

Citrus Notes



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Dear Growers,

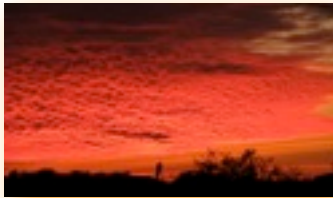
Registration is still ongoing, but time is running out, for the CREC Field Day scheduled for December 13, 2012. Please remember that registration is limited to the first 200 participants so don't delay. The 2012-13 Winter Weather Watch program has begun and will run until March 15, 2013. A registration form is enclosed with this newsletter. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has re-released their 2012 Winter Outlook. Citrus Black Spot has been found in Polk County and the press release on the find is reprinted in the newsletter. There are a few other programs of note to add to your calendars: the Florida Citrus Show in January, the 3rd International Research Conference on HLB in February and our February Polk County OJ Break.

Enjoy,

Chris Oswalt
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Polk/Hillsborough Counties
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P.O. Box 9005, Drawer HS03
Bartow, FL 33831-9005

**CREC Field Day
Scheduled for December 13, 2012**

The UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center will be holding another field day similar to the one held last November. Drs. Arnold Schumann and Jude Grosser will be leading the field day to their respective research projects. Dr. Schumann’s “Advanced Citrus Production” planting at Gapway Groves will be one of the stops. The other is Dr. Jude Grosser’s “St. Helena” planting at Orié Lee’s Grove. Space is again as last year limited to the first 200 registered. I have enclosed the informational flyer for the field day at the end of the newsletter.



2012-13 Winter Weather Watch

The 2012-13 Winter Weather Watch program is up and running through March

15, 2013. I have included the registration form attached to the end of this newsletter. The cost of this year’s program will be the same as in the past at \$100 for the season. Our meteorologist, Fred Crosby will again be providing additional forecast updates weekly during the winter and daily updates during periods of freezing temperatures.

Elusive El Nino Challenges NOAA’s 2012 U.S. Winter Outlook (From:

http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2012/20121018_winteroutlook.html)

The western half of the continental U.S. and central and northern Alaska could be in for a warmer-than-average winter, while



most of Florida might be colder-than-normal December through February, according to NOAA’s annual Winter Outlook announced today from the agency’s new Center for Weather and Climate Prediction in College Park, Md.

Forecasters with NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center say a wavering El Niño, expected to have developed by now, makes this year’s winter outlook less certain than previous years.

“This is one of the most challenging outlooks we’ve produced in recent years because El Niño decided not to show up as expected,” said Mike Halpert, deputy director of NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center. “In fact, it stalled out last month, leaving neutral conditions in place in the tropical Pacific.”

When El Niño is present, warmer ocean water in the equatorial Pacific shifts the patterns of tropical rainfall that in turn influence the strength and position of the jetstream and storms over the Pacific Ocean and United States. This climate pattern gives seasonal forecasters confidence in how the U.S. winter will unfold. An El Niño watch remains in effect because there’s still a window for it to emerge.

Other climate factors can influence winter weather across the country. Some of these factors, such as the North Atlantic Oscillation, a prominent climate pattern, are difficult to predict more than one to two weeks in advance. The NAO adds uncertainty to the winter outlook in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic portions of the country.



Areas ravaged by extreme drought over the past year are unlikely to see much relief from drought conditions this winter.

In the 2012 U.S. Winter Outlook (December through February) odds favor:

- Warmer-than-average temperatures in much of Texas, northward through the Central and

Northern Plains and westward across the Southwest, the Northern Rockies, and eastern Washington, Oregon and California, as well as the northern two-thirds of Alaska.

- Cooler-than-average temperatures in Hawaii and in most of Florida, excluding the panhandle.
- Drier-than-average conditions in Hawaii, the Pacific Northwest and Northern California, including Idaho, western Montana, and portions of Wyoming, Utah and most of Nevada.
- Drier-than-average conditions in the upper Midwest, including Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and northern Missouri and eastern parts of North and South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, and western Illinois.
- Wetter-than-average conditions across the Gulf Coast states from the northern half of Florida to eastern Texas.

The rest of the country falls into the “equal chance” category, meaning these areas have an equal chance for above-, near-, or below-normal temperatures and/or precipitation.

This seasonal outlook does not project where and when snowstorms may hit or provide total seasonal snowfall accumulations. Snow forecasts are dependent upon the strength and track of winter storms, which are generally not predictable more than a week in advance.

Citrus Black Spot in Polk County



On November 16, 2012, the USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) confirmed the presence of citrus black spot (*Guignardia citricarpa*) on a single piece of fruit on an orange tree from a commercial grove in Polk County. The survey was part of a major citrus transportation route corridor survey, in this case US 27. The suspect fruit was collected by a Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services’ Citrus Health Response Program inspector and, the first round of diagnostics was performed by the Division of Plant Industry pathology lab and was confirmed by the USDA.

APHIS issued an Emergency Action Notification for 270-acres of citrus within section (TRS 32S28E33) that contains the orange tree where the CBS symptoms were found. This section is near the Highlands/ Polk County line near US 27. The EAN states that all regulated articles from the aforementioned section are subject to the requirements outlined in the CBS Federal Order, dated March 16, 2012, and the Approved Packinghouse Procedures document, dated December 20, 2011. The Federal Order and Packinghouse Procedures can be found on the CBS website at:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/citrus/black_spot.shtml

A delimiting survey is underway of 1,339 total acres of oranges, grapefruit and tangelos, located within a nine-square-mile area around the positive tree. To date, all fruit that were at the proper stage of maturity for CBS symptom detection have been surveyed and no additional fruit with CBS symptoms were detected. All late-maturing varieties and other fruit that remain on the trees within the nine- square-mile survey area will be surveyed as the fruit breaks color, which is estimated to be in mid-January 2013. Beginning in the fall of 2013, all citrus in the designated survey area will be resurveyed, as the citrus fruit matures, based on the results of 2012 and early 2013 field surveys.

For additional information on citrus black spot and/or the Citrus Health Response Program, contact Greg Carlton, FDACS/DPI Pest Eradication and Control Bureau Chief, (863) 298-3009

Greg.Carlton@FreshFromFlorida.com , or visit www.FreshFromFlorida.com/pi



2013 Florida Citrus Show

The Florida Citrus Show will be held on January 23rd and 24th

2013 at the Havert L. Fenn Center in Ft. Pierce. Program information and registration can be found at the following website: <http://www.citrusshow.com>.



3rd International Research Conference on HLB

The 3rd International Conference on HLB will again be held in Orlando at the Caribe Royale Hotel from February 4th through the 8th 2013. This time there will not be a grower day held the last day of the conference. The Grower Day will be held on a yet to be determined date in March at the Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred. Registration is now open and additional information can be found at:

<http://irchlb.org/hlb.aspx>.

Polk County February 2013 Citrus Growers OJ Break



Our annual Citrus Pest Management Guide Update OJ Break will be held at the Stuart Conference Center in Bartow on February 14th 2013. Please mark your calendars for this very important meeting. I'll have more information and program details in the coming months.

Citrus Research Field Day

December 13, 2012

You are cordially invited to attend a field day hosted by the University of Florida-IFAS, Gapway Groves, and Oriee Lee



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

New Citrus Evaluations

- Early maturing Valencia - 'Valquarius'
- Controlled release fertilizer
- Huanglongbing tolerance
- Tree size control, high yields



Advanced Citrus Production Systems

- High density planting
- Rootstocks
- Fertigation options for high yields
- Narrow farm equipment, hedging
- Huanglongbing management

SCHEDULE

Meet at the UF-IFAS-Citrus Research and Education Center, BHG Citrus Hall
700 Experiment Station Road, Lake Alfred, Florida

Check-in begins at 7:30 am and buses will leave promptly at 8:15 am

A sponsored lunch will be provided at the conclusion of the field day.

Pre-
registration
required
Limited to
the first 200
people



REGISTRATION FORM (Registration opens August 15, 2012)

Please email, fax or mail the following information to : Jane Wilson, 700 Experiment Station Road, Lake Alfred, Florida 33850, wilsonmj@ufl.edu, Phone: 863-956-8643 Fax: 863-956-4631

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Please register by Friday, December 7th. Registration will be confirmed by email.

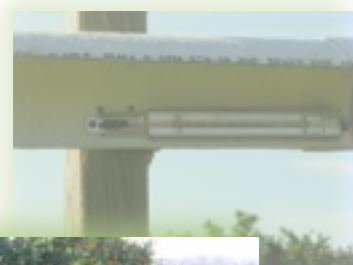
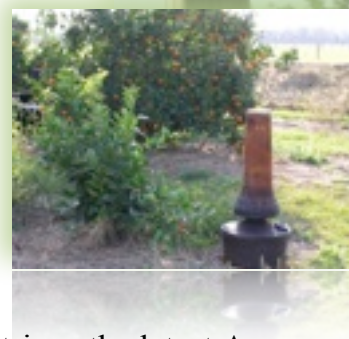
2012 – 2013 WINTER WEATHER WATCH PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 15, 2012 TO MARCH 15, 2013
REGISTRATION FEE: \$100.00



It's once again time to register for the upcoming 2012 - 2013 Winter Weather Watch Program. Upon receiving your \$100.00 registration payment, you will be sent an unlisted telephone

number with which you can retrieve the latest **Ag Forecasts**, 24 hours a day. **Please do not give this number to others.** The *Winter Weather Watch Program* is funded by the registration fees to pay for telephone equipment rentals, long distance calls, repairs and our meteorologist.



2012 – 2013 Winter Weather Watch Program

NAME: _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

COMPANY: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

REGISTRATION FEE \$100.00

PLEASE RETURN THIS REGISTRATION FORM AND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:

**POLK COUNTY CITRUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PO BOX 9005, DRAWER HS03
BARTOW, FL 33831-9005**