# Citrus Notes

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

## IMPORTANT DATES

**MAY 9, 2017**
**OJ BREAK MEETING**
Lake Alfred

**JUNE 4 - 6, 2017**
**130TH ANNUAL FLORIDA STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE**
Tampa

**JUNE 22, 2017**
**CITRUS YOUTH DAY**
Lake Alfred

**AUGUST 16 - 17, 2017**
**CITRUS EXPO**
Ft. Myers

## CONTACT INFO

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

May
## OJ Break Meeting

Our May OJ Break meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, beginning at 10:30 a.m. It will be held at the UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center, Ben Hill Griffin Hall at 700 Experiment Station Road in Lake Alfred. We have two great speakers this month. Dr. Jude Grosser, with the CREC Plant Improvement Team, will be presenting the latest information on the yield and horticultural performance of the new series of UF rootstocks.

Dr. Kelly Morgan will be here this month to discuss the all important topic of citrus irrigation, scheduling and management with HLB infected trees. I also asked him to cover the interpretation of water analysis as related to adjusting irrigation water pH on HLB infected trees.

This month our lunch sponsor will be Trey Whitehurst and Harrells Fertilizer. CEU's are available for your restricted use pesticide and certified crop advisory license. **Please pre-register for the meeting by Friday, May 5, 2017.** Registration can be done by calling Gail Crawford at 863-519-1042, emailing her at: dorothyc@ufl.edu or eventbrite at: https://polkojbreakmay2017.eventbrite.com.

Senior Program Manager
## CRDF

The Citrus Research and Development Foundation (CRDF) is looking to hire a Senior Program Manager. Interested individuals MUST make formal application to the webhost: http://expolre.jobs.ufl.edu/cw/en-us/job/502098/senior-research-program-manager. Applications will be accepted through May 24, 2017, per electronic posting. Questions regarding this position may be addressed to: Harold Browning, COO and Chair, Search Committee, hwbr@citrusrdf.org

2017 Florida Citrus Growers'
## Institute Videos


The video presentations from this years' Citrus Growers' Institute held back on April 4, 2017, are now available at the UF/IFAS Citrus Agents website: http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/events/GrowersInstitute2017/.

I would like to thank all of our growers who had the opportunity to attend and our sponsors who helped make the Institute a success.

UF IFAS Extension UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

***The Foundation for the Gator Nation***
***An Equal Opportunity Institution***

Q&A

# The Distribution of Psyllids in Citrus Groves

### *How far can psyllids fly?*

On their own psyllids can fly up to two miles and up to 400 miles if wind assisted. Another study determined that psyllids are capable of three hours of continuous flight which would equate to a distance of four miles.

### *Where in a citrus tree are psyllid densities the highest?*

Highest psyllid densities (> 10 psyllids/yellow sticky card) were found in the top third of the citrus tree canopy. At the middle to lower levels psyllid densities were in the range of 5 to 10 psyllids/yellow sticky card. The lowest psyllid densities were found to be at a level closest to the ground and above the tree canopy. Psyllids also appear to be drawn to the greater amount of sunlight (positive phototaxis) in the top canopy of citrus trees.

### *How does psyllid management strategy affect the population levels of psyllids?*

Four psyllid management strategies were studied: abandoned, organic, intermittent psyllid (5 or fewer insecticide sprays per year) and conventional (9 to 12 insecticides per year) management. The highest level of psyllid populations were found under intermittent control management. Abandoned and organic groves were lower than the intermittent program, but were higher than conventional psyllid management.

### *When are psyllid populations at their lowest during the year and why?*

Psyllid populations are consistently the lowest during the winter months. Depending on geographical location this would be between December and February. This corresponds with a lack of flush for psyllid reproduction, cooler temperatures and low precipitation. Winter is considered the weakest link in the annual psyllid life cycle.

### *Will cold winter temperatures kill psyllids?*

It has been demonstrated that psyllid can survive up to 48 hours at temperatures of $32^0$F.

### *Will row orientation affect the number of psyllid?*

Yes, more psyllids were found on an East to West row orientation compared to North to South running rows.

### *What affect do windbreaks have on psyllid populations?*

Psyllid populations are lower in groves with one or two sides having windbreaks. This could be due to the physical barrier a windbreak poses to psyllids or a reduction in sunlight on the border rows of the block.

### *What is the typical moving pattern of psyllids in abandoned groves located in close proximity to managed grove?*

The predominate psyllid movement is from the abandoned grove to nearby managed groves. Additional movement back and forth between groves is limited mostly to the border (3 or 4) rows of each block.

### *How can this information help us better control psyllid populations?*

It has been demonstrated that winter time is the weakest link in the psyllid's lifecycle. Insecticide application during this period can be quite effective in reducing overall seasonal population levels. Conventional management of psyllids is essential in maintaining lower psyllid populations (in the presentation 9 to 12 psyllid sprays per year). When psyllids move they mostly move from the border rows of one block onto the border rows of another and special focus should be given in these areas for psyllid control. It appears that windbreaks have a significant effect on psyllid populations and when used could be a supplement to a integrated psyllid control program.

*This information was from a presentation made by Dr. Kirsten Pelz-Stelinski at the 2017 Florida Citrus Growers' Institute. See her entire presentation at:* http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/events/GrowersInstitute2017/

# CITRUS LEAF AND SOIL SAMPLING:

## A KEY TO CITRUS TREE HEALTH

Soil and leaf sampling is a basic key component to the evaluation of a citrus nutrition program. Annual sampling and the subsequent analysis will give you a broad picture of nutritional trends that have been occurring in the grove from year to year.

Typically 15 to 20 trees are selected over a management unit for sampling. Collect your leaf and soil samples from these trees. From these 15 to 20 trees, take a single soil core of an 8 inch depth from within the irrigation pattern of each of these trees. One hundred healthy leaves from the 15 to 20 trees should be collected. These leaves should be 4 to 6 months old from non-fruiting twigs. This time frame will generally be between the months of July to September.

Syngenta's

## Minecto Pro

John Taylor from Syngenta asked us to inform you that as of April 17, 2017, Minecto Pro Miticide/Insecticide has been approved for all labeled uses in Florida. Minecto Pro is a pre-mix combination of abamectin and cyantraniliprole. Perhaps the most significant new use for this product is in citrus, but please note that it is also labeled on a wide array of vegetable crops. Copies of the Section 3 label along with a 2ee label, that corrects a clerical mistake on the label related to plantback restrictions for perennial crops, are available if you want me to email one out to you.

Gramoxone 2.0 SL

## Safe Use and Handling

John Taylor also provided the following very good whitepaper that offers a thorough and contemporary view of personal protective equipment (PPE) and the Worker Protection Standard (WPS) topics as they apply specifically to paraquat/Gramoxone. This is provided in light of the recent changes in general WPS requirements and specific changes coming for paraquat.

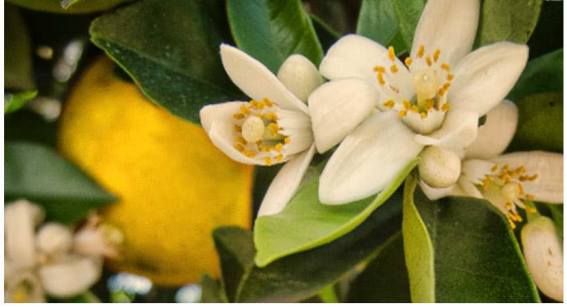
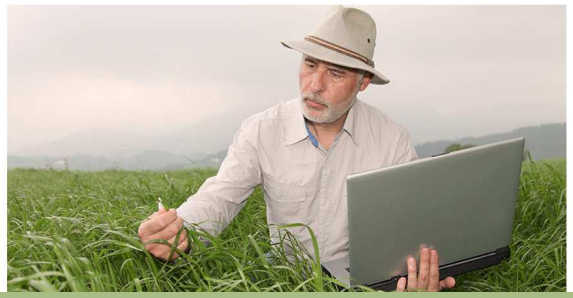
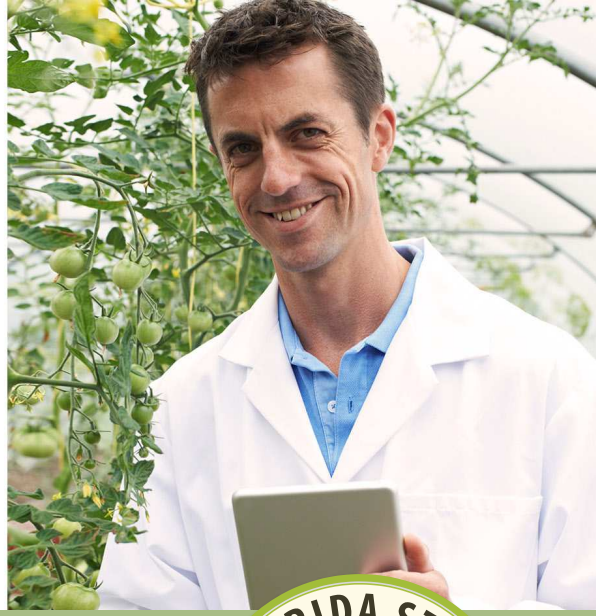
For over 50 years, when used in accordance with existing label directions, Syngenta paraquat products have been used safely. Paraquat is an essential weed control and resistance management tool for farmers. It controls difficult weeds and, when used in rotation or mixed with different mode-of-action herbicides, helps maintain herbicide efficacy while reducing the likelihood of weed resistance. Paraquat also plays an important role as a desiccant (drying agent), helping farmers harvest their crops.

- The purpose for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is to protect workers from potential adverse effects of pesticides
- PPE requirements on Pesticide Labels are established by EPA, based upon the results of acute toxicity testing of product formulations
- The current PPE requirements for paraquat products were established in 2001 and have not changed for 2017. There were changes to Worker Protection Standards (WPS) that went into effect in 2017.
- The WPS changes include requirements that employers must provide to employees a respirator, fit testing, training and medical evaluation that conforms to OSHA standards for any handler required by labeling to wear a respirator
- Toxicity from inhalation of paraquat is rare due to low vapor pressure, particle size and lower concentrations of diluted product. However, the use of a respirator has been mandated by EPA since 2001, to further reduce the potential for exposure that could result in nasal or upper respiratory irritation
- PPE for paraquat is similar to other pesticides with similar toxicological profiles
- Always follow the label directions and use the required PPE

**NEVER TRANSFER Gramoxone 2.0 SL into any food, beverage, or containers** not explicitly intended for pesticides. Fatal accidental ingestions of paraquat products have occurred due to the product being illegally transferred into an inappropriate container. PPE requirements for Gramoxone SL 2.0 are: Applicators and Other handlers* :

- Long-sleeved shirt
- Shoes plus socks
- Protective eyewear
- Chemical-resistant gloves
- A dust mist NIOSH-approved respirator (N, R, P, or HE filter) Mixers and Loaders (in addition to the items above)*
- A dust mist NIOSH-approved respirator (N, R, P, or HE filter)
- Chemical-resistant apron
- Face shield

*Engineering controls – when handlers use closed systems, enclosed cabs, or aircraft in a manner which meets Worker Protection Standards, PPE requirements may be reduced or modified as specified in WPS **First Aid – Hotline number for 24 hour medical assistance 1-800-888-8372.**

Register now! • fshs.org/meetings

# 130th Annual Conference

## June 4th through 6th, 2017

- Westin Tampa Harbour Island, 725 South Harbour Island Blvd, Tampa, FL, 33602
- Deadline for reservations at the FSHS rate is May 10, 2017

**1 Citrus**
**Production/Harvesting**

Rootstocks, scion cultivars, insect, disease and weed control, fertilization, irrigation, cold protection and cultivation.

**2 Vegetables**
**Commercial/Home**

Cultivars, selection, food safety, improvement, cultural practices and harvesting methods, and insects, diseases and weeds.

**3 Ornamental/Garden**
**Gardening/Landscaping**

Cultivars, selection, landscape design, cultural practices, pests and optimal production.

**1 Handling/Processing**
**Postharvest/Handling**

Postharvest quality, food and facility safety, treatments, storage, transport, by-products, and waste utilization.

**2 Krome Memorial**
**Tropical/Subtropical**

Tropical/subtropical crops, cultural practices, harvesting, food safety, and management of these unique crops.

**3 Natural Resources**
**Environmental and Related**

Soils, water, biofuels, biofertilizer, and information related to horticultural and agronomic crops.

*"FSHS is the premier professional organization for Florida horticultural professionals and students."*

**WWW.FSHS.ORG/MEETINGS**

fshs@fshs.org

700 Experiment Station Road
Lake Alfred, FL, 33850, USA

**More Info 863-956-1151**

# CITRUS YOUTH DAY

Register today! Space is limited.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2017**

Each participant will receive a t-shirt and bag.

UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

1917 100 YEARS 2017
UF/IFAS CITRUS
RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER

**Join us for the Citrus Youth Day at the UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center (CREC) in Lake Alfred.**
**Citrus Youth Day will be a fun and educational experience about Florida citrus, research, and agriculture careers for students 8-18 years old. This will be a great opportunity to learn about Florida citrus!**

## SCHEDULE

| | |
|---|---|
| 8:15 a.m. | Registration |
| 8:45 a.m. | Welcome, UF/CALS Presentation, and Break into Groups |
| 9:35 a.m. | Group Rotations (The Florida Citrus Industry, Plant Pathology, Entomology, Horticulture, and Exhibits) |
| 12:30 p.m. | Lunch (pizza and cookies) and Dismissal |

Citrus Youth Day is a UF/IFAS 4-H Youth Development Program presented by the University of Florida (UF) Citrus Research and Education Center (CREC). For more information about Florida 4-H, visit **http://florida4h.org/** or call **1-352-846-HHHH**.

## REGISTRATION

**https://2017citrusyouthday.eventbrite.com**

Early Registration by May 21st - $15.00
Registration May 22nd - June 2nd - $20.00
Late Registration June 3rd - June 21st - $25.00

## Location

UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center
700 Experiment Station Road, Lake Alfred, Florida 33850
For directions, visit **http://www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/about/map/map.shtml**

For the past 100 years, the University of Florida (UF) Citrus Research and Education Center (CREC) has been honored to assist the citrus industry in meeting its developmental needs through its Research, Extension, and Teaching programs. CREC is the oldest and largest off-campus experiment station in UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) and is unique among research centers in that it focuses entirely on one commodity, citrus. CREC discovers and delivers innovative solutions that empower citrus and other agricultural interests to conduct responsible and profitable business. CREC fosters scientific excellence and efficient use of resources.

**For more information, please contact**
Jamie Burrow, 863-956-8648, **jdyates@ufl.edu**