



UNIVERSITY OF
FLORIDA

E X T E N S I O N

Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

Hendry County Extension

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SOUTH FLORIDA VEGETABLE PEST AND DISEASE HOTLINE

January 22, 2005

Unseasonably warm weather with a number of days in the 80's gave way to more seasonable temperatures following a cold front that passed through the area on the weekend of January 13-14 bringing significant showers to most South Florida production areas. In most places, daytime highs over the past week have remained in the mid to upper 60's with nighttime lows in the 30's and 40's.

Most areas reported measurable rainfall for the period with the FAWN site in Bradenton tallying 1.86 inches followed by Fort Lauderdale with 1.12 inches. Other sites reported between 0.38 and 0.74 inches of precipitation for the period. Foggy conditions and heavy night dews have been widespread and have contributed to disease development.

Favorable conditions for most of the period has kept fieldwork on schedule. Crops coming to market include broccoli, celery, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, escarole, green beans, lettuce, pepper, radishes, squash, strawberries, sweet corn, tomatoes, and specialty items. Quality has been mostly good but prices for some crops most notably tomatoes have been well below breakeven. Reports from some areas indicate that growers have abandoned some tomato fields as harvest costs exceed market prices.

FAWN Weather Summary

Date	Air Temp (°F)		Rainfall (Inches)	Hours Below Certain Temperature (hours)							
	Min	Max		40°F	45°F	50°F	55°F	60°F	65°F	70°F	75°F
Bradenton											
1/7 – 1/ 21/05	39.2	83.8	1.86	7.1	15.6	13.4	13.7	43.5	18.3	38.0	49.3
Ft Lauderdale											
1/7 – 1/ 21/05	47.8	79.8	1.12	0.0	0.0	13.8	1.1	8.7	20.0	24.1	19.9
Fort Pierce											
1/7 – 1/ 21/05	40.6	80.5	0.74	0.0	21.1	6.6	19.2	18.9	2.8	28.6	39.7
Homestead											
1/7 – 1/ 21/05	44.2	80.3	0.41	0.0	1.8	22.5	40.7	30.8	3.1	23.4	26.1
Immokalee											
1/7 – 1/ 21/05	36.7	83.3	0.38	14.9	13.8	19.1	23.8	16.0	19.5	14.0	41.0

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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE, FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES, SEA GRANT AND 4-H YOUTH, STATE OF FLORIDA, IFAS, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND BOARDS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COOPERATING

FREEZE WATCH - The National Weather Service in Miami has issued a freeze watch for the normally colder locations of South Florida as an Arctic air mass surging southward from the northern plains will bring the coldest temperatures of the season to south Florida Sunday night and Monday morning. Overnight low temperatures near or below freezing are expected in the watch area early Monday morning. Normally colder locations across inland Collier, Glades, Hendry, Martin, St Lucie and Western Palm Beach Counties could experience temperatures near 30 degrees.

A freeze watch is also in effect for West Central Florida where several hours of freezing temperatures are possible early Monday morning. Temperatures may fall to 28 to 32 degrees across much of the Tampa Bay region Monday morning.

For additional information, visit the National Weather Service in Miami website at <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/mfl/newpage/index.html>

Insects

Whiteflies

Reports from Palm Beach County indicate that growers are seeing increases in whitefly numbers but populations remain low in most places. Growers are applying IGR's and other controls as needed.

Reports from Homestead indicate that whitefly pressure is high in cucurbits with many squash fields showing silverleaf symptoms. Whiteflies are also present in beans and tomatoes with many growers curtailing control efforts as prices drop and fields are abandoned.

Respondents in the Manatee/Ruskin area report that whitefly numbers have leveled off in some fields, but in other fields, especially where spraying has decreased, numbers are still high.

Around Southwest Florida, overall whitefly numbers are below average for this time of the season but nymphs are starting to build in several older fields - tomato, pepper, potato and cucurbits. TYLCV is gradually increasing across the area as whiteflies start migrating out of the older fall crops into the spring tomatoes.

As fall crops come off, it is important to practice good sanitation to avoid movement of whiteflies into later plantings and a buildup in populations that carry over to the spring crop. Growers are urged to continue to practice the following recommendations

Nicotinoid Resistance Management Recommendations

- Reduce overall whitefly populations by strictly adhering to cultural practices including:
 - Plant whitefly-free transplants
 - Delay planting new crops as long as possible and destroy old crops immediately after harvest to create or lengthen a tomato free period
 - Do not plant new crops near or adjacent to infested weeds or crops, abandoned fields awaiting destruction or areas with volunteer plants
 - Use UV-reflective (aluminum) plastic soil mulch
 - Control weeds on field edges if scouting indicates whiteflies are present and natural enemies are absent
 - Manage weeds within crops to minimize interference with spraying;
 - Avoid u-pick or pin-hooking operations unless effective control measures are continued

- Do not use a nicotinoid like Admire on transplants or apply only once 7-10 days before transplanting; use other products in other chemical classes, including Fulfill, before this time;
- Apply a nicotinoid like Admire (16 ozs/acre) or Platinum (8ozs/acre) at transplanting and use products of other chemical classes (such as the insect growth regulators Courier® or Knack® as the control with the nicotinoid diminishes. Note: Courier and Applaud are the same active: buprofezin. Courier is labeled for whitefly on tomato and snap bean. The mode of action is chitinase inhibitor. Dimilin and Knack are juvenile hormone mimics labeled for whitefly control on fruiting vegetables.
- Never follow an application (soil or foliar) of a nicotinoid with another application (soil or foliar) of the same or different nicotinoid on the same crop or in the same field within the same season (i.e. do not treat a double crop with a nicotinoid if the main crop had been treated previously);

Save applications of nicotinoids for crops threatened by whitefly-transmitted plant viruses or whitefly-inflicted disorders (i.e. tomato, beans or squash) and consider the use of chemicals of other classes for whitefly control on other crops.

Leafminers

Respondents in Homestead area report that leafminer pressure remains moderate in young beans and tomato.

Leafminer pressure continues to build around Southwest Florida. Pressure is variable with strong to moderate pressure in areas with an overlap of fall and winter plantings but remains lower in others. Leafminers are present in a variety of crops including beans, potato, tomato and eggplant.

Growers in Palm Beach report that leafminer damage is light to moderate and are present on a wide variety of crops. Specialty growers indicate that will leafminers are present on the cotyledons and older outer leaves of leafy greens they seldom damage the younger harvestable portion.

Field sanitation is an important control tactic that is overlooked. When crops are not present in the fields, leafminers can survive on a variety of broad-leaf weeds. These plants serve as reservoirs for pest. Practice good sanitation and eliminate old crop residue immediately after harvest.

Pepper weevil

Around Southwest Florida, sizeable pepper weevil populations are established in some older pepper fields, elsewhere they are present in low numbers in a number of widely scattered locations

Respondents in Homestead report steady weevil pressure in hot varieties with increasing numbers showing up in bells and other sweet varieties.

Aphids

Respondents in Palm Beach note that aphid populations remain under control in most crops including the leafy greens; but there have been reports of both of increases in both winged and wingless in the Chinese brassicas.

Around Southwest Florida aphids have reached threshold levels in scattered locations and are being treated in pepper, squash and specialty items.

Reports from Homestead indicate heavy pressure in squash where aphid transmitted virus problems have also increased substantially.

Some increase in aphid activity has been noted in the Ruskin area.

Worms

Around Southwest Florida, worm pressure is mostly low with a few southern armyworms and loopers still around. Melon worms and pickleworms are widely present in cucurbits.

Reports from Homestead note that fall armyworms are still causing sporadic problems in corn. Scouts reports a variety of worms including southern and beet armyworms and loopers causing problems in beans. Melon/pickleworms are active in squash.

Reports from the Glades indicate that pheromone counts for fall armyworm have been relatively high in recent days with some reports indicating young corn getting hit hard a week after planting. Growers should keep an eye out for egg masses and young larvae on young corn.

Growers in Palm Beach County indicate that worm pressure has been relatively low with a few loopers around. A few diamondback moth larvae are present in leafy brassicas.

Broadmites

Broad mites are still active in eggplant and pepper in the Homestead area.

Spider Mites

Reports from Palm Beach County indicate that spider mites are still active on eggplant in places. Growers also report finding a few red spider mites in leafy specialty items.

Reports from southwest Florida indicate that spider mite numbers remain low in most places.

Respondents in Homestead report increasing problems with red spider and two spotted mites on eggplant and cucumbers. Strawberry producers report very low mites.

Respondents indicate that spider mites and tumid mites are present on strawberries in a number of locations around the Plant City area.

Thrips

Growers in Homestead report increasing problems with *Thrips palmi* in beans, cucumber, eggplant, and pepper. Reports indicate that a Spintor/Trilogy/Metasystox rotation has given good results on eggs. Growers report stunted plants from heavy thrips pressure in some locations where sweet corn is present next to tropical corn.

In other areas of South Florida, low numbers of thrips being found in pepper and tomato blossoms.

Silk Fly

Silk fly adults and maggots are present in increasing in numbers in sweet corn in Homestead and the Glades. Growers have been scheduling sprays in the afternoon when flies are most active; hopefully cooler weather will slow things down.

Diseases

Foggy mornings and heavy dew combined with showers in many places have kept diseases active.

Late blight

Late blight remains the big disease problem around Southwest Florida and respondents report dramatic increases in a number of locations around Immokalee following wet conditions this past weekend. The disease is widely present in both tomato and potato in a number of locations around Immokalee. Incidence and severity remains low to moderate in most places with a few lesions widely scattered across infected fields. Reports indicate that in an increasing number of fields incidence and severity is high with plants displaying multiple stem and fruit lesions and in some hotspots plants have been decimated in fairly large areas of the worst affected fields.

Infections are apparently present in some transplant houses as growers report finding infected plants arriving in transplants.

Few diseases spread as quickly as late blight. The disease can easily devastate a tomato or potato field within a few weeks if it is not properly controlled. The disease thrives under cool and wet conditions. Temperatures between 50 and 80°F combined with moist conditions such as rain, fog, heavy dews, or relative humidity above 90 percent are conducive for disease development. Night temperatures in the fifties with daytime temperatures from the mid-fifties to mid-seventies are ideal for this disease. Temperatures in the lower range stimulate the formation of many swarm spores (zoospores) from the sporangia. This situation dramatically increases the potential for disease spread.

Over the past few weeks warm days and cool night temperature and consistent nighttime leaf wetness (fogs, heavy dew, etc) along with scattered light showers in some places over the past few weeks have been ideal for late blight. Along with ideal conditions, the combination of two back to back long holiday weekends along with some possible reduction in spraying resulting from falling prices have undoubtedly worsened the situation in places. Even a short break in spray schedules, despite what is said regarding some of the newer fungicides, can result in a dramatic increase in blight under the conditions we have had during the past two weeks. If weather conditions remain mild, we could be in for a blight year.

Since the disease can spread so rapidly, growers should scout their fields thoroughly each day, especially when cool and wet conditions conducive to disease development prevails. Since late blight symptoms may be confused with symptoms of other diseases, the following diagnostic pointers may help growers distinguish between the late blight and other diseases.

Late blight symptoms on leaves appear as irregularly shaped brown to purplish lesions with indefinite border lesions that can span veins. The lesions may be seen any time of day, on any stage of plant growth and on leaves of any age. Velvety, white fungal growth may appear on the lower surface of affected leaflets early in the morning before leaves dry and/or in the lower canopy.

On stems, purplish lesions may be seen any time of day and may be found any where on the stem. Crystalline, white sporulation on stems with lesions can often be seen early in the morning and/or in the lower canopy. Stems with lesions are brittle and break easily. Lesions are confined to epidermis and cortex. Leaf rolling and wilting is often associated with stem lesions and purpling of leaflets may occur in some varieties. Under the microscopic, the characteristic lemon-shaped spores are easily recognizable.

Several control measures including use of certified seed and destruction of culls in addition to careful scouting are absolute necessities if late blight is to be properly controlled. It is critical to keep

inoculum levels low during seasons when weather conditions early in the cropping season are favorable for development of late blight (as they have been this year). Remember that prevention is the key to success.

Currently, fungicides are the most effective means of controlling late blight and will remain the primary tool until cultivars with resistance to this disease become available. Fungicides slow the rate at which the disease develops in the field by creating a protective barrier on the foliage. Just applying a chemical, however, does not necessarily equate with effective disease control. Relative effectiveness of a product, coverage, and timing must be factored into the equation for maximum benefit.

Use labeled fungicides preventively including Dithane, Penncozeb, or Manzate, Manex, Maneb, Ridomil Gold Copper, Ridomil Gold Bravo, Equus, Chloronil, Echo, Bravo, Super-Tin, Curzate, Gavel, or Headline or Quadris/Amistar. Check label for use in greenhouse. Newer products such as Curzate (DuPont) boast “kick back” action that can help arrest infestation if applied within 48 –72 hours of initial infection.

In Florida, it has been observed that seldom does a widespread late blight epidemic occur on tomatoes in the Manatee-Ruskin area unless the disease was present in the Immokalee area and/or Dade County. Since late blight has been confirmed on both potato and tomato in Immokalee growers in other areas are advised to adhere to a preventative spray program. **No other disease will find farms not taking proper care of their crop like late blight.**

Reports indicate that late blight is also present in west central Florida and in East Coast production areas including Palm Beach and Martin Counties.

Downy Mildew

Growers and scouts report that downy mildew is widely present on cucumbers and squash in scattered locations around Southwest Florida but not that detection of new infections has decreased in recent days.

Respondents indicate that downy mildew remains active squash in Homestead.

Bacterial Leaf Spot

Respondents in Southwest Florida note that bacterial spot continues to spread in some pepper and tomato plantings particularly those impacted most heavily by recent rains. Reports indicate that spread has slowed in recent days.

Bacterial spot is still causing some problems on tomatoes around Palm Beach County.

Respondents in Homestead indicate that new cases of bacterial spot have dwindled to low levels in most places.

Reports from the Ruskin area indicate that bacterial spot is still present in some fields and just refuses to go away.

Target Spot

Scouts in the Homestead area report active target spot in tomato. They note that while cool dry conditions have helped slow bacteria spot they may favor diseases like early blight and target spot.

Around Southwest Florida, target spot continues to be a problem in mature tomato fields.

Around Manatee County, target spot continues to cause some post harvest problems in places.

Early Blight

Growers across the area report low to moderate incidence of early blight on tomato. In some instances lesions are associated with leafminer injury.

Tomato Yellow Leaf Curl Virus

Reports from around southwest Florida indicate that TYLCV is gradually increasing across the area as whiteflies start migrating out of the older fall crops into the spring tomatoes. Growers should take precautions to rogue plants where feasible and practice a complete program of IPM and whitefly management including attention to sanitation and crop destruction.

Growers and scouts in Manatee County continue to report an increase in TYLCV, especially in the usual “high risk” fields. Reports indicate that some plantings are approaching 100 % infection. T

Growers and scouts around Homestead report a big jump in TYLCV infections with the average field now in the 5-10% range with others approaching 20%. While market conditions have lead growers to reduce sprays on older fields, they would be advised to work on keeping young fields clean otherwise they will not have anything to pick when the market recovers. As more fields left to fend for themselves, this situation combined with increasing virus is a ticking time bomb.

Powdery Mildew

Powdery mildew is wide spread on squash around Southwest Florida. Incidence and severity is moderate to high in some places.

Growers and scouts operating around Homestead are reporting active powdery mildew in squash

Powdery mildew is also present on cucurbits around West Central Florida as well as East Coast growing areas.

Fusarium

Around Southwest Florida, fusarium crown rot continues to show up in tomatoes just before harvest. Reports indicate that incidence is high in some fields around Naples. Fusarium wilt is scattered at low levels in several tomato fields usually well below 1%.

Respondents in Palm Beach report that fusarium crown rot is quite active, especially in the older plantings. Growers note that the incidence on the hurricane holdover plants is much higher than those planted after the storms.

Sclerotinia

White mold is widely present on beans in a number of locations around South Florida.

Around Southwest Florida, sclerotinia is also beginning to show up on tomato and pepper with the highest incidence being reported in pepper.

Downy mildew

Reports from Palm Beach County indicate that downy mildew has reached moderate in some places and increasing on older kohlrabi and Chinese broccoli.

Downy mildew has been identified on specialty Crops in the Devils Garden area.

Mosaic

Mosaic is widely present on squash around Southwest Florida. In at least one location, nearly 100% infection has been reported on young seedlings prompting growers to destroy the crop and replant.

Reports from Homestead indicate that mosaic is increasing in squash and some respondents note that aphid control with Fulfill has not been as consistent as in past seasons.

Bean Golden Mosaic

Growers and scouts in Homestead report increasing whitefly pressure in beans and report that resulting BGMV is much higher on double crop beans compared to the first crop.

Tomato Spotted Wilt

Respondents in Homestead report finding higher incidence of tomato spotted wilt virus than ever before reported in the area with many fields in the 1-3% range now and at least one hot spot with an 8% infection rate.

New You Can Use

The Society of St. Andrew - Gleaning America's Fields ~ Feeding America's Hungry

In the aftermath of last year's hurricanes, the work of the Society of St. Andrew in Florida has increased. More Floridians are unemployed and depending on food banks and assistance programs than ever before and they can use your help.

Every fruit and vegetable grower has produce that's culled out, whether for market conditions, blemishes or size. The Society of St. Andrew would like to recover that produce before it's disposed of or plowed under. They can recover small amounts through our gleaning project or large amounts through connections with feeding agencies or sending tractor-trailers to transport it.

The Society of St. Andrew does not ask for the donation of products that are commercially marketable. They seek only the excess, which is not economically or cosmetically marketable, yet is still consumable if recovered quickly.

If you would like to help the Society of St. Andrew combat hunger in Florida, or need more information or have questions, please call Ann Maier, Society of St. Andrew - Florida Regional Director, at 239-275-7815, email seeks@aol.com or Kathy Forth, Society of St. Andrew - Florida Program Coordinator, toll free at 1-800-806-0756, or by e-mail at: sos afl@endhunger.org. The Society of St. Andrew's web site is: www.endhunger.org.

BASF Announces New Supplemental Labels

EPA and the state of FL recently approved new supplemental labels for Headline and Cabrio fungicides.

Highlights on the new Headline label are: PHI is reduced from 14 days to 0 day in citrus, addition of sweet corn addition of soybean, and addition of snap bean.

Highlights for the new Cabrio label are: addition of brassica head and stem, brassica leafy greens, and leafy vegetables.

New Bayer Labels Announced for Florida Vegetables

Reason has received State approval for tomatoes, cucurbits and lettuce for control early and late blight and downy mildew.

Scala received a 24c label reducing the plant back time from 120 days to 30 days. Labeled on strawberries and tomato.

Previcur received registrations for use on cucurbits and tomatoes.

Vegetable and Agronomic Crop BMP Manual Workshop Summary

The Best Management Practices (BMP) Manual for Vegetable and Agronomic Crops was developed to address agricultural non-point pollution sources as originally mandated by the Federal Clean Water Act back in 1972. More recently, Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) guidelines have been a driving force behind ensuring that growers are following BMPs to reduce impacts to impaired water bodies. Currently the draft BMP manual is 167 pages in length and after 3 years of development and review, is scheduled to be adopted by rule. The purpose of the recent workshops was to give growers an opportunity to provide input and feedback to FDACS, the lead agency in development of the manual.

What's in it for you? Once adopted by rule, verified by FDEP and implemented, growers who voluntarily sign up and follow BMP guidelines will receive a "Presumption of Compliance" with regards to state water quality standards. Also, monetary assistance may be available through cost share programs such as FARMS.

BMP implementation will rely upon a three-pronged approach. There are 13 general or universal BMPs that are applicable to many farming operations (page 10 of the manual). By doing an inventory of current farm practices, growers will find that they are already following some of these baseline BMPs. You do not have to do them all, but growers will be expected to make a reasonable effort to implement as many as practical. Think of these as Tier 1 guidelines. Following this inventory, growers should turn to the BMP Decision Tree Flowchart (pages 7 & 8), which will take you to Tier 2 guidelines. These are more specific BMPs applicable to different situations. For vegetable growers in Central and South Florida, the two that would be most applicable include the Plasticulture Farming and the Seasonal/Temporary Farming Operations. The Plasticulture Farming Performance Standard includes 2 pages of qualitative guidelines (beginning on page 133). The Seasonal/Temporary Farming Guidelines begin on page 137. Follow the flowchart until you reach the block(s) that best describe your farming operation. The implication here is that participating growers will implement both the general or Tier 1 BMPs and the Tier 2 BMPs applicable to their situation.

The next step is an on-farm assessment using the checklist in appendix A-1. FDACS Ag-Teams may be able to assist growers with these on-farm assessments that are specific for vegetable growers. This is the tool that growers would use to mitigate the risks from practices such as "over-fertilization". BMP 33 (Optimum Fertilization Management/Application) contains these guidelines. Obviously, as with most programs these days, documentation and recordkeeping will be important.

Growers are encouraged to take a look at the manual, which is available, online at <http://www.floridaagwaterpolicy.com/PDFs/BMPs/vegetable&agronomicCrops.pdf> paying particular attention to the sections that would be applicable to them.

There is still time to comment. Call your extension agent if you have comments or concerns and we will pass your comments along to FDACS. Once the manual has been adopted (anticipated date of adoption is currently March, 2005), growers can sign-up electronically by completing a Notice of Intent form. Thanks to P. Gilreath and A. Whidden for this summary.

Loans for Socially Disadvantaged Persons

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) can make and guarantee loans to socially disadvantaged applicants to buy and operate family size farms and ranches. Funds are specifically reserved for these loans each year.

A socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher is on of a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of the group without regard to their individual qualities. For purposes of this program, socially disadvantaged groups are women, African Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives Hispanics, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

Contact Elijah Hamilton at 239-997-7331, Ext 104 for further information and to apply for loan assistance.

Up Coming Meetings

Miami Dade County

February 8, 2005 Dow Product Update and Resistance Management Seminar 7:00 PM

John D Campbell Agricultural Center
18710 SW 288th Street
Homestead, FL 32030

Contact Mary Lamberts for details at 305-248-3311

Palm Beach County

February 8, 2005 Dow Product Update and Soybean Rust Update 11:45 AM

Drawbridge Cafe
Belle Glade, Florida

Contact Darrin Parmenter for details at 561-233-1725

February 9, 2005 Dow Product Update and Soybean Rust Update 7:00 PM

Richards Steakhouse
Delray Beach, Florida

Contact Darrin Parmenter for details at 561-233-1725

February 9, 2005 General Standards/Core Test Review 8 AM – 10 AM 2 CEUs
Agricultural Row Crop Test Review 1 PM – 3 PM 2 CEU's

Belle Glade Extension Office
2976 State Road 15
Belle Glade, Florida

Contact Laura Powell at 561-996-1655.

Southwest Florida

February 9, 2005

Vegetable Growers Meeting

6:00 PM

UF/IFAS - SW Florida Research and Education Center
Hwy 29 N
Immokalee, Florida

Contact Gene McAvoy at 863-674-4092

February 10, 2005

Worker Protection Standard Training

**9:00 AM - Spanish
1:00 PM - English**

Hendry County Extension Office
1085 Pratt Boulevard
LaBelle, Florida

Contact Gene McAvoy at 863-674-4092

Websites

Florida Ag Water Policy – this Florida Department of Agriculture website has a variety of information on water quality issues in Florida. The latest version of the Vegetable Agronomic Crops BMP manual (January 6, 2005) has been posted in its entirety (all 168 pages) and can be accessed at <http://www.floridaagwaterpolicy.com/PDFs/BMPs/vegetable&agronomicCrops.pdf>

Tomato Problem Solver - this on-line tomato problem solver was created by the Texas Cooperative Extension Service using color images provided by Seminis Vegetable Seeds, from the publication "Tomato Diseases-A Practical Guide for Seedsmen, Growers & Agricultural Advisors." The site is easy to maneuver simply click on the images in the problem solver to move from place to place or see a larger magnification as appropriate. Set your browser to <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/tomatoproblemsolver/index.html>

Quotable Quotes

My wife and I were happy for twenty years. Then we met. -- Rodney Dangerfield

I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury. -- George Burns

What's the difference between a boyfriend and a husband? About 30 pounds. -- Cindy Garner

I bought my wife a new car. She called and said, "There was water in the carburetor." I said, "Where's the car?" She said, "In the lake." -- Henny Youngman

People are always asking couples whose marriages have endured at least a quarter of a century for their secret for success. Actually, it is no secret at all. I am a forgiving woman. Long ago, I forgave my husband for not being Paul Newman. -- Erma Bombeck

When a man steals your wife, there is no better revenge than to let him keep her. - Anon

On the Lighter Side

I OWE MY MOTHER A LOT

1. My mother taught me to APPRECIATE A JOB WELL DONE. "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."
2. My mother taught me RELIGION. "You better pray that will come out of the carpet."
3. My mother taught me about TIME TRAVEL. "If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!"
4. My mother taught me LOGIC. " Because I said so, that's why."
5. My mother taught me MORE LOGIC. "If you fall out of that swing and break your neck, you're not going to the store with me."
6. My mother taught me FORESIGHT. "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident."
7. My mother taught me IRONY. "Keep crying, and I'll give you something to cry about."
8. My mother taught me about the science of OSMOSIS. "Shut your mouth and eat your supper."
9. My mother taught me about CONTORTIONISTS. "Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck!"
10. My mother taught me about STAMINA. "You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."
11. My mother taught me about WEATHER. "This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it."
12. My mother taught me about HYPOCRISY. "If I told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!"
13. My mother taught me the CIRCLE OF LIFE. "I brought you into this world, and I can take you out."
14. My mother taught me about BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION. "Stop acting like your father!"
15. My mother taught me about ENVY. "There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do."
16. My mother taught me about ANTICIPATION. "Just wait until we get home."
17. My mother taught me about RECEIVING. "You are going to get it when you get home!"
18. My mother taught me MEDICAL SCIENCE. "If you don't stop crossing your eyes, they are going to get stuck that way."
19. My mother taught me ESP. "Put your sweater on; don't you think I know when you are cold?"

20. My mother taught me HUMOR. "When that lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me."
21. My mother taught me HOW TO BECOME AN ADULT. "If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up."
22. My mother taught me GENETICS. "You're just like your father."
23. My mother taught me about my ROOTS. "Shut that door behind you. Do you think you were born in a barn?"
24. My mother taught me WISDOM. "When you get to be my age, you'll understand."
25. And my favorite: My mother taught me about JUSTICE. "One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you."

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The **South Florida Pest and Disease Hotline** is compiled by **Gene McAvoy** and is issued on a biweekly basis by the **Hendry County Cooperative Extension Office** as a service to the vegetable industry.

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