

EXTENSION

Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

Hendry County Extension

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SOUTH FLORIDA VEGETABLE PEST AND DISEASE HOTLINE

November 10, 2006

Weather across South Florida has begun to settle into a typical cool season pattern punctuated by passage of cold fronts often associated with unsettled weather and showers followed by several clear dry days. A series of fronts dipped down over the peninsula over the past two weeks pushing nighttime lows into the 50's with a few spots dropping into the 40's. Daytime highs were in the 70s and 80s.

Showers associated with the fronts bought some precipitation to all growing areas of south Florida. Highest accumulations were in Homestead and Fort Lauderdale where the UF/IFAS FAWN Weather Stations recorded 1.70 inches and 2.29 inches respectively. Both Balm and Immokalee saw around an inch of rain while Fort Pierce had the lowest recorded total a just over ½ inch. Some localities in Miami –Dade County recorded nearly four and a half inches and almost daily showers around Lake Okeechobee interrupted some vegetable activity in those areas.

Reports indicate that blustery winds associated with some of these fronts caused some damage to sensitive like squash and cucumbers in some places. Most areas experienced a number of foggy morning and dewy conditions that caused a slight increase in disease pressure.

FAWN Weather Summary

Date	Air Temp °F		Rainfall	Hours Below Certain Temperature (<u>s)</u>	
	Min	Max	(Inches)	40°F	45°F	50°F	55°F	60°F	65°F	70°F	75°F
Balm											
10/27 - 11/10/06	47.8	82.8	1.08	0.0	0.0	3.9	3.3	1.5	48.2	30.8	22.4
Ft Lauderdale											
10/27 - 11/10/06	58.6	88.3	2.29	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	4.1	11.8	13.1
Fort Pierce											
10/27 - 11/10/06	53.8	87.8	0.66	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.9	4.3	14.6	4.4	23.9
Homestead											
10/27 - 11/10/06	56.6	85.2	1.70	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.4	9.2	29.7	68.7
Immokalee											
10/27 - 11/10/06	52.9	86.4	0.92	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.0	2.7	2.6	51.1	21.2

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Harvesting increased in pace across South Florida as growers ship crops for the Thanksgiving Day market. Very light amount of strawberries were harvested in the Plant City and Dover areas with cooler temperatures expected to boost berry development. Crops coming to market include cucumbers, eggplant, okra, peppers, radishes, snap beans, squash, sweet corn, tomatoes and specialty items. Quality is good.

The short-term forecast from the National Weather Service in Miami indicates high pressure currently over Florida will move east into the Atlantic allowing the surface as a short wave digs into the Ohio valley and the mid-Atlantic states this weekend pushing a cool front, through south Florida early Sunday bringing dry conditions.

A second cold front will move through the area Wednesday night or early Thursday. Sufficient moisture will precede the front bringing a slight chance showers Tuesday and a chance of showers and possibly some thunderstorms on Wednesday in advance of the front. For additional information, visit the National Weather Service in Miami website at http://www.srh.noaa.gov/mfl/newpage/index.html

Insects

Worms

Respondents in Homestead report heavy worm pressure, especially fall armyworm, beet armyworm, southern armyworm as well as melon and pickle worms in a variety of crops. Loopers and hornworm numbers appear to be declining compared to a few weeks ago.

Around Southwest Florida, worm pressure worm pressure continues to be high, with growers and scouts reporting seeing much more fall armyworm pressure than normal plus beet armyworms, southern armyworms, fruitworms, loopers, melonworms and hornworms. Worm pressure seems to be the highest in corn and next in pepper.

Growers and scouts in Manatee County report that worms pressure continues to be steady with mostly loopers, southern and beet armyworm in moderate numbers.

In the Glades respondents indicate that in some locations fall armyworm pressure continues to be extremely high in sweet corn.

On the East Coast worms are low to moderate in most areas with loopers, beet and southern armyworm predominating.

Whiteflies

Around Immokalee, whitefly levels remain mostly but pressure is somewhat variable between locations. Several isolated fields or farms have spikes in adults and there are some older fields with low levels of nymphs starting to build. Whitefly levels are starting to increase in some pepper as well.

Reports from Manatee County indicate that whitefly numbers are continue to increase with nymphs and pupae becoming more frequent in older plantings

Respondents on the East Coast continue to report mostly low whitefly numbers. Nymphs are starting to increase in some older plantings and growers have begun to apply IGR's as necessary. Growers are also reporting increasing whitefly numbers in pepper in some places and report less than satisfactory control with traditional materials in at least one location.

Around Homestead, whiteflies are still common with both TYLCV and BGMV increasing but not quite as rapidly as a few weeks ago.

To review the revised UF/IFAS Recommendations for Management of Whiteflies, Begomovirus, and Insecticide Resistance for Florida Vegetable Production and the New Tomato Burn-Down Rule, visit the Manatee County Extension website at http://manatee.ifas.ufl.edu/vegetable.htm

Leafminer

Growers and scouts in Homestead are reporting a leafminer explosion in beans and indicate that pressure is increasing in tomato and eggplant as well.

On the East Coast, leafminers are increasing particularly in tomato and eggplant with many growers now applying controls.

Around Immokalee, leafminers are continuing to increase with more fields starting to be sprayed. A few hot spots with higher pressure have been reported.

Respondents in the Manatee County area report that leafminer pressure remains steady with most fields being sprayed for leafminers at this point.

Leafminer injury is readily visible to the grower but healthy plants can tolerate considerable damage without excessive loss of vigor and yield. The Florida Tomato Scouting Guide sets action thresholds at 0.7 larva per plant for young plants with less than 2 true leaves and 0.7 larva per 3 terminal leaflets for larger plants. Heavily damaged leaves will often drop, due in part to entry of pathogenic organisms into old mines.

An integrated pest management program that stresses conservation of natural enemies is the primary tactic for the successful control of leafminer. In scouting fields, growers should be careful to note the number of parasitized mines before deciding to apply insecticides.

Cyromazine (Trigard) alternated with abamectin (Agrimek) are effective against leafminer in tomato. Both of these products have limited crop registrations and must not be used on unregistered crops. Spinosad (Spintor) has also given good results and is labeled on a wide range of crops. Some other materials that may be used to conserve beneficials include azadirachtin (Neemix) and insecticidal oils. Both products are approved for use by organic growers.

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.

Broad Mites

Reports from Palm Beach and other east Coast Counties indicate that broadmites continue to cause problems in eggplant and pepper.

In one unusual case, broadmites were diagnosed on beans. In this instance the growers noticed abnormal growth and suspected possible herbicide damage. Closer examination by UF faculty revealed that the damage was indeed caused by broad mites.

Growers and scouts around SW Florida indicate that broadmite continue to be a problem in some pepper fields.

Aphids

Winged aphids are beginning to show up widely in low number in a number of fields around Immokalee. No buildup has been noted.

Respondents on the East Coast indicate that a few aphids are beginning to show up here and there.

Aphids are also present in low numbers around Ruskin.

Pepper Weevil

A few pepper weevils are starting to show up in isolated plantings on the East Coast and around Southwest Florida.

Thrips

A few flower thrips are being reported in pepper blooms in a number of widely scattered locations around South Florida.

Diseases

TYLCV

Around Southwest Florida, tomato yellow leaf curl virus is still mostly low, but growers are seeing a few more infected plants around primarily due to the fact that there are more older fields around. In most places incidence remains below 1% with a couple of exceptions in hotspot corners or edges that are have reached 5-20% infection rate.

Growers and scouts in around Manatee County report that the incidence of new TYLCV infections has slowed but new infections continue to show up indicating the presence of viruliferous whiteflies.

Reports from Hillsborough County indicate variable incidence and occurrence of TYLCV but not that virus will reduce yields in some areas.

Respondents on the East Coast continue to report mostly very low TYLCV levels although virus is becoming more common in some areas especially in the northern part of the production region.

Reports from Homestead indicate that TYLCV and BGMV are present in a number of fields and continue to increase but not quite as rapidly as a few weeks ago.

Downy Mildew

Around Immokalee downy mildew is widely present in cucumbers and squash and has reached moderate to high levels in some older fields. Organic growers are having particular difficult in achieving control and disease is a limiting yields.

On the East Coast, downy mildew is present on calabaza, cucumbers and squash. Incidence and severity is moderate.

Reports from Homestead indicate some scattered problems with downy mildew on cucurbits.

Leaf symptoms can be used to diagnose downy mildew in the field in most cases. On cucurbits other than watermelon, small yellowish areas occur on the upper leaf surface. Later, a more brilliant yellow coloration occurs with the internal part of the lesion turning brown.

Usually the spots will be angular as they are somewhat restricted by the small leaf veins. When the leaves are wet, a downy white-gray-light blue fungus growth can be seen on the underside of individual spots (lesions). As the disease develops an exaggerated upward leaf curling will often occur.

Physiological specialization is present in *P. cubensis*, and five pathotypes have been described, based on levels of compatibility between the pathogen and host species and subspecies. All described pathotypes are compatible with susceptible cucumber (*Cucumis sativus*) and netted melon cultivars (*C. melo var. reticulatus*) but are not compatible with watermelon (*Citrullus lanatus*) or squash and pumpkin (*Cucurbita spp.*). This explains why cucumber and netted melons are sometimes heavily infected, while nearby watermelon, squash, or pumpkin are not affected.

Some growers are reporting good control using high rates of Previcur alternated with Ranman. They stress that it important to begin application early before symptoms are seen, even as early as the first true leave stage.

Target Spot

Growers and scouts in Manatee County continue to report finding target spot on tomato in a number of locations.

Around Southwest Florida, target spot levels are increasing, rapidly in some older fields. The recent cloudy, wet days have provided a good environment on the inner foliage for target spot to get started and growers are starting to report some fruit infections.

Respondents in Homestead are also reporting some problems with target spot.

Bacterial Spot

Reports from Manatee County indicate that bacterial spot is still creeping around in some fields aided by foggy mornings.

Around Immokalee, bacterial spot is below normal for this time of the season but reports indicate that growers are seeing new patches with fresh lesions plus some new infections in some younger fields.

Around Homestead, growers and scouts report bacteria is still around but not causing much trouble.

Growers and scouts on the East Coast producers report that bacterial spot remains low in pepper and tomato and is very localized in occurrence.

Fusarium Crown Rot

Around Immokalee, some problems with fusarium crown rot in tomato have been reported. Incidence and occurrence is low and mainly associated with plants that root damage from salts or mole crickets earlier in the season.

Scattered problems with fusarium crown rot on tomato have also been noted on the East Coast.

In Manatee County reports indicate some increasing problems with fusarium Race 3.

Southern Blight

Southern blight continues to wilt down plants in a number of locations around South Florida.

Powdery Mildew

Growers and scouts around South Florida are reporting increasing problems with powdery mildew on squash and cucumbers. Powdery mildew is more wide spread and a bigger problem in squash.

Gummy Stem Blight

Some reports of gummy stem blight on watermelons have been received from the Manatee area.

Gummy stem blight is also present in scattered locations around Immokalee.

Early Blight

Growers and scouts around Homestead, Immokalee and Palm Beach County are beginning to report seeing low levels of early blight in scattered locations.

Choanephora

A few scattered problems with Choanephora blight have been reported on beans in Homestead and around southwest Florida. Incidence is low and occurrence scattered.

Botrytis

Growers and scouts around Manatee County report some problems with botrytis on tomato following recent wet weather.

News You Can Use

SFWMD Issues Water Shortage Warning

The South Florida Water Management Governing Board issued a water shortage warning for the Lower East coast including Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward and eastern Palm Beach counties. Additionally, the Board declared a mandatory water shortage order for the Lake Okeechobee Service area which includes the Everglades Agricultural Area, and portions of Hendry, Glades, Lee, Okeechobee, Palm Beach and Martin counties. This order is effective Friday, November 17 and will primarily impact agricultural and commercial water users as well as public water supply utilities around the Lake and withdrawals from the Caloosahatchee River.

Although conditions are not as serious as they were at this stage in the last water shortage (the Lake stage is 8 inches higher now than it was on Nov 6th, 2000, growers will likely be put on a similar, though not as severe, water rationing program as in 2001, so it is critical that producers be prepared for significant changes in the way they are now managing their irrigation.

On a positive note it appears that el Niño conditions are in place in the Pacific Ocean and, in years when that has persisted through the winter, there has never been a water shortage for Lake users. But the District, and growers, must act on the actual Lake stage, not a weather service prediction.

Tomato Postharvest Disease Alert

As many of you are aware, there have been serious problems in other parts of the SE this summer and fall with post harvest fruit rot problems on round tomatoes. Since we have begun harvesting in this area, now is the time to review with your packinghouse staff and your growers, agricultural practices, which can help minimize problems. Due to the seriousness of this problem, a task force has recently been formed by IFAS Administration and is headed by Dr. Jerry Bartz, UF/IFAS Postharvest Plant Pathologist. While this task force will address problems as they occur and coordinate research that is needed, any solutions will also require the cooperation of all the packinghouses. This is not a problem for one or two packinghouses......this is an industry-wide problem which affects the reputation and marketability of Florida tomatoes. While some of this information may be familiar to many of you, a review never hurts.

What are the major postharvest diseases?

Bacterial soft rot is a common and aggressive disease caused by *Erwinia carotovora*. These bacteria are everywhere. They grow on the surfaces of plants and cause a soft rot, particularly during wet weather. Rainstorms, insect feeding, harvest crews, picking containers and packinghouse equipment, can spread them. While they cannot penetrate the waxy tomato skin, small wounds and even abrasion from sand enable infection. Suckering, rough handling, sunscald, and tying plants are other means by which soft rot bacteria enter tissue. Soft rot bacteria readily disperse in solution and they are quickly moved in water and even from one 'disease soaked' carton to the dry one next to it. High humidity (90-95%) promotes survival and infection potential. Free water on wounds or stem scars promotes infection. High fruit temperatures (86-95°F) are associated with rapid decay development and the period between inoculation and visible soft rot symptoms may be as little as 12 hours. Secondary spread in boxes can easily occur by 48 to 72 hours after packing if a few fruit were inoculated during harvest. Affected fruit have a very putrid odor as compared to the pungent, pickled odor of those infected with sour rot.

Sour rot is caused by a fungus, *Geotrichum candidum*, which is actually a type of yeast. Sour rot lesions have a sour or pungent odor, do not rapidly engulf the entire fruit, but rather lead to a liquefying of the gel in affected locules. Older lesions are usually covered by whitish mycelial growth. Sour rot lesions can occur within 24 hours after inoculation but they don't develop very rapidly. The fruit may remain recognizable for days, not becoming 'watery sacks' as with soft rot. The fruit surface over the lesions often peels back. Juices from the young lesions are clear (meaning very few yeast cells) thus, spread among fruit within boxes does not occur readily. Some packers have noticed clear liquid in the bottom of a carton, with only one rotted fruit, and even the fruit sitting in the liquid were not affected. This was likely sour rot. Eventually, spores are produced and secondary spread will occur. The spread of decay is correlated with fruit temperature, with optimum growth at 86°F.

What can be done in the field to prevent or lessen problems?

The first step in reducing the potential for contamination is to wait until plants and fruit are completely dry before harvesting. Periods of persistent rainfall or chilling temperatures can increase decay losses despite good practices. Even though plants may appear dry, check the plant interior. If soft rot is observed in the field, the crew may get the inoculum all over the fruit and there will be post harvest losses because chlorinated water cannot clean the bacteria out of inoculated wounds. Even without dew or fog, under high soil moisture conditions, guttation can occur. Droplets of water appear at the edge of the leaf, which may also increase the chance for spread of soft rot pathogens.

In addition to harvesting truly dry plants, instruct crews to avoid grabbing obviously decayed or partially decayed fruit. One other strategy may be to schedule harvests around copper/mancozeb sprays for bacterial spot control--harvest as soon as the label allows. Research in the mid-80s on preharvest sprays showed some evidence that there was a reduction in the potential for postharvest decay when fruit were picked as soon as

possible after a copper-mancozeb spray. It should reduce bacteria and maybe Geotrichum on the plant and may provide a residue on the fruit that would help reduce inoculation of wounds. Whether it will result in a biologically significant reduction will require further research. Until then, there are no guarantees......this is just a suggestion to try.

Be very conscious about worm control. For every fruit that is a 'sack' or has a noticeable lesion, there are likely several others where the decay is behind the fruit or has just started, particularly if there's worm damage. Make sure baskets, field boxes, etc. are clean and have been sanitized. Avoid throwing fruit from buckets into bins to reduce mechanical injury or bruising. Wounds from fingernails are often found in fruit that is succumbing to rot. Anything that can be done in the field or packinghouse to reduce damage to fruit should help.

As the task force begins addressing this problem, we ask the help of the industry by notifying us immediately when problems are seen in the field or packinghouse so that we can begin working on it. We'd like to know about your observations of crops in the morning. For example, if you are checking your fields periodically, at what approximate time do the last traces of dew disappear? If the dew is gone, do you still see a few water droplets on the leaf edges in the canopy? Most growers already keep good records of rainfall and pesticide applications, but any weather information we can get would be invaluable......noting things like fog, wind, heavy dew periods, cold fronts, etc. On fruit that have problems, we will need to know the sequence and timing of events from the field through the packing process. Any and all information will be helpful. (Prepared by Phyllis Gilreath, Manatee County Extension; Jerry Bartz, UF/IFAS, Plant Pathology Dept.; Steve Sargent, UF/IFAS Horticultural Sciences Dept.)

Additional information on packinghouse sanitation and management can be found in the following IFAS publications:

Identifying and Controlling Postharvest Tomato Diseases in Florida http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/HS131 Chlorine Use in Produce Packing Lines - http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ch160 General Overview of the Causative Agents of Foodborne Illness - http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fs099

BMP Update Information

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) will be modifying a few of their rules to include nutrient management BMPs as a part of a BMP implementation schedule. The applicable rules, which are in the Florida Administrative Code, are 5M-2, 5M-5, 5M-7 and 5M-8. These rules address Indian River Citrus, Peace River Citrus, Gulf Citrus and Vegetable and Agronomic Crops statewide, respectively. Specifically, FDACS is proposing to make one change under the Notice of Intent to Implement section in each of these rules. The proposed change will place more emphasis on accelerated implementation of nutrient management for farmers that are currently enrolled in the BMP program.

In order to do this, a workshop has been scheduled to inform growers of this change. This will be a joint workshop, whereby both citrus and vegetable growers are encouraged to attend. In the Immokalee area, the workshop is scheduled for December 5th at 1:30 p.m. and will be at the UF/IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education center, Hwy 29, Immokalee, Florida, phone 239-658-3400. Please try to attend this important meeting.

Grower's IPM Guide for Florida Tomato and Pepper Production – The UF/IFAS IPM Florida office has been assembling an IPM decision-making resource for Florida's pepper and tomato industry. This guide will serve as an interdisciplinary, comprehensive resource to assist growers in the adoption of IPM tactics as means to reduce the risk of epidemics, conserve chemistries against resistance and reduce overall production costs.

The Grower's IPM Guide is a work in progress and suggestions and comments are welcome. The guide can be seen on line at http://ipm.ifas.ufl.edu/agricultural/vegetables/tomato/T&PGuide.htm. When completed it will be published and will be available for purchase.

Chilean Nitrate Identified as Possible Perchlorate Source

Recently published research suggests that historic use of Chilean nitrate fertilizer has contributed to background perchlorate levels in certain agricultural areas. This molecule was detected in several types of foods grown in the U.S. The lead researcher was quoted as saying "Many people, including myself, have focused on military-industrial sources of perchlorate. But the numbers don't support it. Stepping back, the best way to get something into the food chain is fertilizer." These fertilizers were imported into the U.S. by the hundreds of tons in the 1800s. (Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, 10/2/06).

Florida Ag Expo - the Florida Vegetable industry's only seminar and trade show!

December 8-9, 2006 UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center Balm, FL

Thanks to a partnership between the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS), the Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association, the Florida Tomato Committee, the Florida Strawberry Growers Association, and *Florida Grower* magazine, this first-ever event will mark the beginning of a series of educational and entertaining seminar experiences.

The UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center in Balm will host the Florida Ag Expo. This new facility symbolizes the innovative nature of the state's fruit and vegetable growers. The Florida Ag Expo will feature seminars, demonstrations, variety trials, and exhibits designed to help growers increase sales, lower costs, and maximize productivity.

Two days of seminars by leading industry experts will inform and educate you on the latest production trends and techniques. Some of the biggest names in the industry and beyond will be on hand to discuss issues that matter to you. Don't miss Commissioner of Agriculture Charles Bronson, U.S. Rep. Adam Putnam, and many more of Florida's most influential decision makers

Equipment and field products will be on display and in use during the many Florida Ag Expo demonstration periods. See the latest in tractors, sprayers, plastic applicators, irrigation products, and much, much more.

More than 30 of the hottest new tomato and strawberry varieties will be available for inspection and taste testing at the Florida Ag Expo field trial area. See first-hand how these varieties grow in the field and how they stack up against some of the old favorites.

More than 60 exhibitors will be available to discuss their latest products and services and how they can help you more profitably run your business. You will be able to tour vendors from nearly every sector of the industry to help provide the edge you need to beat the competition.

Advanced Building Concepts will have a prototype of the latest in affordable and durable farmworker housing for you to tour. The design features of the ICS Solution include Category 4 hurricane loadings, savings of up to 50% on annual energy costs, moisture and mildew barriers, and non-combustible walls and roof.

Look for your official Florida Ag Expo Show Guide in your November issue of *Florida Grower* magazine. Registration is free and can be done online at www.floridagrower.net/agexpo/.

You can also register at the seminar, or avoid the lines and preregister by visiting www.floridagrower.net or by calling 407-539-6552

For reservation information on rooms near the UF/IFAS GCREC in Balm, contact our host hotel:

The Inn At Little Harbor, Ruskin, FL 800-327-2773 www.staylittleharbor.com

If you have any questions about exhibiting at the 2007 Florida Ag Expo, please contact *Florida Grower* magazine's Marc Stockwell at 407-539-6552, or by e-mail at mleastermedia.com.

The UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center is located at 14625 County Road 672, Wimauma, FL 33598. Telephone 813-634-0000. Website http://gcrec.ifas.ufl.edu/

Employment Opportunities

Enza Coastal Seeds Inc. is seeking a farm manager in the Bradenton/Sarasota area.

Farm manager will be responsible for all aspects of setting up and managing the day to day activities on a 40 - 50 acre vegetable research farm.

Interested applicants can call Dr. Bill Kasokas at 941-932-3546

Alico Inc is seeking an experienced sod producer to manage their LaBelle Sod Farm. Contact Dwight Rockers at 863-675-2966

Pesticide Potpourri

Actigard - Doug Wilbanks of Syngenta Crop Protection advises that the maximum number of applications of Actigard on tomatoes has increased from 6 to 8 applications per season.

Assail – Assail 30 SG has received a 2ee recommendation for the control of pepper weevil. It allows assail to be applied with a rate range of 2.5 - 4 oz per acre on fruiting vegetables.

Do not make more than 4 applications per season. Do not exceed a total of 0.3lbs active ingredient (16 oz of product per season.

Do not apply more than once in every 7 days.

PHI is 7 days.

This FIFRA 2(ee) expires December 31, 2006.

Kocide® 2000 and Kocide® 3000 – Bob Williams with DuPont reports that TM Kocide® 2000 and Kocide® 3000 Fungicide/Bactericides are now listed on the OMRI list as restricted (allowed with restrictions) for use in organic production in the category of Coppers – fixed. Restrictions for this category are described in the /OMRI Generic Materials List/ as follows: "Restricted according to NOP Rule: 205.601(i)(1) & 205.601(i)(2): Copper products that are exempt from EPA tolerance [40 CFR 180.1001(b)(1)] may be used for plant disease control. Copper-based material must be used in a manner that minimizes accumulation in the soil and shall not be used as herbicides."

FQPA Reregistration for Methyl Bromide - The comment period for methyl bromide commodity uses is open until November 24 at http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-PEST/2006/September/Day-29/p16063.htm

Up Coming Meetings

Manatee County

November 27, 2006 WPS Train-the-Trainer Workshop 10:00 AM.

Manatee County Extension Service

Palmetto, Florida

Review of WPS guidelines for those wishing to become certified to train workers and handlers. Two CEUs are also offered in Private and other categories (**NO CORE** CEUs)

Contact Phyllis Gilreath at 941-721-4524 for more information.

December 6, 2006 Labor/ Migrant and Seasonal Workers Protection Act Seminar

Manatee Convention Center (Civic Center) 5:30 PM

Palmetto, Florida

For registration and additional information please contact - Mike Rios US DOL at

13-288-1400 ext.28 or 813-245-9055

December 12, 2006 Private Pesticide Applicator Training and Testing. 9:00 AM.

Manatee County Extension Service

Palmetto. Florida

2 CORE CEUs offered for those who have a current license.

Contact Phyllis Gilreath at 941-721-4524 for more information.

Miami Dade County

November 9, 2006 Agricultural Labor Compliance Workshop 7:00 - 8:45 PM

sponsored by the US Department of Labor.

John D. Campbell Ag Center 18710 SW 288th Street Homestead, Florida.

Palm Beach County

December 4, 2006 Pesticide Applicator Testing

West Palm Beach, Florida

General Standards/Core Training (2 CEUs) 8:00 am - 10:00 AM Aquatic Weed Control Test Review (2 CEUs) 1:00 pm - 3:00 PM

Southwest Florida

November 22, 2006 Worker Protection Standard Handler Training

Hendry County Extension Office Spanish 9:00 AM 1085 Pratt Boulevard English 1:00PM

LaBelle, Florida

Contact Gene McAvoy at 863-674-4092 for details

December 4, 2006 Labor/ Migrant and Seasonal Workers Protection Act Seminar

Turner Agri-Civic Center 5:30 PM

Arcadia, Florida

For registration and additional information please contact - Mike Rios US DOL at

13-288-1400 ext.28 or 813-245-9055

December 5, 2006 BMP Rule Development Workshop 1:30 pm

UF/IFAS - SW Florida Research and Education Center

Hwy 29 N

Immokalee, Florida

Contact Gene McAvoy at 863-674-4092

December 15, 2005 Fall Vegetable Field Day 10 AM - Noon

UF/IFAS - SW Florida Research and Education Center

Hwy 29 N

Immokalee, Florida

Contact Gene McAvoy at 863-674-4092

Other Meetings

November 14 - 15, 2006 Watermelon Growers Symposium

Scottish Rite Auditorium San Antonio, Texas

For more information contact Champion Seed Co at 956-618-5574

November 29, 2006 Certified Crop Advisor's Fall Continuing Education Seminar

South Florida Community College

600 West College Drive Avon Park, Florida

For information on cost and registration contact Lorrie Key at 863-784-7033 or

Julie Baker at 863-784-7034

December 3-6, 2006 December 6-8, 2006 4th International Bemisia Workshop International Whitefly Genomic Workshop

Hawk's Cay Resort Duck Key, Florida

For more information, go to http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/bemisia

December 8 –9, 2006

Florida Ag Expo

UF/IFAS Gulfcoast Research and Education Center 14625 County Road 672 Wimauma, Florida 33598

Featuring educational sessions, equipment displays, demonstrations and field trials, see article above for more details.

Websites

Florida Fungicide Pricing and Expectations is a 2 page fact sheet which provides a table of costs per acre for various fungicide active ingredients. The information was prepared by Mark Mossler and published by the UF/IFAS Pesticide Information Office. It can be seen at http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/PI171

Florida Herbicide Pricing and Expectations is a 2 page fact sheet which provides a table of costs per acre for various herbicide active ingredients. The information was prepared by Mark Mossler and published by the UF/IFAS Pesticide Information Office. It can be seen at http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/PI174

Florida Insecticide, Miticide and Nematicide Pricing and Expectations is a 3 page fact sheet which provides a table of costs per acre for various pesticide active ingredients. The information was prepared by Mark Mossler and published by the UF/IFAS Pesticide Information Office. It can be seen at http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/PI172

Quotable Quotes

You can observe a lot just by watching. -- Yogi Berra

Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work -- Thomas Edison

"Some people make things happen, some watch while things happen, and some wonder 'What happened?" -- Unknown

Reflect on your present blessings, of which every man has many; not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some. - Charles Dickens

"Is it better to sit in church on Sunday and think about fishing or it is better to go fishing on Sunday and think about God?" -- F Parker Oswald

Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen six, result happiness. Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure twenty pound ought and six, result misery. - Charles Dickens

On the Lighter Side

Incredible Story About An Elephant's Memory...

A young man was on vacation in Kenya after graduating from college. While he was walking through the bush, he came across a young bull elephant standing with one leg raised in the air. The elephant seemed distressed so the man approached it very carefully. He got down on one knee and inspected the elephant's foot. There was a large thorn deeply embedded in the bottom of the foot.

As carefully and as gently as he could he worked the thorn out with his hunting knife, after which the elephant gingerly put down its foot. The elephant turned to face the man and with a rather stern look on its face, stared at him. For a good ten minutes the man stood frozen--thinking of nothing else but being trampled.

Eventually the elephant trumpeted loudly, turned and walked away.

The man never forgot that elephant or the events of that day. Twenty years later the man was walking through the zoo with his teenaged son. As they approached the elephant enclosure, one of the creatures turned and walked over to where they were standing at the rail. The large bull elephant stared at him and lifted its front foot off the ground, then put it down. The elephant did that several times, all the while staring at the man. The man couldn't help wondering if this was the same elephant.

After a while it trumpeted loudly; then it continued to stare at him.

The man summoned up his courage, climbed over the railing and made his way into the enclosure. He walked right up to the elephant and stared back in wonder. Suddenly the elephant trumpeted again, wrapped its trunk around one of the man's legs and swung him wildly back and forth along the railing, killing him.

Probably wasn't the same elephant...

Construction Crew

A young family moved into a house, next door to a vacant lot. One day a construction crew turned up to start building a house on the empty lot.

The young family's 5-year-old daughter naturally took an interest in all the activity going on next-door and spent much of each day observing the workers.

Eventually the construction crew, all of them gems-in-the-rough, more or less adopted her as a kind of project mascot. They chatted with her, let her sit with them while they had coffee and lunch breaks, and gave her little jobs to do here and there to make her feel important.

At the end of the first week they even presented her with a pay envelope containing a couple of dollars. The little girl took this home to her mother who said all the appropriate words of admiration and suggested that they take the two dollar "pay" she had received to the bank the next day to start a savings account.

When they got to the bank, the teller was equally impressed and asked the little girl how she had come by her very own pay check at such a young age.

The little girl proudly replied, "I worked last week with the crew building the house next door to us."

"My goodness gracious", said the teller, "and will you be working on the house this week, too?"

The little girl replied, "I will if those #\$\%^& s at Home Depot ever deliver the @#\$\%*& sheet rock..."

A Thanksgiving Prayer

"O God, when I have food, help me to remember the hungry;

When I have work, help me to remember the jobless;

When I have a home, help me to remember those who have no home at all;

When I am without pain, help me to remember those who suffer,

And remembering, help me to destroy my complacency; bestir my compassion, and be concerned enough to help; by word and deed, those who cry out for what we take for granted.

Amen."

Wishing all the best to all of you all for a happy and healthy Thanksgiving Holiday

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