

Central Florida Fruit Production News

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Grape Field Day

July 16. Frank Stronach Conference Center, UF Plant Science Research and Education Unit, FL2556 West Highway 318, Citra, FL 32113. Free program to learn about muscadine soil amendments research, breeding, pest and disease management, trellising, pruning, and marketing. [Online registration](#) or contact Juanita.

Marathon Mandarin

Any growers interested in the new seedless, easy peel mandarin should contact [NVDMC](#) and request a grower agreement. If they plan to have trees budded in the fall, they also need to be communicating this to their nursery. There were substantive changes to the FAST TRACK program.

New Publications:

[Botryosphaeria Stem Blight on Southern Highbush Blueberry in Florida](#). Learn about identification and management of stem blight on southern highbush blueberry.

[Blueberry Gall Midge on Southern Highbush Blueberry in Florida](#). Updated information and control recommendations.

[Strawberry planting dates and establishment practices for central Florida](#). UF/IFAS researchers tested kaolin clay to reduce stress and allow earlier planting dates and less irrigation on newly transplanted strawberries.

Citrus Leafminer (CLM) Survey

UF/IFAS researchers are exploring whether CLM parasitism rates have been

affected by recent psyllid control measures. They are trying to locate growers who are willing to let extension agents take CLM pupal samples during the later flush of this summer. They need farms that currently have low, moderate and high insecticide inputs. If you are interested in participating, let Juanita know.

FDA Updates Regarding Produce Safety Rule Inspections

FDACS has been commissioned by FDA to perform routine inspections starting Spring 2019 for large farms over \$500 in average annual produce sales although these initial inspections will be more educational in nature. Details of the Produce Safety Rule: [Final FDA Rule on Produce Safety](#). On-Farm Readiness Reviews are available through FDACS for free, voluntary, on-site visits to help you get a better idea of your "readiness" for a Produce Safety Rule inspection. [Sign up for On-Farm Readiness Review](#). There is also an update on Agricultural Water Compliance Dates. Larger farms are now required to comply with the agricultural water requirements by Jan. 26, 2022, while small farms have until Jan. 26, 2023 and very small farms until Jan. 26, 2024. Classes on Produce Safety and making a Farm Food Safety Plan will be announced for the fall. [Check the schedule](#).

Florida State Horticultural Society

The 132nd Annual meeting of the Florida State Horticultural Society will be held June 9-11, 2019 at the Sheraton Orlando North Hotel. [Additional information on meeting registration and membership in the Society](#).



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