

Highlands Citrus E-Talk



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

The Highlands County Citrus Extension Newsletter

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May 2, 2011

Mid Florida Foundation Field Day at Conserve II

The Mid Florida Citrus Foundation is having a **Field Day** to showcase their Citrus Research Trials. Included will be:

- A nutritional Program Demonstration block similar to the one at the SWFREC in Immokalee;
- A discussion of some psyllid control trials (including biological control);
- A herbicide demonstration trial; and
- Discussions and a field tour of several alternate crops including peaches, pomegranates, and olives.

The Program will be held:

Tuesday May 10, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

at the **Conserve II** site 17498 McKinney Road, Winter Garden, Florida.

Growers who attended this field day last year all said that it was well worth the trip. The program covers many subjects and allow you to see the results.

To **Register** go to: <http://mfcffieldday.eventbrite.com>.

Certified Pile Burner Class

A **Certified Pile Burner Class** has been scheduled for Highlands and surrounding counties for:

Wednesday August 17, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

at the Bert J. Harris, Jr. Ag Center in Sebring

For **details on the class, registration forms**, etc. go to either http://www.fl-dof.com/training_education/training_schedule.html or <http://highlands.ifas.ufl.edu/>.

The Registration fee is \$50.00, class size is limited to 50 and is presently over half filled.

The **Certified Pile Burner Class** is designed to prepare people to **become certified to burn piles of brush and debris** that results from land clearing, **removal of citrus trees**, certain types of construction, etc.

Persons who take the eight hour class will take an open book exam at the end of the day. Those who do not pass the exam can retake the exam at a later date. Once the exam is passed, the person will contact their local forester at DOF for their first pile burn. The local forester will issue a permit to burn based on the burn plan developed by the certified pile burner, and will observe the first burn. Then the person will receive a certification that is good for five years. At the end of five years the certification can be renewed provided there were five pile burns made during the previous five years.

A **Certified Pile Burner** can:

- receive permits and priority to complete burns under less desirable, dryer weather conditions,
- receive multiple permits for burns
- can burn two hours longer per day.
- receive a waiver of liability for damage or injury caused by a fire or resulting smoke provided the certified pile burner conducted the fire in accordance with certified pile burner standards, unless gross negligence is proven (this is a new caveat benefit for this program).

Florida Citrus Industry Annual Conference

The seventh annual Citrus Industry Conference will be held:

June 15 – 17, 2011
At the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point, in Bonita Springs, Florida

As in the past the conference will include industry association meetings, educational sessions, a golf tournament, and a fishing excursion. There are plenty of things for spouses and kids to make it a family occasion.

For registration information go to: www.flcitrusmutual.com.

Florida State Horticultural Society Meeting

The Florida State Horticultural Society will meet:

June 5 – 7, 2011
At the Renaissance Vinoy Resort in St. Petersburg, Florida

This is a great meeting to get an insight to many research projects presently being carried out to help resolve citrus issues and needs such as citrus canker, citrus greening, and the citrus psyllid.

Pond and Lake Management Workshop

A special workshop will be offered on May 12, 2011

9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Highlands County, Bert Harris, Agricultural Center just off U.S. 27, Sebring.

The program will focus on managing ponds for recreation and or commercial fishing with guidance on protecting water and enhancing wildlife habitat along lakes, rivers and other important water features. In addition to the workshop a field tour will extend the learning into the out of doors.

Registration for the event is \$10 which includes lunch and all materials.

Registration can be accomplished on line at

<http://fsp-workshop051211.eventbrite.com/>.

By phone, contact the Highlands County extension at (863) 402-6540.

For more program information please contact Mike Jensen, County Extension Director at jensenm@ufl.edu or 863-402-6540.

Tim Hurner,
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Highlands County Citrus Extension Program Sponsors 2010-1011

A special **THANK YOU** to all of the **Highlands Extension Citrus Program** sponsors for their monetary support. If you would like to be among them please contact Tim Hurner at (863) 402-7150 or plowboy@ufl.edu.

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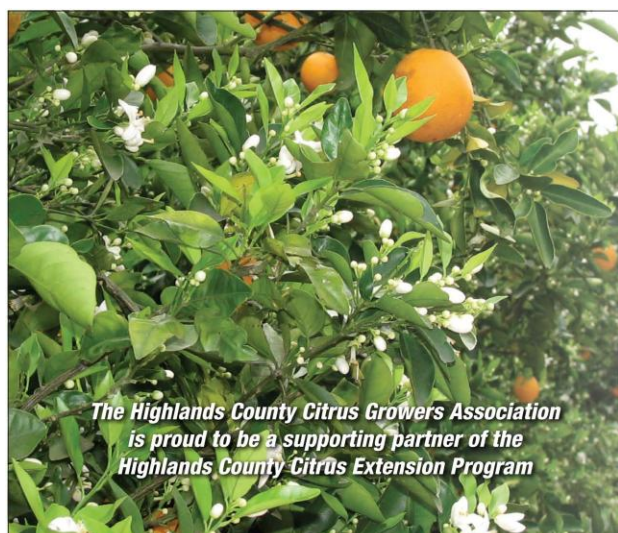
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*The Highlands County Citrus Growers Association
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