

Citrus Notes



Chris Oswalt
UF/IFAS Citrus
Extension Agent
for
Polk &
Hillsborough
Counties

IMPORTANT DATES

APRIL 26, 2018

**FOOD SAFETY AND
MODERNIZATION ACT -
PRODUCE SAFETY RULE**

Balm

MAY 15, 2018

**OJ BREAK GROWER
MEETING**

Lake Alfred

JUNE 10 - 12, 2018

**131ST ANNUAL FLORIDA
STATE HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY CONFERENCE**

Ft. Lauderdale

CONTACT INFO

POLK COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

PO Box 9005, Drawer HS03
Bartow, FL 33831
(863) 519-1052
Email: wcoswalt@ufl.edu

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

5339 County Road 579
Seffner, FL 33584
(813) 744-5519
Ext. 541231

2018 May

OJ Break



The May OJ Break meeting will be held at the UF/IFAS Citrus

Research and Education Center, Ben Hill Griffin Jr. Citrus Hall on May 15, 2018, beginning at 10:30 a.m. and concluding after lunch.

This month we have Dr. Tripti Vashisth and Dr. Christopher Vincent making presentations. Dr. Vashisth will be discussing her findings on HLB induced fruit drop and an update on her citrus nutritional field trials. Dr. Vincent has some interesting information on kaolin clay and psyllid control in young citrus trees. The UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center is located at 700 Experiment Station Rd. in Lake Alfred.

This month our lunch sponsor is Trey Whitehurst and Harrell's Fertilizer. In order to account for lunch, we need you to please pre-register by Friday, May 11, 2018, by contacting Gail Crawford phone at 863-519-1042, email at dorothy@c@ufl.edu or use the following eventbrite link: <https://polkojbreakapril18.eventbrite.com/>.

FSMA - Produce Safety Rule Training

If you haven't already done so, plan to attend a Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) workshop sometime this year. The one day PSA workshop satisfies the Produce Safety Rule requirement that at least one person, from each "farm", complete food safety training. The next PSA training in

our area is in Balm on April 26th. The flyer for this course is attached and the registration link is below. There are other PSA workshops in Apopka, and Homestead.

Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training, the one-day course for fruit and vegetable growers and packers who fall under FSMA's Produce Safety Rule. Lunch is included.

4/26/18 – Balm <https://psa042618.eventbrite.com>

5/2/18 – Apopka <https://psa050218.eventbrite.com>

6/7/18 – Homestead <https://psa060718.eventbrite.com>

131st Annual Meeting of the Florida State Horticultural Society



The annual meeting of the Florida State Horticultural Society will take place June 10 to 12, 2018, in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. The host property is the Renaissance Ft. Lauderdale Cruise Port Hotel, 1617 SE 17th St. You can find registration and hotel information for the meeting at the following website: <https://fshs.org/meetings/>

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2018 ATLANTIC

HURRICANE SEASON OUTLOOK

Colorado State University has released their forecast for the 2018 hurricane season. The forecast is calling for an above average hurricane activity this season, due in large part, to prevailing weak La Nina conditions in the equatorial Pacific Ocean and a low likelihood of the development of significant El Nino conditions.

The forecast in terms of storm numbers is as follows:

- 14 named storms
- 7 becoming hurricanes
- 3 becoming major hurricanes



USDA Implements up to 2.36 Billion to Help Agricultural Producers Recover after 2017 Hurricanes and Wildfires “2017 Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program” to Aid Recovery in Rural Communities

WASHINGTON, April 6, 2018 – U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will make disaster payments of up to \$2.36 billion, as provided by Congress, to help America’s farmers and ranchers recover from hurricanes and wildfires. The funds are available as part of the new 2017 Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program (2017 WHIP). Sign-up for the new program, authorized by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, will begin no later than July 16.

USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) will make these disaster payments to agricultural producers to offset losses from hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria and devastating wildfires. The 2017 calendar year was a historic year for natural disasters, and this investment is part of a broader suite of programs that USDA is delivering to rural America to aid recovery. In total, the Act provided more than \$3 billion in disaster relief by creating new programs, and expediting or enhancing payments for producers.

“America’s farmers feed our nation and much of the world, and throughout history they have known good years and bad years. But when significant disasters strike, we are ready to step in and provide the assistance they need,” Secretary Perdue said. “USDA is working as quickly as possible to develop procedures and a system by which affected producers can access disaster assistance. For producers new to FSA programs, we encourage you to visit your local USDA service center now to establish farm records.”

About 2017 WHIP Disaster Payments

The new 2017 WHIP will provide significant disaster assistance and be guided by the following principles:

- Eligibility will be limited to producers in counties that experienced hurricanes or wildfires designated as presidentially-declared disasters in 2017;
- Compensation determined by a producer’s individual losses rather than an average of losses for a particular area (where data is available);
- Producers who purchased higher levels of risk protection, such as crop insurance and noninsured crop disaster assistance program, will receive higher payments;
- Advance payments up to 50 percent; and
- A requirement that payment recipients obtain future risk protection.

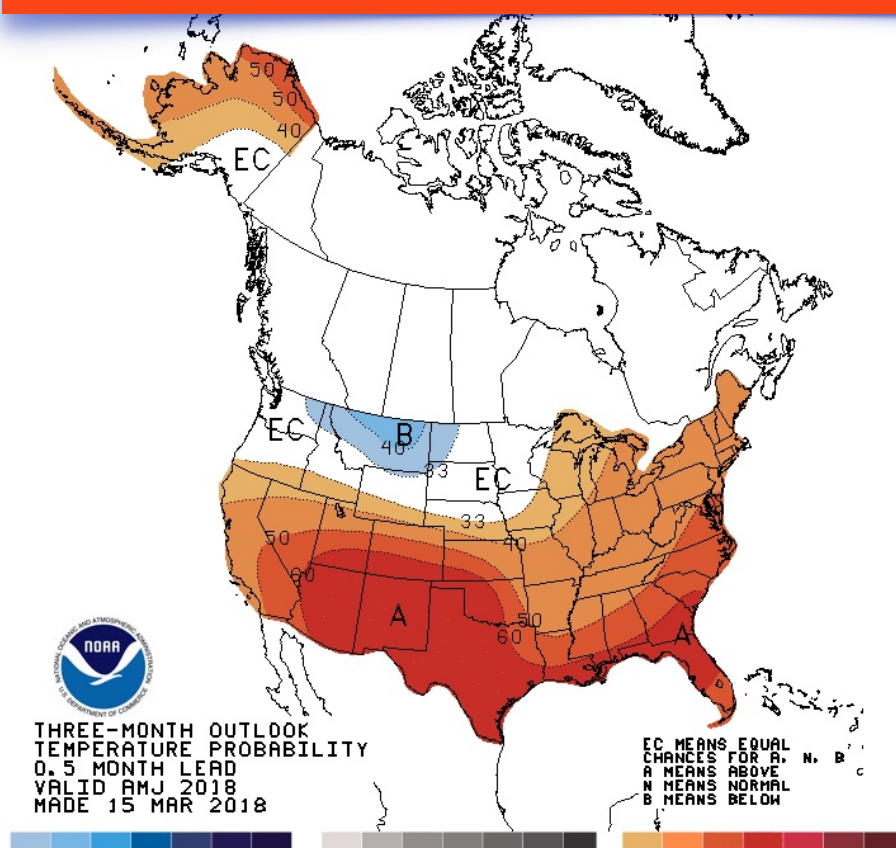
Other USDA Disaster Assistance

WHIP disaster payments are being issued in addition to payments through our traditional programs, some of which obtained increased funding or had amendments made by the Act to make the programs more responsive, including the [Emergency Conservation Program](#), [Emergency Watershed Protection Program](#), [Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-raised Fish Program](#), [Tree Assistance Program](#) and [Livestock Indemnity Program](#).

During 2017, the U.S. experienced a historic year of weather-related disasters, with an economic impact totaling more than \$300 billion. In total, the United States was impacted by 16 separate billion-dollar disaster events including: three tropical cyclones, eight severe storms, two inland floods, a crop freeze, drought and wildfire. More than 25 million people – almost eight percent of the population – were affected by major disasters.

More Information

FSA will distribute more information on how producers can file claims for WHIP disaster payments at a later date. For questions on how to establish farm records to be prepared when WHIP disaster signup begins, or to learn about other disaster assistance programs, producers are asked to contact their [local USDA service center](#).



THREE MONTH WEATHER OUTLOOK

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Center is forecasting an above average chance for temperatures in Florida to be above average for the months of April, May and June. There is a 60% probability for above average temperatures during this period (figure to left).

Precipitation forecast calls for equal chances of above, below and a normal amount of rainfall during the three months of April, May and June.

This information is available at the following NOAA website:
<http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/>

Florida Citrus Growers' Institute Young Citrus Tree Psyllid Control

Earlier this month at the Florida Citrus Growers' Institute we had a section of the program devoted to Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) control and the issues surrounding the reduced effectiveness of soil applied neonicotinoids and controlling ACP in young citrus trees. The following information is what I picked up from a couple of the presenters earlier this month.

There has been a reduction in the level of susceptibility of field populations of ACP to neonicotinoids insecticides. This reduced susceptibility or resistance **is not wide spread**, but in some areas (specific locations) of the state there is ACP resistance to neonicotinoids. Strategies to address this issue, specifically for young citrus trees in these areas, would be the rotational use of insecticides with five different modes of action. This mode of action or pesticide classification information can be found in chapter 4 of the 2017-18 Florida Citrus Production

Guide (<http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/pest/PDF/2017/Pesticide%20Resistance%20and%20Resistance%20Management.pdf>). This rotation over time will result in reducing insecticide resistance in ACP populations. In addition, insecticide alternatives like Surround®, a kaolin clay material, the use of reflective mulches and physical barriers (individual tree screen covers) can be practices that reduce ACP pressure on young citrus trees.

In looking at the potential of above mentioned alternatives to managing ACP and therefore HLB infection, one needs to realize that insecticides alone are not sufficient to completely control ACP. Practices that will reduce ACP pressure and optimize growing conditions resulting in accelerate young citrus tree growth and productivity are keys to maintaining productivity.

Reflective mulches are becoming popular in some areas. These mulches, in combination with insecticides applications, have demonstrated to deter ACP resulting in a reduction in HLB

incidence and severity. There are however, some issues that would need to be looked into when considering this type of mulch. Since it is a plastic material, you need to consider how to deliver water and nutrients under the plastic.

ACP proof screen covers are also gaining popularity within Florida citrus. These covers act as a physical barrier through which ACP can't pass through to feed on the tree. If you are considering this, make sure the screen is ACP proof.

2018 Florida Citrus Growers' Institute Videos Online

The videos from this year's 2018 Florida Citrus Growers' Institute held in Avon Park earlier this month should be available at the Citrus Extension Agents website (<http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/>) by the middle of next week.

So, if you happened to miss out on the meeting you can still see the presentations at our website next week.



Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training

April 26, 2018 8:00am – 5:00pm

UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center
14625 County Road 672 • Wimauma, FL 33598

Who Should Attend

Fruit and vegetable growers and others interested in learning about produce safety, the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule, Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), and co-management of natural resources and food safety are encouraged to attend. The PSA Grower Training Course is one way to satisfy the FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirement.

What to Expect

The trainers will spend approximately seven hours of instruction time covering content contained in these seven modules:

- Introduction to Produce Safety
- Worker Health, Hygiene, and Training
- Soil Amendments
- Wildlife, Domesticated Animals, and Land Use
- Agricultural Water (Part I: Production Water; Part II: Postharvest Water)

- Postharvest Handling and Sanitation
- How to Develop a Farm Food Safety Plan

In addition to learning about produce safety best practices, key parts of the FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirements are outlined within each module. There will be time for questions and discussion, so participants should come prepared to share their experiences and produce safety questions.

Benefits of Attending

The course will provide a foundation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and co-management information, FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirements, and details on how to develop a farm food safety plan.

After attending the entire course, participants will be eligible to receive a certificate from the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) that verifies they have completed the training course.

Cost to Attend: \$25 Please register at: <https://psa042618.eventbrite.com>

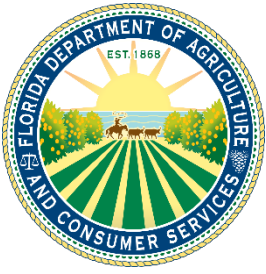
Cost for Non-Florida residents is \$125. Cost includes the training materials, lunch, refreshments, and a certificate of course attendance issued by AFDO. To pay by check, fill out and mail in the next page. Seats are limited to 50.



Produce Safety
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Training materials and certificate are funded through the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FAIN #U18FD005909)



Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration is also available online at: <https://psa042618.eventbrite.com>

Please note: NO substitutions, transfers, or refunds will be issued within one week of the training start date.

UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center – April 26, 2018

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Special meal requirements (vegetarian, etc.)?: _____

Your name EXACTLY as you would like it to appear on your certificate:

Important: Make checks payable to “University of Florida”

Course registration of \$25 for Florida residents (\$125 for non-Florida residents) is requested by April 20th, 2018. Registration will be confirmed upon receipt of registration materials.

Mail check and registration to: University of Florida
ATTN: Sarah McCoy
700 Experiment Station Road
Lake Alfred, FL 33850
sarahmccoy@ufl.edu or 863-956-8632



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