

# Citrus Notes



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

## IMPORTANT DATES

**DECEMBER 12, 2017**

**OJ BREAK MEETING**  
Bartow

**JANUARY 9, 2018**

**OJ BREAK MEETING**  
Bartow

**JANUARY 16, 2018**

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

**JANUARY 24-25, 2018**

**FLORIDA CITRUS SHOW**  
Ft. Pierce

## CONTACT INFO

### POLK COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

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

### HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE

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

December

## OJ Break



The next OJ Break is scheduled for Tuesday, December 12, 2017. The program will begin at 10:30 a.m., and we will be discussing FAWN and weather tools available to growers, along with a little information on microsprinkler cold protection in citrus and the winter weather forecast. Rick Lusher, Director of Fawn, and I will be making the presentations. Yara North America and Eric Waldo will be our lunch sponsor. Please preregister by going to the following eventbrite link: <https://polkojbreakdecember2017.eventbrite.com> or you can call Gail Crawford at 863-519-1042 or by email at [dorothy@ufl.edu](mailto:dorothy@ufl.edu). Please preregister by Friday, December 8, 2017. The OJ Break will be held in Bartow at the Stuart Conference Center, 1710 US Hwy 17 S in Bartow.

### January OJ Break

The January OJ Break is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9, 2018. Program information and additional details will be coming in the December issue of Citrus Notes. It will be held in Bartow at the Stuart Conference Center, 1710 US Hwy 17 S. in Bartow.

### Food Safety and Modernization Act Produce Safety Rule

We have scheduled another of our FSMA, Produce Safety Rule trainings for

Lake Alfred on Tuesday, January 16, 2017 at the UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center, Ben Hill Griffin Citrus Hall. Additional program information and registration is attached to the end of this newsletter.

### 2017 -18 Winter Weather Watch

Just a reminder that the 2017-18 version of the Winter Weather Watch began on November 15, 2017. The program will run until March 15, 2018. Information on the program, along with the registration information, has been included in a flyer attached to the end of this newsletter.

If you have any additional questions on the program, please feel free to give me a call.

### 2018 Florida Citrus Show



The Florida Citrus Show will be held in Ft. Pierce at the Fenn Center on January 24th and 25th, 2017. Program and registration information can be found at: <http://www.citrusshow.com/>

**UF** | IFAS Extension  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

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Nation*

*An Equal Opportunity Institution*

## Hillsborough County Offers Free Agriculture Pesticide Collection

**Hillsborough County, Fla.**

(Nov. 30, 2017) - Hillsborough County agricultural operations can dispose of stored pesticides that are out-of-date, suspended, or unusable during a free Agriculture Pesticide Collection and Education Day on Wednesday, Jan. 17, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m., at US Ecology, 7202 E. 8th Ave. in Tampa.

The collection effort is part of an initiative to provide farmers a safe and efficient way to dispose of unusable pesticides, and to avoid the potential public health and environmental risks associated with long term storage of these pesticides. The initiative also educates agricultural pesticide users on proper handling, storage, and management practices.

The Agricultural Pesticide Collection and Education Day is hosted through a partnership between the Hillsborough County Economic Development Agriculture Industry Development Program, the Hillsborough County Extension Service, and the Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County. The five previous county pesticide collection events, held between 2003 and 2017, have resulted in the safe disposal of 96,143 pounds of agricultural pesticides.

Funding for the collection is being provided through a grant from the [Environmental Protection Commission of Hillsborough County Pollution Recovery Fund](#). This funding is limited, and the collection will be closed when funding is exhausted.

Pesticide manufacturers and distributors, homeowners, universities and government institutions, including state, county and local government pesticide users, are not eligible to participate.

For more information on the collection, contact Simon Bollin, Agriculture Industry Development Program Manager, Hillsborough County Economic Development Department, at (813) 276-2735 or [BollinS@HCFLGov.net](mailto:BollinS@HCFLGov.net).

## Operation Cleansweep Is Back!

The purpose of Operation Cleansweep is to offer a safe, convenient, and cost effective mechanism for agricultural operations, golf courses, and pest control companies to properly dispose of canceled, suspended, and unusable pesticides (CSUP).

The Legislature has appropriated \$100,000 to fund the program, with the funds going directly to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) to hire a contractor and implement the program in accordance with these Program Guidelines. In-kind services from the staff of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and FDACS will also be directed to this program.

This is an opportunity for agricultural operations, golf courses, and pest control companies that reside in Florida to properly dispose of CSUP. This program is not intended for universities, pesticide manufacturers and distributors, institutions, or state and local government.

The intent of this guideline is to ensure that the public money that funds Cleansweep goes mostly to commercial users rather than governmental agencies or commercial wholesalers. For all private commercial entities requesting service, they will be serviced at the following rate:

The first 750 pounds of CSUP will be managed utilizing Cleansweep funds. If more CSUP, over the initial 750 pounds, exists, the entity requesting service will be responsible for paying for the management of this "excess" material at the contracted rate directly to the

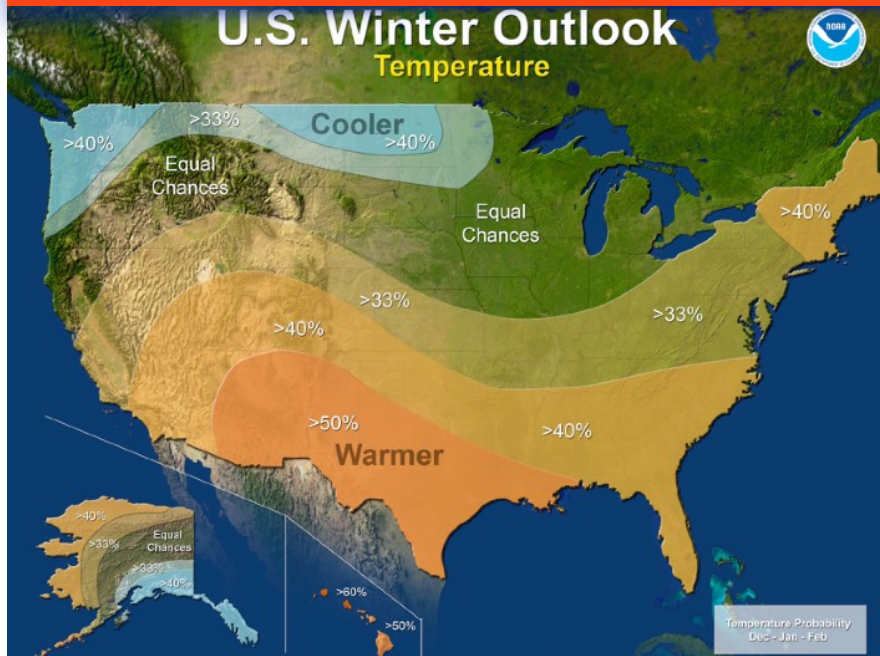
contractor. Operation Cleansweep contract prices are generally 1/3 or 1/4 the costs of disposal it would normally cost to hire a private contractor to handle the same pesticide wastes. Additional requests will be handled on a case by case basis, based on the degree of eminent danger to public health and safety and the potential for environmental harm.

A list of participants, quantities and products will be compiled in advance of scheduling a pickup or collection. When a list in a geographic area (county), reaches a quantity specified in the vendor contract e.g., 2,000 lbs., a "milk run" collection would be authorized by the FDACS Program Manager. The contractor, not the FDACS Program Manager, would schedule the specific route and collection schedule for all participants served by a milk run.

This program is primarily focused on the collections of pesticide or fertilizer/pesticide containers known to contain CSUP ingredients. This means the product label should be legible. In instances where the label is not legible a decision will have to be made at the collection site by FDACS personnel as to whether it is acceptable. Leaking product containers shall be over-packed at the collection site and accepted for proper disposal. The selected contractor will be responsible for all CSUP handling, packaging, loading, transportation, disposal, and emergency response. Gas cylinders are not acceptable. Formulations in aerosol dispensers are acceptable.

For information, contact:  
Shannon Turner  
Florida Department of Agriculture  
and Consumer Services  
3125 Conner Blvd., Ste N  
Tallahassee, FL 32399 Toll-Free  
1-877-851-5285  
[Shannon.Turner@freshfromflorida.com](mailto:Shannon.Turner@freshfromflorida.com)  
[Cleansweep@freshfromflorida.com](mailto:Cleansweep@freshfromflorida.com)

(FDACS Update, 9/15/17)



2017-18

**WINTER WEATHER OUTLOOK**

Word from the National Weather Service, Climate Prediction Center for this year's winter weather outlook is that weak La Nina conditions will develop into the fall and winter seasons.

What this means for growers in Florida is a greater than average chance for above average temperatures and below average amounts of rainfall. Remember it only takes a couple of freeze nights to ruin a warm winter.

**Correctly Used Neonics****Do Not Adversely Affect Honeybee Colonies**

The three most widely used neonicotinoid pesticides for flowering crops pose no risk to honeybee colonies when used correctly as seed treatments, according to new studies by University of Guelph researchers.

Amid mounting controversy over use of neonicotinoids (neonics) and declining bee population, a new analysis by U of G scientists of previously unpublished studies and reports commissioned by agricultural companies Bayer and Syngenta – as well as published papers from the scientific literature – shows no significant ill effects on honeybee colonies from three common insecticides made by the companies.

The findings are described in five papers published this month by Keith Solomon, a toxicologist and emeritus professor with the School of Environmental Sciences and adjunct professor Gladys Stephenson in the *Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health-B*.

The duo analyzed 170 unpublished studies that Syngenta and Bayer had submitted to regulatory agencies. They

also included 64 papers from the open, peer-reviewed literature on the topic.

Acknowledging that these three pesticides can kill individual honeybees and may also pose a threat to other pollinators, Solomon said: “At least for honeybees, these products are not a major concern. Use of these neonics under good agricultural practices does not present a risk to honeybees at the level of the colony.”

The U of G scientists were asked by Bayer and Syngenta to assess earlier studies conducted by or for the companies on impacts of pesticide-treated seeds on honeybees.

They conducted weight of evidence assessments, an approach developed specifically for these studies that is intended to gauge the quality of reported data and to compare relevance of results from different studies.

The companies wished to respond to controversy and inconclusive evidence about the potential harm posed to pollinators by neonic pesticides, said Solomon.

All pesticides in Canada must be registered with the Pest Management Regulatory Agency.

The study involved three pesticides – clothianidin and imidacloprid made by Bayer, and thiamethoxam made by

Syngenta – that are used in seed treatments for various field crops.

Solomon said the original papers varied in quality and scientific rigour, but their results generally showed no adverse effects of pesticides on honeybee hives.

“Many studies look at effects of insecticides on individual bees. What regulations try to protect is the colony — the reproductive unit.”

He said other researchers might use their results to improve studies of pesticide exposure in hives.

The U of G researchers stressed the importance of “good agricultural practices,” including ensuring that seeds are coated and planted properly to avoid airborne contamination of bees during field seeding.

Solomon said their results don't necessarily apply to other insects that also serve as crop pollinators and that have shown population declines. For those pollinators, he said, “There are too few studies at the colony or field level to allow a weight of evidence analysis.”

The U of G researchers said bees and other pollinators are affected by potentially harmful factors, including long-distance movement of colonies for crop pollination as well as mites and viruses, weather, insufficient food and varying beekeeping practices. (University of Guelph, 11/21/17)

## CERTIFIED PILE BURNER CLASS

**FEBRUARY 14, 2018**

The Florida Division of Forestry and University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service will be conducting a Certified Pile Burners Course that will show you how to burn piles legally, safely and efficiently.

The number of trainings offered and attendance at each training is LIMITED. This training will be held from 8:00 am till 4:30 pm at the Southwest Florida Research and Education Center in Immokalee. Preregistration is required and limited to the first 50 individuals.

*For additional information and registration please contact Dr. Mongi Zekri at [maz@ufl.edu](mailto:maz@ufl.edu) or by phone at: 239-595-5494. Registration information can also be accessed at the following: <http://citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu/newsletters/zekri/Flatwoods%20Citrus-November%202017.pdf>*



Flower Bud Induction Overview and Advisory. The following information has been developed as part of the Decision Information System for Citrus L. Gene Albrigo, Horticulturist Emeritus, Citrus Research & Education Center, Lake Alfred, FL

### FLOWER BUD INDUCTION ADVISORY #1 for 2017-2018-11/8/17

This is a service to our citrus growers posted on the CREC website. The indicated Expert System on intensity and time of bloom can be accessed at the designated Web Site: <http://disc.ifas.ufl.edu/bloom>

In the on-line version you can shift from one FAWN weather site as soon as the results from your previous query is displayed. All citrus area FAWN sites are in the menu. The total accumulated hours is now listed as is the forecast (projected) hours to be accumulated the following week. We now have an estimate procedure for the number of days before full bloom for the start of vegetative flush and 5-10 % open flowers to aid in managing psyllid sprays for the bloom period and the most active bee period. See the last section for more details on this information. The last section evolved from a Citrus Research and Development Foundation supported effort.

**Flowering related to the current 2017 -18 Crop Estimate**— During a weak La Niña winter, cool temperatures (less than 68 o F) followed a normal development pattern with very adequate flower bud inductive hours, about 1000 in Central Florida. A mid-December warm period initiated growth of the first set of flowers that bloomed in mid-February and subsequent normal inductive temperatures and two warm periods led to two more sets of flowers into early March. Most growers were

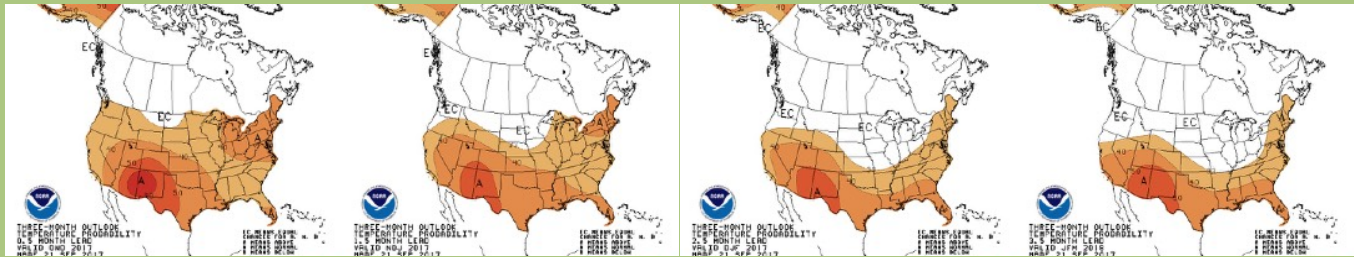
anticipating a better crop than in the previous two years before Hurricane Irma resulted in heavy drop that reduced the crop to below the previous year.

**Flower bud induction status 2017-18 for 2018-2019 crop**- This is going to be a La Niña winter with lower than average cool temperature accumulation and lower rainfall. Currently, citrus locations have accumulated low inductive temperatures, < 68 degrees F, of 140 to 188 hours from southern to northern areas, respectively. The next 7 days will have low cool temperature accumulation with less than 20 to 65 hours, south to north. This is a slow start as would be expected for a La Nina year, but rainfall has been higher than expected. Accumulation of more cool temperatures and hopefully a quick turn to cooler temperatures is needed to prevent early flushing, off-season flowering and good spring flowering for 2018-19 citrus production.

During the previous 5 years with chronic HLB, Florida citrus trees have had early to late winter flowering due to water stress induced flowering because of poor root systems and infrequent irrigation in the fall.


Several IFAS faculty, including me, are advocating daily, lower volume, irrigations to minimize fall water stress. Fewer off-season flowers results in more buds available for normal winter cool temperature induction and spring season flowering. Reduced off-season flowering also reduces off-season leaves for psyllid population development. The higher fall rainfall may have helped to reduce tree water stress, but growers should be diligent with their practices of frequent irrigation at least until, hopefully, the current high temperature period ends.

# Winter Weather Watch



**UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA**  
IFAS Extension  
Polk County Extension

Polk County Cooperative Extension Service  
Phone: 863-519-1052  
Email: [wcoswalt@ufl.edu](mailto:wcoswalt@ufl.edu)



## UF/IFAS Polk County Cooperative Extension Service

The 2017 - 18 version of the Winter Weather Watch will begin on November 15, 2017. Time is short so send in your subscription form to receive timely agricultural winter weather forecasts and information.



The 2017-18 edition of the Polk County Winter Weather Watch program will begin on November 15, 2017. The program provides growers with winter weather forecast

information specifically geared toward agricultural interests in West Central and Southwest Florida. The program provides subscribers with an unlisted phone number for (24 hour/7 days a week) access to daily weather forecasts. The zone forecasts are from the National Weather Service (NWS) and are listed on the automated phone menu, so you can select the products you are interested in. Forecasts include the zone forecasts, 6-10 and 8-14 day outlook forecasts. In addition to the forecasts we have special weather narratives provided as needed in the event of freezing temperatures and a weekly outlook provided by our own meteorologist Fred Crosby. When freezing temperatures are predicted in our area additional updates will include the afternoon zone forecast and the modified sunset brunt minimum temperature equation. If this is not enough we will also provide the weekly citrus leaf freezing

temperatures and the 2017-18 Winter Weather Watch manual. You will also have access to weather data from seven Polk County Citrus Extension Weather Stations.

Subscriptions for the Winter Weather Watch program are only \$100.00 for the entire 4 month period (Nov 15 to Mar 15). The cost is about the same as one tank of gas for your pickup truck. You can subscribe to the Winter Weather Watch by completing and returning the enclosed “subscription form”.

## Forecast Schedule



The following schedule lists the products available from the Winter Weather Watch. The times and specific days of week and the forecasted minimum temperature dictate

when these forecasts products will be updated. Our Winter Weather Watch area includes the following areas by county: Pasco, Hillsborough, Polk, Highlands, Hardee, Manatee, Sarasota, DeSoto, Charlotte, Lee, Glades, Hendry and Inland Collier.

# FORECAST SCHEDULE

Forecast Product	Above 32 ° F	32°-29°F	Below 28° F
<i>Zone</i>	<i>Daily 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Daily 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Daily 8:30 a.m.</i>
<i>6-10 &amp; 8-14 Day Outlooks</i>	<i>Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Mon/Wed/Fri 8:30 a.m.</i>
<i>Weekly Outlook</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Leaf Freezing Temperatures</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Friday 5:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Special Weather Narratives</i>	<i>As Needed</i>	<i>Daily 4:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Daily 4:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Afternoon Zone</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>Daily 5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Daily 5:30 p.m.</i>
<i>Sunset/Brunt</i>	<i>As Needed</i>	<i>As Needed</i>	<i>Daily 7:00 p.m.</i>

# 2017 - 2018 WINTER WEATHER WATCH PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 15, 2017 TO MARCH 15, 2018  
REGISTRATION FEE: \$100.00



It's once again time to register for the upcoming 2017 - 2018 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.



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## 2017 - 2018 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 EXTENSION CITRUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
PO BOX 9005, DRAWER HS03  
BARTOW, FL 33831-9005**



## 2018 Food Safety Workshops Save the Dates!

All workshops require advanced registration. Questions about Registration?  
Contact Sarah McCoy at [sarahmccoy@ufl.edu](mailto:sarahmccoy@ufl.edu) or 863-956-8632



### **Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training**

A one-day course for fruit and vegetable growers and packers who fall under FSMAs Produce Safety Rule

- 1/16/18 – Lake Alfred
- 1/29/18 – West Palm Beach
- 2/16/18 – Quincy
- 3/14/18 – Sebring
- 4/11/18 – Live Oak
- 4/26/18 – Balm
- 5/2/18 – Apopka
- 6/7/18 – Homestead

### **HACCP for Florida Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Packinghouses**

This two-day course is not a requirement of FSMA rules, but may be required by some third party audit schemes

- 4/9-10/18 – Live Oak

### **HACCP for Florida Juice Processors**

This course covers 21 CFR Part 120, the Final Juice HACCP rule, and is based on the standardized Juice HACCP Alliance curriculum

- Spring 2018 – Lake Alfred
- Contact Renee Goodrich

### **Preventive Controls for Human Food- Preventive Controls Qualified Individual (PCQI) Training**

This three-day course for those covered under FSMAs Preventive Controls for Human Food Rule

- 1/17-19/18 – Ft. Pierce  
<https://psa1172018.eventbrite.com>
- 3/26-28/18 – Lake Alfred/Balm

### **Foreign Supplier Verification Programs (FSVP) Training**

This two-day course for those importers of Food for Humans and Animals covered under FSMAs FSVP Rule

- 4/23-24/18 – Orlando

### **Questions?**

Travis Chapin <a href="mailto:tkchapin@ufl.edu">tkchapin@ufl.edu</a>	Michelle Danyluk <a href="mailto:mddanyluk@ufl.edu">mddanyluk@ufl.edu</a>
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Renee Goodrich <a href="mailto:goodrich@ufl.edu">goodrich@ufl.edu</a>	Matt Krug <a href="mailto:mkrug@ufl.edu">mkrug@ufl.edu</a>
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Jessica Lepper <a href="mailto:jal20xox@ufl.edu">jal20xox@ufl.edu</a>	Keith Schneider <a href="mailto:keiths29@ufl.edu">keiths29@ufl.edu</a>
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# OPERATION CLEANSWEEP

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**Operation Cleansweep is a mobile  
pesticide collection program  
that provides a safe way to  
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and unusable pesticides.**

**CLEANSWEEP@FRESHFROMFLORIDA.COM**

## CONTACT:

**FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE  
AND CONSUMER  
SERVICES**

**SHANNON TURNER**  
**TOLL-FREE NUMBER:**  
**877-851-5285**

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## Partners & Representatives:

FL Peanut Producers Association  
FL Farm Bureau  
FL Fruit & Vegetable Association  
FL Nursery Growers & Landscape Assn.  
FL Forestry Association  
FL Landscape Maintenance Association  
FL Dept. of Ag. and Consumer Service  
FL Golf Course Superintendents Assn.  
FL Turf Grass Association  
FL Fertilizer & Agrichemical Association  
FL Pest Management Association  
FL Tomato Committee  
FL Citrus Mutual  
FL Dept. of Environmental Protection  
Certified Pest Control Operator Assn.  
UF Institute of Food & Ag. Sciences  
Turf Grass Producers of Florida

