

# Central Florida Fruit Production News

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## Fred's Prognostication

All the National Weather Service stuff looking good. A couple of "winter--time" nights upcoming mid to late next week (minimum temperatures 40ish north peninsula , and a little warmer as you go south) , then it's back to above the norms again. Precipitation appears to be minimal with the next front.

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## Upcoming Programs

**Private Ag Applicator review and exam.** March 6, Tavares. [Registration.](#)

**Citrus Growers' Institute.** Tuesday, April 2. Avon Park. [Registration and program details.](#)

**Stone Fruit Field Day.** April 30. Citra. [Registration and details.](#)

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## Captan Review

Captan, a common fungicide used in strawberry, apple, peach and the caneberry industries is currently under EPA review. For those of you who use Captan for fruit/commodity production, please respond to the EPA's call for comments by March 15, 2019. [Make your comments at this link.](#)

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## Biological Bird and Small Mammal Control

**As blueberry season progresses and you are more concerned about bird predation, consider encouraging predatory birds.**

**American Kestrels are natural small predators that may help to keep birds, large insects, and small mammals away from your berry crop.**



You can encourage them by putting nesting boxes around your fields. [Plan for making a kestrel nesting box.](#)

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## Recent Blogs

**Early Cropping of Southern Highbush Blueberry** - Argentinian researchers find some early cropping will not affect future growth.

**Stinging and Itching Weeds** - Stinging nettle is in the field now, so beware of barehanded weed pulling.



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