

Citrus Notes

Polk County Extension Service

PO Box 9005, Drawer HS03 • Bartow, FL 33831-9005
(863) 519-8677, Ext. 109 • wcoswalt@ufl.edu

Hillsborough County Extension Service

5339 County Road 579 • Seffner, FL 33584-3334
(813) 744-5519, Ext. 131



Vol. 10-07



October 2010

Inside this Issue:

UF/IFAS Citrus Agents Fall Seminar Series	2
September Citrus Roundtable	2
Annual Citrus Employee Safety Training and Tractor Rodeo	2
Polk County Property Appraisers' Policy on Abandoned Groves	2
Sweet Orange Scab Found in Texas and Louisiana	3
La Nina Predicted for this Winter	3 - 4
2010-11 Winter Weather Watch	4
Pesticide News & Information	4 - 5

Dear Growers,

Don't forget that your Citrus Extension Agent Fall Seminar Series will be held in Bartow on October 14, 2010. Then in November our Citrus Roundtable will be held in Hillsborough County. Our annual Citrus Employee Safety Training And Tractor Rodeo is also scheduled in November back here in Bartow. There is additional information on the Citrus Health Response Program (CHRP), abandoned grove compliance agreements, for Polk County. If you haven't heard by now there was a new citrus disease to the U.S. found in Texas and Louisiana, sweet orange scab (SOS). In the weather department La Nina is predicted to be with us this winter and next month we will crank up the Winter Weather Watch. Please don't forget to check our the "Pesticide News and Information" section of the newsletter.

Enjoy the issue,

Chris Oswalt
Citrus Extension Agent
Polk/Hillsborough Counties
863-519-8677 Extension 108
P.O. Box 9005, Drawer HS03
Bartow, FL 33831-9005



***October
Polk
County, OJ
Break***



***Citrus Management
Strategies in a New
Disease Era***

Your UF/IFAS County Citrus Extension Agents Fall Seminar Series will be held in various locations throughout the Florida citrus production region. I have enclosed an informational flyer about the seminar series. The program will be held in Bartow on Thursday, October 14, 2010, at the Stuart Conference Center. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the first presentation starting at 9:00 a.m. **The program is free, but preregistration is required since lunch will be included.** Roy Morris of Bayer CropScience is our lunch sponsor. You can register by calling Gail at 863-519-8677 or sending an email with the names of attendees to wcoswalt@ufl.edu

***November
Citrus Round-
table***

Our November Hillsborough County Citrus Roundtable will be held at the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center in Balm. The Roundtable will be held on Wednesday, November 3, 2010 beginning at 10:00 a.m. and lasting about an



hour. More detailed specifics to follow in next month's "Citrus Notes".



***Annual
Citrus
Employee
Safety
Training
and Trac-
tor Rodeo***

The annual Polk County Citrus Employee Safety Training and Tractor Rodeo program will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2010. That morning we will begin with registration at 7:30 a.m. at the Stuart Conference Center, 1710 Highway 17 South, Bartow, FL. The first presentation will start at 8:00 a.m. Pre-registration is required and the cost will be \$15 per person and that includes lunch. After lunch we will have the Tractor Rodeo competition. The registration form along with complete program details are available at the end of the newsletter.

***Polk County Prop-
erty Appraisers'
Policy on Aban-
doned Grove
Compliance
Agreements***



The Polk County Property Appraiser Office has instituted a policy for Polk County abandoned citrus groves. Information on the specifics can be found on the appraisers' website at: <http://www.polkpa.org/> . To participate a citrus health response program (CHRP) completed abandoned grove compliance agreement must be executed before January 1st of the applicable year. For information on the (CHRP) abandoned grove compliance agree-

ment see the following link:
http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/pi/chrp/images/CHRP_abandoned_grove_update.pdf .



Sweet Orange Scab Found in Texas and Louisiana

We don't have it and don't want it but for the sake of full disclosure I am providing the following information.

On July 23, 2010, there was confirmation of sweet orange scab (SOS) caused by the pathogen *Elsinoë australis* in Harris County Texas. At approximately the same time it was also found on 6 additional trees on 4 different properties in the same area. These locations were about 320 miles from the commercial citrus production area of the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas. Subsequent surveys found a second location in a small satsuma grove about 100 miles east in Orange County Texas. Then on August 20, 2010, SOS was found on a residential lime tree in Orleans Parish, Louisiana. This find was located approximately 15-20 miles from commercial citrus production in Louisiana.

The United State Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection, Plant Protection and Quarantine (USDA, APHIS, PPQ) convened a technical working group (TWG) on sweet orange scab and the following information was gleaned from this report published on August, 27, 2010. Since this is the first occurrence of SOS in the United States a majority of the information comes from other sources and or experience with the common citrus scab found in Florida.

SOS if present will affect all varieties of citrus. This is different from our common citrus scab that generally only affects Temples, tangerines, tangerine hybrids, grapefruit and lemons.

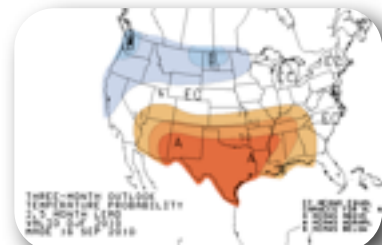
Eradication potential: If not spread over a wide area this would be theoretically possible, but to date there have been no reported instances of eradication or attempts at eradication.

Spread potential: The natural spread of the pathogen is probably limited. SOS is less likely to be spread in the air than our common citrus scab. It is more than likely that long range movement of the pathogen is facilitated by human activities.

Detection: Developing infections usually occur on developing leaves, stems and fruit. The subsequent lesions will remain visible until the tissues senesce. Symptoms will develop rapidly in about a week (depending on favorable environmental conditions) after infection and early spring is the best time to detect the disease. This pathogen in the field is difficult to diagnose from our common citrus scab.

In our Citrus Extension Agent Fall Seminar Series we have devoted some time to SOS in one of the presentations so don't forget to register for the Polk County OJ Break in Bartow on October 14, 2010.

La Nina Predicted for this Winter



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service, Climate Prediction Center (CPC) has issued a La Nina advisory for this

winter. Conditions in the equatorial Pacific Ocean to date have resulted in the CPC to expect La Nina conditions to last through the 2010-11 winter.

What that generally means for Florida is the expectation for dry and slightly warm temperatures in the fall and a very dry and warm winter. From a historical perspective most all of our severe freezes occur under neutral conditions (neither El Nino or La Nina).

This is not meant to imply that freezing temperatures will not occur this winter. It is just observations made over time. The dry weather can also be a concern due to the lack of ambient moisture in the air. Soil moisture from rainfall also typically has the tendency to moderate some of the colder temperatures that we experience here in Florida. Remember most of our coldest weather occurs with very dry air masses that make their way to Florida.



2010-11 Winter Weather Watch

Believe it or not winter is just around the corner and with the expectation of a La Nina winter, don't be caught without a reliable source of up-to-date weather information. I don't know exactly how many years the Winter Weather Watch program has been in existence, but I remember it started in Hillsborough County back in the mid-1960's (I guess that means we will be 50 soon).

The Winter Weather Watch was started to provide growers with the relevant, current and timely agricultural weather information in the event of freezing temperatures. The program has a number of forecast products for growers from daily zone forecasts to special weather

narratives provided by our resident meteorologist. We will also send you a copy of the 2010-11 Winter Weather Watch manual full of information to help you better interpret the forecast for your area. The program currently covers Pasco, Hillsborough, Polk, Highlands, Hardee, Desoto, Charlotte, Lee, Glades Henry and Eastern Collier Counties. I have enclosed a brochure outlining the forecast products and registration form if you wish to participate.

In a continuing effort to keep costs down the registration fee is still only \$100 for the four months of access. If you have any further questions give me a call here at the office 863-519-8677.

Pesticide News and Information



EPA Reveals New Label Initiatives

EPA is inviting organizations to work with the Agency to conduct a "User Acceptance Pilot" to research the extent to which pesticide users would accept a system requiring them to obtain labeling via the internet. The Agency believes that web-distributed labeling has the potential to improve compliance with labeled use instructions by making pesticide labels easier to read and comprehend. Web-distributed labeling would accomplish this, in part, by only providing instructions for the location and intended use that the pesticide user specifies online. If such a system was ultimately implemented, the expected result would be faster access to new pesticide uses, quicker implementation of public health and environmental protective measures, and lower costs for industry and EPA. To test the viability of online pesticide labeling, the Agency

published a *Federal Register* notice on August 18, 2010 inviting participation in the pilot. The goal is to have all User Acceptance Pilot websites ready for users to test by October 15, 2010. For more information, please see <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/labels/distribution/>.

On September 1, EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP) unveiled Enable the Label, an online discussion forum established to facilitate the exchange of information and ideas related to the labeling of pesticides. Initially, it will be used to facilitate a monthly discussion focusing on one or two chapters of the Label Review Manual. Each month several questions will be posed for discussion and participants are welcome to post their thoughts and ideas on the topics and provide feedback on any other subject covered in that month's chapter. The goal is to improve the clarity and usefulness of the manual for its users - primarily people who draft, review, or enforce labels in the field. Pesticide manufacturers and their representatives, state pesticide regulators, and pesticide users are expected to be interested in participating in EPA's new Enable the Label online discussion forum. Enable the Label will provide informal comment opportunities to everyone interested in improving the Label Review Manual, and encourage creative solutions to complex pesticide label challenges in an open and transparent environment.

People are invited to regularly submit comments and comment on others' ideas at <http://blog.epa.gov/enablethelabel/> (EPA releases, 8/25/10 & 9/8/10).

Senate Introduces NPDES Fix

Senator Blanche Lincoln (D-AR) introduced a bill in August to correct the 6th U.S. Circuit Court's ruling on National Pollutant Dis-

charge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. The proposed legislation would reaffirm the primacy of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). As such, pesticides applied to or near water - in accordance with the FIFRA label - would not be considered a pollutant and would therefore not require an NPDES permit as required under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

The U.S. government, in a brief to the Solicitor General, has earlier agreed that the 6th Circuit decision in the case *National Cotton Council v. EPA* violated Supreme Court precedent by failing to provide proper due deference to an agency determination. The decision by the 6th Circuit Court failed to provide deference to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 2007 rule which exempted certain pesticide applications made to or near water, which were properly made in accordance with FIFRA, from requiring an NPDES permit under CWA.

"We are glad that Senator Lincoln stands firm as an ally to the agricultural community, and recognizes the potential damage that the 6th Circuit Court's ruling will cause," said Jay Vroom, president and CEO of CropLife America (CLA). "This decision is creating additional paperwork and costly legal burdens for many pesticide users, including many farmers, allowing the potential of increased and unwarranted lawsuits from extremist environmental organizations, and could ultimately prevent our country from providing more fuel, food and fiber in a competitive global market." CLA has long held, and EPA has reaffirmed, that pesticides applied in accordance with the FIFRA label are not subject to CWA." (CropLife America release, 9/9/10).

Citrus Safety Training & Tractor Rodeo



Polk County Agricultural Center - Stuart Conference Center
1710 Highway 17/98 South, Bartow, Florida 33830

Tuesday, November 9, 2010

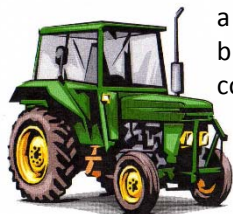
Annual Citrus Employee Safety Training

Polk County Extension—UF/IFAS invites you and your employees to attend the 2010 Polk County Citrus Safety Training Program. This program is designed to help growers with regulatory compliance by providing annual safety training for their employees. Topics include proper safety measures in the grove and on the highway. Pre-registration is required. Please indicate if each participant would like to be in the English or Spanish sessions. Completed registration forms are due in the Extension Office no later than **Friday, November 5, 2010**.

Annual Tractor Rodeo Rules

In order to compete in the team competition, the completed pre-registration form must be received in the Extension Office by November 5, 2010.

This year's tractor rodeo will feature three separate competitions. Your employees can compete in the Sprayer Operator Competition, Herbicide Operator Competition and the Fertilizer Spread-Off Competition. Participants are allowed to participate as a team member or as an individual, but teams must be pre-registered to compete.



Tractor Rodeo Competitions

The **Sprayer Operator Competition** will test precession, safety awareness, and attention to detail required for safe pesticide applications using a tractor with a sprayer.

The **Herbicide Operator Competition** will test for the above mentioned skills on a tractor with a boom sprayer.

In the **Fertilizer Spread-Off**, operators will simulate fertilizer applications to resets scattered randomly through a grove. The operator will be provided with an all-terrain utility vehicle (ATV), bucket of simulated fertilizer, and cups to apply the fertilizer. Judging will be based on precision of the fertilizer application, time, and vehicle operation skills.

For more information about any competition, contact Chris Oswald at (863) 519-8677 ext. 108.



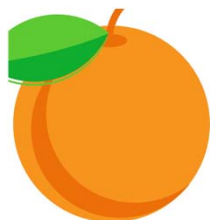
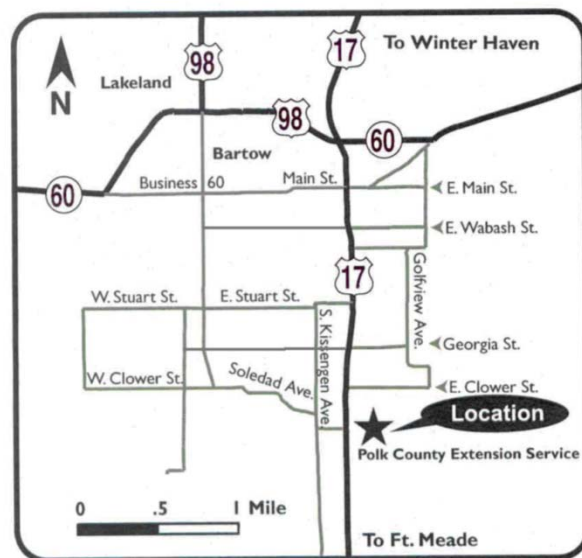
Agenda

- 8:00 Welcome (Chris Oswald)
- 8:10 Equipment Maintenance (Laddie Darden)
- 8:55 Grove Equipment Road Safety (Officer Weaver, DOT)
- 9:40 Break

Separate into English or Spanish Sessions*

- 10:00 Decontamination (Jamie Yates)
- 10:10 Tractor Safety (Chris Oswald)
- 10:25 General Grove Hazards and Weather Concerns (Gary England)
- 10:40 Break
- 11:00 Pesticide Safety (Ryan Atwood)
- 11:50 Announcements
- 12:00 Lunch

**Spanish Translators: Darren Cole and Alejandro Arevalo*



In accordance with the provisions of ADA, auxiliary aids and services will be provided upon request with a 3-day notice. Contact Gail Crawford at (863) 519-8677 ext. 111. This material available in an alternate format upon request.

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences in an Equal Employment authorized to provide research, educational informational and other services only to individuals and institutions that function without regard to race, color, sex, age, handicap, or national origin.

UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
IFAS Extension

Citrus Worker Safety Training Program Registration

This registration and a fee of \$15 per person, which includes lunch, are due by Friday, November 5, 2010.

Safety Training Program (Please print participants names)	English	Spanish
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		

Tractor Rodeo Team (Participants must be registered in the safety training program)	
Herbicide Operator	1.
Herbicide Operator	2.
Fertilizer Spread-Off	1.
Fertilizer Spread-Off	2.
Sprayer Operator	1.
Sprayer Operator	2.

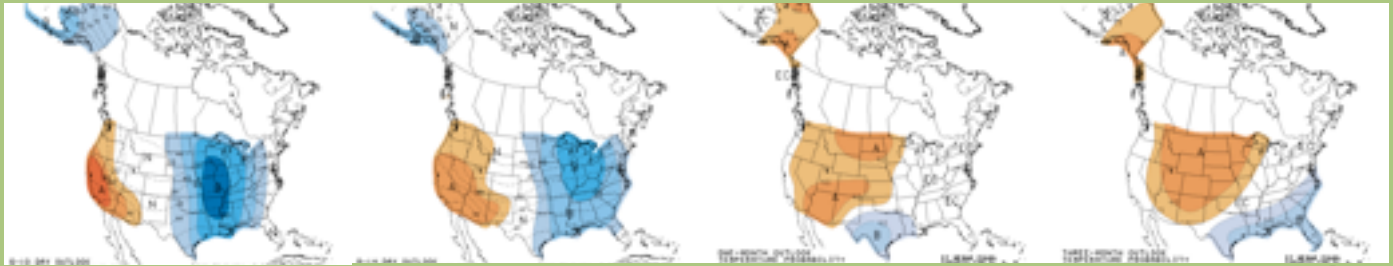
Individual Participants (Participants must be registered in the safety training program)	
Herbicide Operator	
Herbicide Operator	
Fertilizer Spread-Off	
Fertilizer Spread-Off	
Sprayer Operator	
Sprayer Operator	

Contact Name _____ Phone Number: _____

Company Address _____

Please detach and mail this form with your check made payable to: *Polk County Citrus Advisory Committee*
 Gail Crawford, Polk County Extension
 PO Box 9005, Drawer HS03, Bartow, Florida 33831-9005

Winter Weather Watch



Polk County Cooperative Extension Service
Phone: 863-519-8677
Email: wcoswalt@ufl.edu



UF/IFAS Polk County Cooperative Extension Service

The 2010-11 version of the Winter Weather Watch will begin on Monday, November 15, 2010. Time is short so send in your subscription form to receive timely agricultural winter weather forecasts and information.



The 2010-11 edition of the Polk County Winter Weather Watch program will begin on November 15, 2010. 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. 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 2009-10 Winter Weather Watch manual.

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 forecast 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, Henry and Inland Collier Counties.

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 & 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>

2010 – 2011 WINTER WEATHER WATCH PROGRAM

NOVEMBER 15, 2010 TO MARCH 15, 2011
REGISTRATION FEE: \$100.00



It's once again time to register for the upcoming 2010 - 2011 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.



2010 – 2011 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**