Arcadia
October 14 th	at the Polk County Stuart Center,	Bartow

Lunch will be provided

Pre-Registration is required to adequately plan for lunch.

Please call registration to (863) 402-6540 to Katie or email katieduncan@ufl.edu

Packinghouse Day and Indian River Postharvest Workshop

Packinghouse Day	August 26th,	CREC, Lake Alfred
Indian River Postharvest Workshop	August 27th,	IRREC Ft. Pierce

Topics this year in both will be related to Citrus Black Spot.

Attached is a flyer with more details.

Highlands County RUP Training Workshop and Exam Tuesday December 7, 2010 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**B. J. Harris, Jr. Ag Center
Auditorium
Sebring, Florida**

We are planning a day-long Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) Workshop on Tuesday Dec. 7th. RUP CEU's will be available in the CORE category and Private Applicator, Ornamental & Turf, Ag Tree Crop, and Ag Row Crop Categories. Subjects will also prepare non license holders to take both the CORE and Category Exams at the end of the day.

More information will be coming to you later.

Florida Citrus Statistics 2008 – 2009

The Florida Agricultural Statistics Service Publication containing data on citrus acres by county, production by county and states, acres, and production by variety, etc. for 2008-2009 has been printed. I have copies available and if you would like a copy(s) you can pick one up at the Ag Center, or contact me at 402-6540 or email plowboy@ufl.edu and I'll send you one.

It is a good resource of data about the Highlands County and Florida Citrus Industries.

Citrus Research and Development Foundation (CRDF) Announces a new Web Site

The Citrus Research and Development Foundation which is charged with overseeing Citrus Research in Florida utilizing grower dollars and other funding sources has developed a new comprehensive Web Site.

The web site address is www.citrusrdf.org .

The site is designed to keep citrus industry stakeholders informed with updates about citrus research being funded by the foundation on citrus greening, citrus canker, and other exotic diseases.

Included on the site are quarterly report updates issued by research faculty on their research. Each report is a thumbnail on the status of the research including new information leading toward their ultimate findings.

I would recommend you keep this web address in your “Favorites” on your computer and refer to it from time to time so you can stay informed.

Good Agricultural Practices requirements for citrus are being drafted.

The U. S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is asking the citrus industry to develop a set of “Good Agricultural Practices” (GAPS) related to pre-harvest production of citrus to reduce the possibility of contamination of citrus fruit. Public Food Safety concerns have occurred in recent years as a result of illnesses caused by the consumption of contaminated fruit and vegetables. GAPS are production practices that can help insure that those who consume our products will do so safely and without the potential of illness. For citrus this is somewhat easier since the fruit is either peeled or juiced and pasteurized before it is consumed.

Many of us recall the issue with tomatoes and salmonella last year. Even though the purposed contamination of tomatoes in south Florida was not confirmed it severely damaged the possibility of marketing tomatoes that season. The economic impact was devastating. Having had a GAPS Program, the source of contamination (if there was one) could have been readily pinpointed and non affected growers could have continued to harvest and marketed their crop.

Presently a statewide **grower committee** is drafting a proposed GAPS Program for Florida. The committee is made up of growers from each of the state and local grower organizations.

I have posted on my county web page, http://highlands.ifas.ufl.edu/ag_citrus.shtml , a draft of the proposed GAPS document and some frequently asked questions. I would encourage you to take a little time and review it and stay informed as to the progress of this new requirement for our growing citrus. I will update these items as the future revisions are made.

You can give input by contacting your local grower organization.

New Web Sites for Disease Management

HLB Nutrient Mgt Web Site

Some HLB nutrient management information to accompany the HLB Guidance document has been put on the CREC website. You can find it at this link

<http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/greening/NutritionalManagement.htm>

To navigate to it without the link click on Extension from the CREC homepage, www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu, then Citrus Greening, then Management, then Nutritional Management.

Citrus Black Spot Web Site

The citrus black spot webpage is now available on the CREC website: www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu It is located underneath the extension section or you may visit it directly at:

http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/black_spot/citrus_black_spot.htm

Citrus Annual Conference Educational Presentations

If you missed the Citrus Annual Conference in Bonita Springs last June you can view the Educational Session Presentations at: http://flcitrusmutual.com/about/2010_CONFERENCE.aspx

RUP CEU's in Trade Magazines and on the Citrus Agents Web Site

If you are in need of **CORE and Category CEU's** to renew your RUP license you can get them from articles recently published in two citrus trade magazines and on the Florida Citrus Agents Web Site.

The **CEU articles in the *Citrus Industry Magazine*** are in the September 2009, December 2009, February 2010, and June 2010 magazines, and in the ***Florida Grower magazine*** November 2009 and March 2010 issues.

On the **Florida Citrus Agents Web Site** there are five articles: three for CORE CEU's including: Safe Storage and Transportation of Pesticides; Pesticide Mixing, Loading and Application; and Pesticides and the Environment; and two for Private Applicator and Ag Tree Crop Categories; In The Weeds and All About Airblast Spraying. The Web Site link is: <http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/info/CEU%20Testing.htm>

All you need to do is read the article, take the quiz that is included with the article, and mail the quiz to the author who will grade it and send you your RUP Record of Attendance for CEU's completion form. On the Florida Citrus Agents Web Site you can send your quiz in electronically and save the postage.

Even if your license renewal is not imminent, it would be good to complete four of the CORE quizzes and get your CORE requirement for renewal completed. Usually CORE CEU's are the hardest to acquire during the four years before you need to renew your license.

Don't procrastinate on getting your RUP renewal CEU's. It can lead to a lot of anxiety when your renewal deadline has passed.

2010 Florida Citrus Growers Institute Presentations

The presentations from the 2010 Florida Citrus Grower Institute held in April at SFCC in Avon Park are now available on the Florida Citrus Agents Web Site.

The link is: http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/Citrus_Agents_Home_Page/Citrus_Agents_Home.html

If you could not attend or if you wish to re-visit the presentation you can hear the presentation and see the Power Point.

Tim Hurner,
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*The Highlands County Citrus Growers Association
is proud to be a supporting partner of the
Highlands County Citrus Extension Program*



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Registration Form
REAP Conference
August 25, 2010

Name _____
Company name _____
Address _____

Business phone _____ Cell Phone _____
email _____
Fax _____

There will be a \$20 registrations fee paid at the door.

Vendor Registration Form
REAP Conference
August 25, 2010

Name _____
Company name _____
Address _____

Business phone _____ Cell Phone _____
email _____
Fax _____

What is your product line? _____

Each table is 8' long. How many tables will you need? _____

Please bring the supplies you will need, for example, table covers, electric cords, company signs etc.

The hall will be made available to you for set-up from 7:30am to 8:30am

There will be a \$30 registrations fee for vendors.