



Highlands Citrus E-Talk

Vol. # 3 No. 2

January 2010

Highlands County Fair Youth Citrus Show & Sale
Thursday January 28, 2010 5:30 p.m.
Highlands County Fairgrounds
Silent and Live Auction

This year the Highlands County Youth Citrus Program has grown by 50%. A total of 36 young people from around the county have raised citrus trees for exhibit in the county fair.

This project centers on young people in 4-H, FFA and other organizations growing a potted citrus nursery tree. The young people purchased their Navel Orange tree in the spring, planted it in a four gallon pot, and grow it for the fair. The entrant attends four workshops to learn about growing citrus and the importance of citrus to Highlands County.

Entrants prepare an informational display board for exhibit at the county fair in addition to their tree. The display board requires the entrant to research a subject related to growing or marketing citrus and convey what they have learned in the display. A record book is completed at the close of the project summarizing what the youngster has learned.

For these young people it becomes a family project where parents and the entrant develop a greater appreciation for citrus and the citrus industry.

The Highlands County Youth Citrus Program is governed by a local committee of growers and allied industry representatives that make this program a reality.

At the fair the entrants exhibits the tree and the tree is then sold in a:

Citrus Tree Auction
Thursday evening, January 28, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.
at the Highlands County Fairgrounds.

I encourage you to purchase a tree(s) at the fair to support these young people in their citrus project. Many of the entrants use the money to further their education after high school.

For more details on how to purchase a tree, contact Tim Hurner at (863) 402-6540 or plowboy@ufl.edu.

Syngenta Crop Protection Becomes Corporate Sponsor Highlands Youth Citrus Program

Another dimension of this citrus tree project is the awards and rewards presented to the young people based on their achievement. The Youth Citrus Project Committee each year raises money to support the awards and premiums.



This year Syngenta Crop protection has become a “Corporate Sponsor” by donating a large sum of money to support the program.

This certainly demonstrates Syngenta interest in the youth of our county and the citrus industry.

I wanted to in this venue express my sincere appreciation and that of the Youth Citrus Project Committee, and the Highlands Citrus Industry for their “stepping to the plate” with their support. Next time you see Gary Sawyer, John Taylor or any of the Syngenta Team, please help us thank them.

February Highlands County Citrus OJ Break “Use of Nutritional in Managing Citrus Greening”

**Wednesday, February 24, 2010
9:00 a.m. – Noon**

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



Speakers:

**Dr. Phil Stansly, SWFREC, Immokalee
Dr. Bob Rouse, SWFREC, Immokalee**

Pre-Registration

Please call (863) 402-6540 or email
plowboy@ufl.edu

Other Upcoming Events

1. Restricted Use Pesticide (RUP) Pesticide Applicator Training Opportunities

The following are RUP Pesticide License Training and Exam Opportunities that are close to Highlands County.

- **GENERAL CERTIFICATION STANDARDS (CORE) Training & Exam**
 - Wednesday, February 3, 2010, 9:00 to 10:40 a.m.
 - St. Lucie County Extension Service Office, Ft. Pierce.
 - Registration Fee \$20.00
 - **Pre-register** - call (772) 462-1660
 - More information:
http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu/pdfs/natural_resources/feb10%20-%20Core.pdf

- **AQUATIC WEED CONTROL PESTICIDE LICENSING EXAM Training & Exam**
 - Friday, February 5, 2010, 9:00 to 10:40 a.m.
 - St. Lucie County Extension Service Office, Ft. Pierce.
 - Registration Fee \$20.00
 - **Pre-register** - call (772) 462-1660
 - More information:
http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu/pdfs/natural_resources/aquaticfeb2010.pdf

- **NATURAL AREAS WEED CONTROL PESTICIDE LICENSING Training & Exam**
 - Friday, February 5, 2010, 1:30 to 3:00 pm.
 - St. Lucie County Extension Service Office, Ft. Pierce.
 - Registration Fee \$20.00
 - **Pre-register** - call (772) 462-1660
 - More information:
http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu/pdfs/natural_resources/naturalareas-feb%202010.pdf

- **CORE & PRIVATE LICENSE Review and Exam**
 - February 10, 2010, 9:00 a.m. Noon
 - Hardee County Extension Service Office, Wauchula.
 - Registration Fee \$25.00
 - **Registration** - call (863) 773-2164 prior to February 1, 2010.
 - Three CEU's (2 Core and 1 Private)

- **AG TREE CROP LICENSE Review and Exam,**
 - March 3, 2010, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
 - DeSoto County Extension Service Office, Arcadia
 - Registration Fee \$20.00
 - **Registration:** - call (863) 993-4846 prior to February 22, 2010.
 - Two CEU's (2 Ag Tree Crop)

CERTIFIED PILE BURNER CLASSES

There have been three Certified Pile Burner Classes scheduled in South Florida this spring.

They are:

- **March 10, 2010, Ft. Pierce, Ft. Pierce**
Indian River Research & Education Center
Coordinator: Ed Skyvarch, Ext. Agent – Commercial Horticulture
- **Thursday, March 18, 2010, Arcadia**
South Florida Community College, Arcadia, FL
Coordinator, Dr. Steve Futch, Multi-County Extension Agent – Citrus
- **Wednesday, 7 April 2010**
Southwest Research & Education Center, Immokalee
Coordinator: Dr. Mongi Zekri, Multi-County Citrus Extension Agent

All classes are full 1-Day Classes including a certification exam at the end of the day. Class size is limited so you should register as soon as possible. For information about the class and how to register go to: http://www.fl-dof.com/training_education/training_schedule.html

Citrus Production School

February 16, 23, and March 2, 2010

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM.

Turner Center, Arcadia

Coordinator: Dr. Steve Futch, Multi-County Citrus Extension Agent

Topics:

- citrus greening,
- canker,
- GMO (genetically modified plants) and
- mechanical harvesting.

Registration Fee \$25.00 per person.

Registration Information: call (863) 773-2164.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for both RUP & CCA.

Help Needed for Avocado Threat Research

You may already be aware that the Avocado Industry in South Florida is under a threat similar to HLB in Citrus. A disease new to Florida, Laurel Wilt has been found in south Florida and it is an immanent threat to the Avocado industry. It is transmitted by a small insect the Ambrosia Beetle.

Dr. Jon Crane, [Tropical Fruit Crop Specialist](#) at the Tropical Research & Education Center in Homestead is trying to locate plantings of 5 or more Avocado Trees that may exist in Highlands County to test control of the Ambrosia Beetle and Laurel Wilt.

If you know of any such planting of Avocado trees in Highlands County in dooryards or a commercial setting, please let me know or contact Dr. Jon Crane at [Tel: 305-246-7001 x.290](tel:305-246-7001), or jhcr@ufl.edu.

The Avocado is in the same situation as we are with HLB, I am sure they would greatly appreciate our help.

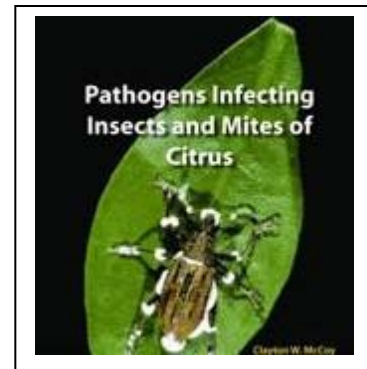
Book Now Available!

Pathogens Infecting Insects and Mites of Citrus

By Clayton W. McCoy, et. al

The purpose of this book is to present a comprehensive overview of the pathogens that cause disease of the various citrus arthropods,

For more information and how to order go to:
<http://insectpathogens.com/index.html>



Citrus Growing in Florida

By F S Davies and L K Jackson 2009
5th Edition, 310 pages, 16 pages with
32 color photos. **Price: \$30.00**

To order the book: contact:
Florida Science Source, Inc.
PO Box 8217,
Longboat Key, FL 34228
Telephone 941.383.4680
<http://www.ultimatecitrus.com/fssource/index.html>



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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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COMPLETE CITRUS MANAGEMENT

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