UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA
EXTENSION
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SOUTH FLORIDA VEGETABLE PEST AND DISEASE HOTLINE

April 12, 2016

March has been relatively warm and dry. After four consecutive months of above-average dry season rainfall, March was a below-average month for much but not all of South Florida. The region received 2.39 inches of rain for the month, representing 84 percent of the historical average. Some areas were relatively wet in March with above average rainfall totals, including the Upper Kissimmee Basin and some East Coast and Central Florida locations.

FAWN Weather Summary

Date	Air Temp °F		Rainfall	Ave Relative Humidity	ET (Inches/Day)
	Min	Max	(Inches)	(Percent)	(Average)
Balm					
3/16 – 4/10//16	40.38	89.85	3.96	77	0.12
Belle Glade					
3/16 – 4/10//16	49.35	90.07	1.75	81	0.13
Clewiston					
3/16 – 4/10//16	46.18	91.11	1.64	77	0.13
Ft Lauderdale					
3/16 – 4/10//16	55.18	90.46	3.11	75	0.13
Homestead					
3/16 – 4/10//16	50.27	89.62	2.37	79	0.13
Immokalee					
3/16 – 4/10//16	41.67	92.97	0.79	77	0.13
Okeechobee					
3/16 – 4/10//16	48.31 89.91	48.31 89.91	5.12	77	0.13

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Unsettled weather at the end of March bought heavy rains and some straight lines winds in excess of 50 mph to a few locations which tore up some crops. A few locations south and west of Immokalee, as well as locations in Palm Beach, Martin and Charlotte Counties reported hail damage as well.

Crops coming to market include beets, cabbage, collards, cucumber, eggplant, green beans, herbs, lettuce, kale, pepper, radishes, squash, sweet corn, Swiss chard, tomato, and various specialty items. A few early watermelons are beginning to trickle into the market. Volumes for most crops is beginning to pick up and quality is beginning to improve as plants grow out of the effects of the past few months of adverse conditions. Continued low yields have resulted in favorable prices for many items.

The National Weather Service forecast indicates that high pressure will dominate the weather across south Florida through the middle of the week. As the middle and the end of the week approaches, the models show a frontal boundary moving through the Gulf and the Florida peninsula which will increase the chance of showers by the end of the work week and into the upcoming weekend. There will also be a slight chance of thunderstorms out ahead of this front on Thursday and Friday

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

Insects

Thrips

Thrips have fired up in several locations around Southwest Florida as citrus blooms drop. Most of these appear to Florida Flower thrips although some common blossom thrips *Frankliniella schultzei* have been seen along with melon thrips *Thrips palmi* in some areas. Scouts report that they have observed an increase in minute pirate bugs following the thrips migration.

Thrips are also active in beans in Devils Garden and the EAA.

Reports from Palm Beach County indicate that thrips are increasing in all areas. Scouts report finding both western flower thrips in pepper, eggplant and even some tomato and melon thrips in cucurbits**.** Growers report high numbers in some pepper with heavy fruit damage.

Around Miami Dade County melon thrips abundance remains high on a variety of crops including eggplant, squash, cucumber, beans and okra. As the season nears the end, thrips are concentrating on the few locations with new crops. Growers should clean their fields shortly after final harvest to break reproductive cycles of these pests.

Common blossom thrips and Western flower thrips, vectors of TCSV and other tospoviruses, are also present in Miami Dade at mostly low numbers. Reports indicate TCSV incidence is very high in some tomato fields. Vegetable growers should keep their field edges free from the weeds hosts.

Dr Hugh Smith, Entomologist at UF/IFAS GCREC reports that Florida flower thrips (*Frankliniella* spp.) have become abundant in Hillsborough and Manatee County in recent weeks. The adult (winged) stage of thrips must be examined under a microscope in order to be identified to species. He notes that most of the thrips migrating into fields are probably the native Florida flower thrips, which is susceptible to most insecticides and which only causes crop damage at high densities.

The high numbers of thrips are probably associated with the abundance of flowering weed and tree hosts, including wild radish, oak and citrus. Florida flower thrips is an inefficient vector of tomato spotted wilt virus, however TSWV was observed in Hillsborough County last week."

Hugh adds that western flower thrips and common blossom thrips are also present in tomato and other crops in low numbers in Hillsborough and Manatee Counties. Both species tend to be tolerant to most insecticides, and are efficient vectors of tospovirus including TSWV. Application of insecticides may reduce numbers of Florida flower thrips while leaving the more harmful western flower thrips and common blossom thrips. For this reason identification of thrips species in tomato and other crops should be initiated prior to application of chemical controls and continued after sprays are applied.

Anyone wishing assistance with thrips identification should contact Hugh Smith at the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center (hughasmith@ufl.edu; telephone 813 633 4124).

Worms

Growers and scouts in the EAA report that worms are showing up everywhere in corn but note that spraying for silkfly is keeping them in check at levels just below thresholds in most cases.

Worm pressure is increasing around Immokalee and growers report finding mostly loopers and southern armyworms, as well as some melonworms and lots of diamondback moth in Cole crops.

Respondents in the Manatee Ruskin are reporting mostly light to moderate pressure from a variety of worms especially loopers and southern armyworm. Growers are reporting major problems with diamond back moths in a several cabbage fields as well. It is important to remember that diamondback moth develops resistance to insecticides easily, particularly pyrethroids. Rotation of insecticide modes of action and avoidance of pyrethroids are important for managing diamondback moth.

Around Homestead, vegetable season is coming to an end but growers continue to battle diamondback moth, fall armyworm, beet armyworms and melonworm with beet armyworm widely present on a variety of hosts.

Dak Seal reports that growers are obtaining good control with Novaluron, Radiant and Avaunt with Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) based insecticides used in between application of above named products.

Pepper Weevil

Respondents in Palm Beach County report pepper weevils have exploded and are very hard to suppress. The situation depends on the location and whether old peppers are present in the area but in general they are nearly uncontrollable. Weevils are also causing problem in eggplant as well.

Around SW Florida, pepper weevil pressure is extreme in many locations and scouts report that is seems like adult weevils are active in nearly pepper field around the area.

Respondents indicate that pepper weevils are beginning to show up in the Manatee/Ruskin area.

Pepper weevil remains a major problem in Miami Dade County and are widely present in many plantings. Weevils are also abundant on eggplants which are sometimes grown year round in Homestead.

Growers should avoid planting pepper near eggplant fields and scout their fields regularly to detect infestations early. Actara, Vydate, along with the diamides and pyrethroids can be used in a program to control weevils.

DuPont has issued a Technical Information Bulletin on Pepper weevil management with DuPont™ Exirel®, which may provide another option for growers in the absence of Vydate. See http://bit.ly/20zFFzI

Leafminer

In the Manatee/ Ruskin area, respondents are seeing persistent leafminer pressure in pepper, tomato and green beans. Growers are reporting good results with foliar applied Exirel, Radiant, Abamectin, and Coragen.

Around Southwest Florida, leafminers remain mostly low but growers and scouts report some flare-ups in tomato and watermelon in some places.

Reports from Homestead and the East Coast, indicate leafminer pressure remains mostly low.

Whiteflies

Around Immokalee, whiteflies are increasing in many fields and have reached high numbers in some locations with some pupae showing up on tomatoes in some areas. Growers are reporting problems in tomato, squash, eggplant and watermelon. Growers in a few locations are battling high to very high incidence of TYLCV in tomatoes.

Reports indicate that whitefly are common in Miami-Dade County and growers are finding adults and other developmental stages on a variety of vegetable crops.

In the Manatee Ruskin area, whitefly numbers have been high in cucurbits and tomatoes with untreated squash showing high levels of silverleaf caused by whitefly feeding. Growers report getting good control with Verimark, Venom, and Sivanto applied at planting.

On the East Coast, respondents indicate that whiteflies pressure is variable depending on the location.

Broad Mites

Around Southwest Florida, broad mites continue to flare up in pepper and eggplant

On the East Coast, broad mites continue to cause problem in pepper and eggplant. Broad mites have also been reported in cucumber.

Broad mites are widespread around Miami Dade County. Soaps and oils can provide effective control if infestations are detected and treated early.

Aphids

Aphids remain a problem in cabbage and lettuce in the EAA.

Around Southwest Florida, aphids are still a problem in a variety of crops.

Respondents in Palm Bach County report that aphids are still an issue in pepper and eggplant in some areas and growers are applying control measures as needed.

In the EAA, aphids are still an issue in leafy greens

Corn Silk Fly

Around Belle Glade, silk flies are showing up in high numbers in many areas and growers are spraying for them in areas away from the lake more frequently than in the recent past.

In Miami Dade County, silk fly numbers remain mostly low but populations are starting to increase on crop residues. Dr. Dak Seal, Entomologist at UF/IFAS TREC reports Certis Bait pellets show significant reduction of CSF adults and CSF damage on corn ears.

Spider Mites

Reports indicate that spider mites remain mostly low but are becoming problematic in tomato eggplant and melons in a number of locations around South Florida. Rains appear to have helped keep them in check in many areas.

Growers and scouts in Palm Beach County report mites are an increasing issue with dry weather on eggplant, peppers and to a lesser degree: corn, and beans.

Diseases

Foggy mornings and scattered showers have been helping to keep disease active in a number of crops.

Bacterial Spot

Around Southwest Florida, there has been enough rain and wind around to keep bacterial spot moving and on the increase in tomatoes and peppers.

On the East Coast, bacterial spot remains active in pepper and tomato. Bacteria is widely present in most hot varieties. Scouts report some bacteria showing up in race 1-5 resistant bell peppers. Growers report that race 1-10 resistant pepper varieties remain clean while bacterial spot is starting to become widespread in many fields where other varieties have been planted.

Some increase in bacterial spot has been reported on tomato in the Manatee Ruskin area following recent winds and rains.

Bacterial spot is remains a problem in some late pepper and tomato in the Homestead area but dry weather has helped check its progress.

Target Spot

Around Immokalee, foggy conditions have been sufficient to keep target spot active in tomato.

In the Manatee/Ruskin area, recent rains provoked an increase in target spot in a number of fields.

On the East Coast, low levels of target spot remains active in older tomatoes and is also causing issues in some cucumber fields.

Target spot has been the main problem on tomatoes throughout the growing season and has emerged as the disease in tomatoes in Florida. Growers report good results tank mixing newer products like Fontelis, Inspire Super, Scala, Quadris Top, and Switch with mancozeb or chlorothalonil.

Phomopsis

Low levels of Phomopsis continue to cause problems for some East Coast eggplant producers but pressure appears to be decreasing.

Alternaria

In the EAA, respondents report continuing issues with Alternaria particularly on older beans which saw a lot of rain.

Report from Homestead indicate that Alternaria leaf spot is increasing on some cucurbits such as bitter melon.

Around Manatee County, Alternaria and black rot are present on cabbage in a number of locations.

Late Blight

Late blight has not done much this season and beyond some initial reports never really got going around South Florida.

Downy mildew

Respondents in Palm Beach County report that downy mildew continues to affect squash and cucumber and has reached high levels in some plantings.

Around Southwest Florida, downy mildew remains a problem on cucumbers and squash and a few watermelons and growers and scouts report they continue to find new infections.

Downy mildew is also active on cucurbits in the Homestead area.

Symptoms of cucurbit downy mildew are characterized by foliar lesions, which first appear as small chlorotic patches on the upper side of the leaves. These lesions may appear water-soaked, especially during periods of prolonged leaf wetness caused by rainfall, dew, or irrigation. Later symptoms may coalesce into large necrotic areas, which may result in defoliation and reduction of yield and marketable fruit.

Spray programs for downy mildew are most effective when initiated prior to the first sign of disease since once a planting becomes infected; it becomes more and more difficult for fungicides to control downy mildew. A range of fungicides is available for the control of downy mildew depending on the crop. Newer oomycete specific products are useful in combatting the disease.

Powdery mildew

Around Immokalee, powdery mildew is common in squash and cucumbers.

Powdery mildew is also showing up on some pepper around SW Florida.

On the East Coast, powdery mildew is present at low levels in squash. Growers report Vivando and Torino appears to be providing good control.

Powdery mildew is also causing problems on squash around Homestead.

Gummy stem blight

Gummy stem blight is present at low levels in several watermelon fields around Southwest Florida but has shown little increase in recent weeks.

Growers and scouts are also reporting some gummy stem blight on cucumber and squash in some East Coast locations.

Phythophthora

On the East Coast, Phythophthora continues to cause problems on peppers and squash especially in areas where it is traditionally an issue. Phythophthora is causing problems in squash on old plastic Reports indicate that Phythophthora in pepper has gone aerial in some places. Respondents are also reporting some phythopthora in eggplant as well.

Around Southwest Florida, Phythophthora continues to cause issues in peppers, squash and other crops especially in wet areas affected by this season's rainy weather with a history of the disease.

Northern corn leaf spot

In the EAA, corn is under very little disease pressure except for persistent low level northern corn leaf spot (NCLS) symptoms. Rust, northern corn leaf blight and southern corn leaf blight are rare to absent for the time being. Northern corn leaf spot is caused by the fungus called *Bipolaris zeicola.*

Symptoms of this disease are sometimes confused with northern corn leaf blight, southern corn leaf blight, and anthracnose.

Symptoms of northern corn leaf spot usually appear at the time of silking or at full maturity. Lesions from NCLS are tan and oval to circular but can vary depending on the race in the field. Grayish tan lesions surrounded by a darker border first appear on lower leaf blades. These lesions are narrow and up to 1" long. They may also occur on leaf sheaths and husks. Symptoms vary by race of pathogen and corn genotype. There are several races of this pathogen but races 2 and 3 appear to be the most common. Race 2 produces oblong lesions mainly on lower leaves and on maturing plants that may appear similar to southern corn leaf blight. Race 3 produces narrow, linear lesions on leaves, leaf sheaths, and sometimes husks.

This disease is favored by moderate temperatures and humid weather.

Basil Downy Mildew

Downy mildew pressure in basil has been relentless and growers have to work hard to keep it in check.

Although few fungicides are specifically labeled for this disease, some broadly labeled fungicides which are labeled under the herb crop grouping on current labels, such as Ranman, Quadris and Amistar (Azoxystrobin) and the phosphonic acids have shown efficacy in managing the disease.

Recently Revus received a label for use in basil and provides excellent control of downy mildew when used early as a soil drench. These fungicides are most effective when applications are started before or just after initial symptoms are found.

Anthracnose

Around Southwest Florida growers and scout indicate that anthracnose has slowed down significantly but not before but really damaging some pepper fields.

Erwinia Soft Rot

Erwinia continues to plague pepper growers in the Manatee Ruskin area.

Tomato Chlorotic Spot Virus

Around Southwest Florida, scouts are reporting no significant tospovirus recently, with only a few scattered single plant here and there in a few tomato fields.

The situation is similar in Palm Beach County with only a few scattered infected tomato and pepper plants being reported.

Homestead remains the ground central for Tomato chlorotic spot virus and growers report that they are beginning to see more symptoms of the disease in tomato. Incidence has jumped in a number of fields reaching 50% in a couple of places.

Tomato Yellow Leaf Curl

Incidence and occurrence of TYLCV remains mostly low to moderate and spotty in occurrence on tomatoes around South Florida, but some respondents report it has reached very high levels in some tomato fields.

TYLCV is increasing around Palm Beach and is causing problems in tomato.

TYLCV remains mostly low in the Manatee Ruskin area.

Respondents indicate that TYLCV incidence has reached high levels in a number of fields around Homestead.

Growers are planting more virus resistant cultivars than ever and this has been a major help in keeping TYLCV levels low where employed.

Watermelon mosaic

Watermelon mosaic (papaya ringspot virus) is widespread in a number of watermelon fields around Southwest Florida

Cucurbit Yellow Stunting Disorder Virus

Cucurbit Yellow Stunting Disorder Virus is widespread in a number of watermelon fields around Southwest Florida and along with watermelon mosaic virus appears to be the predominant viruses present in watermelon this season.

Infected cucurbit plants initially show a chlorotic (yellow) spotting, which eventually develops into a striking interveinal chlorosis (yellowing) in which the veins remain more or less green but the rest of the leaf turns bright yellow. Leaves will often roll upward and become brittle. Fruit on infected plants may appear normal but often have reduced levels of sugars which could affect marketability. Symptoms of Cucurbit yellow stunting disorder virus infection can be confused with nutrient deficiency.

Cucurbit yellow stunting disorder virus is spread from plant-to-plant exclusively by the silverleaf whitefly, *Bemisia tabaci.* The virus is not transmitted mechanically (by touch) nor is it seed-transmitted. Consequently, the disorder is almost always associated with whiteflies; it does not take many insects to spread the virus. It can take 3 to 4 weeks for disease symptoms to develop following infection.

Cucurbit leaf crumple virus

Low levels of cucurbit leaf crumple virus are being reported in watermelons around Southwest Florida.

News You Can Use

MARCH 2016 WEATHER SUMMARY - Warm and Dry

April 4th, 2016: after a wet and stormy January and parts of February, March resulted in a noticeable departure and return to mainly dry and warm conditions. High pressure in the mid and upper levels predominated across Florida and the subtropical western Atlantic Ocean which led to less fronts moving through south Florida. This in turn caused extended periods of warm to even hot temperatures. All four climate sites in south Florida recorded monthly average temperatures in the top 10 warmest on record for March, averaging anywhere from 2 to as much as 4 degrees above normal. 90-degree temperatures were registered for the first time this year in Miami, the first time since October of last year.

Here are some noteworthy temperature statistics for each of the four main climate sites in south Florida:

Miami International Airport recorded an average March temperature of 76.5 degrees Fahrenheit. This is 3.9 degrees above the 30-year normal for March and is the 3rd warmest March on record (going back to 1895). The average high temperature was 83F. The average low temperature was 70F. The hottest reading of the month was 91 degrees on the 28th. The coolest reading was 57 degrees on the 22nd.

Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport recorded an average March temperature of 75.1 degrees Fahrenheit. This is 2.2 degrees above the 30-year normal for March and is the 8th warmest March on record (going back to 1911). The average high temperature was 81F. The average low temperature was

69F. The hottest reading of the month was 87 degrees on the 15th. The coolest reading was 55 degrees on the 22.

Palm Beach International Airport recorded an average March temperature of 74.8 degrees Fahrenheit. This is 4.3 degrees above the 30-year normal for March and is tied for the 4th warmest March on record (going back to 1889). The average high temperature was 82F. The average low temperature was 68F. The hottest reading of the month was 89 degrees on the 15th. The coolest reading was 55 degrees on the 21st and 22nd.

Naples Municipal Airport recorded an average March temperature of 73.0 degrees Fahrenheit. This is 3.0 degrees above the 30-year normal for March and is the 6th warmest March on record (going back to 1942). The average high temperature was 82F. The average low temperature was 65F. The hottest reading of the month was 87 degrees on the 26th. The coolest reading was 50 degrees on the 22nd.

Precipitation and Severe Weather

It was a dry March across most of south Florida, with rainfall running between 1 and 3 inches below normal. A few sites recorded less than an inch for the entire month, including Miami International Airport, Miami Beach, LaBelle, Naples Municipal Airport and Marco Island. Several observation sites recorded amounts which were in the top 20 driest on record for the month of March, including Miami Beach with 0.10 inches.

Most of the month's rainfall occurred with three events: a cold front on the 19th which brought strong thunderstorms, interaction of warm, unstable air and an upper air disturbance on the 24th, and a weak cold front on the 29th and 30th. There were two main swaths of above normal precipitation, one across central and northern Broward County and far southeastern Palm Beach County, and the other across northern Palm Beach County. Flooding occurred in both these areas on the 24th, 29th and 30th with as much as 4-6 inches of rain falling in only a few hours.

Strong to severe thunderstorms swept through most of southern Florida on the 19th, causing wind gusts of 40-55 mph and even a tornado which touched down on the sand at Fort Lauderdale Beach before moving offshore. Another round of strong to severe storms occurred on the 24th and 29th, with the latter event leading to large hail, wind gusts to near 60 mph and flooding in the Boca Raton area. Excessive lightning with these storms caused three firefighters to be injured in Boca Raton.

Here are March rainfall totals for select South Florida sites:

Location (Beginning of Period of Record)	**March 2016 Rainfall (inches)**	**Departure from Normal/Rank**
Big Cypress	**2.03**	
Brighton Reservation (Glades Co.)	**3.16**	
Cape Florida	**0.17**	
Canal Point (1941)	**3.42**	**-0.70**
Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood Int'l (1912)	**2.84**	**-0.52**
Fort Lauderdale Dixie Water Plant	**3.22**	**-0.36**

Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport	**3.04**	
Fort Lauderdale Beach	**3.15**	
Hialeah (1940)	**0.82**	**-2.91/ 16th driest**
Hollywood (1963)	**4.03**	**+0.67**
Homestead General Airport (1990)	**1.75**	**-0.75**
Immokalee (1971)	**0.67**	**-2.26/8th driest**
Juno Beach	**7.11**	
LaBelle (1929)	**0.91**	**-2.41/17th driest**
Marco Island	**0.14**	
Miami Beach (1928)	**0.10**	**-2.90/2nd driest**
Miami International Airport (1911)	**0.61**	**-2.39/20th driest**
Moore Haven (1918)	**2.09**	**-1.02**
Muse	**1.68**	
North Miami Beach	**1.71**	
Naples East/Golden Gate	**1.04**	
Naples Municipal Airport (1942)	**0.45**	**-0.61**
NWS Miami	**1.58**	
Oasis Ranger Station (1979)	**1.21**	**-1.73/13th driest**
Opa-Locka Airport	**1.42**	
Ortona (1940)	**1.23**	**-2.44/11th driest**
Palm Beach Gardens	**4.90**	
Palm Beach International Airport (1888)	**2.42**	**-2.17**
Pembroke Pines – North Perry Airport	**1.52**	
Pompano Beach Airpark	**3.16**	
Miami Executive Apt – West Kendall	**1.82**	
The Redland (1942)	**2.23**	**-0.68**
South Bay (15S)	**0.93**	

Outlook for April-June

The outlook by the NOAA Climate Prediction Center calls for equal chances of above, below or near normal temperatures and precipitation for April, with an increased likelihood of warmer and wetter than normal temperatures for the period from April through June. The wetter than normal outlook is in line with the lingering El Niño pattern, but with perhaps lower confidence than during the past winter.

April and early May is the transition period from the dry to the wet season, and it's normal to have alternating periods of dry and wet/stormy weather in south Florida this time of year. The dry periods increase our wildfire risk due to warm and dry conditions, while the stormy periods are often accompanied by thunderstorms, strong winds, hail and even tornadoes. Lightning associated with these storms can even start wildfires.

Hurricane season begins in June, which means there's no better time than now to begin getting ready. Websites such as ready.gov provide good preparedness tips.

For the latest south Florida weather information, including the latest watches, advisories and warnings, please visit the National Weather Service Miami Forecast Office's web site at weather.gov/southflorida.

Bayer Requests Hearing on EPA Proposal to Cancel Flubendiamide (Belt®) Registration

As the law allows, Bayer has formally requested a hearing before an EPA Administrative Law Judge.

Bayer asserts that EPA is trying to cancel the products through a streamlined hearing in an effort to shield its science from independent peer review and to avoid other government and stakeholder input on its approach. Bayer disagrees with this and is exercising its right to request that EPA Administrative Law Judge hear both sides and issue an initial determination on what process should be followed. Under standard practice, the Administrative Law Judge's initial decision will then be reviewed by EPA Environmental Appeals Board, all through a process that is expected to be completed within 75 days.

Bayer strongly disagrees with the EPA's proposal, which we believe exaggerates environmental risk, violates transparent and proper regulatory processes, undermines the scientific integrity of the regulatory system, and ultimately seeks to deny farmers a valuable tool to manage destructive pests on their farms.

While under review, farmers and retailers can continue to buy, sell and use the Belt in their operations.

Up Coming Meetings

April 13, 2016 UF/IFAS Certified Crop Adviser CEU Session 7:50 AM - 6:30 PM

Locations Include: Lake Alfred, Balm, Gainesville, Ft. Pierce, Tavares and Immokalee

Early registration fee is $100 per person payable through credit cards.

To register, please use the following link and pick the ticket to the center of your choice. Please remember to print your confirmation and the receipt for your records.

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ufifas-cca-training-april-2016-registration-21633525457

April 24, 2016 **2016 Sweet Corn Fiesta.**

South Florida Fairgrounds Yesteryear Village
9067 Southern Boulevard
West Palm Beach, FL 33411

http://sweetcornfiesta.com/

April 27, 2016 **Vegetable Growers Meeting** **10:00 AM - 1 PM**
Bio-stimulant Use in Vegetable Crops

UF/IFAS SWFREC
2685 SR 29 N
Immokalee, FL 34142

Contact Debra at dcabrera@ufl.edu or 863-674-4092 to save a place.

May 5, 2016 **Spring Vegetable Field Day** **9:00 AM - Noon**

UF/IFAS SWFREC
2685 State Rd 29 N
Immokalee FL (239)-658-3400

RSVP - Debra at dcabrera@ufl.edu or 863-674-4092

Websites

Operation Cleansweep provides farmers, nursery operators, golf course operators, and pest control services a safe and economical way to dispose of their cancelled, suspended, and unusable pesticides. For more info, go to http://www.dep.state.fl.us/waste/categories/cleansweep-pesticides/

FDACs Office of Ag Water Policy - BMP Manuals – In addition to the newly revised Ag Row Crop BMP manual you will also find link to enroll in a BMP program. **Note most growers will be required to renew their Notice of Intent.** Go to http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Agricultural-Water-Policy/Enroll-in-BMPs/BMP-Rules-Manuals-and-Other-Documents

Food Safety Modernization Act Final Rule on Produce Safety at
http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/FSMA/ucm334114.htm

Tomato MD phone app from the American Phytopathological Society at
http://www.apsnet.org/apsstore/shopapspress/Pages/apps.aspx

Quotable Quotes

It is easier to fool people than it is to convince them they have been fooled. - Mark Twain

You can observe a lot by looking. - Yogi Berra

The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand. – Vince Lombardi

Make us choose the harder right instead of the easier wrong and never to be content with a half-truth when the whole can be won. – from the West Point Cadet”s Prayer

Teach a person their rights and you will have rebellion. Teach them their responsibility and you will have revival. - Anon

Self-praise is for losers. Be a winner. Stand for something. Always have class, and be humble. - John Madden

You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough. – Mae West

On the Lighter Side

Taxman
By The Beatles

(In recognition of Tax Day April 15)

Let me tell you how it will be
There's one for you, nineteen for me
'Cause I'm the taxman, yeah, I'm the taxman
Should five per cent appear too small
Be thankful I don't take it all
'Cause I'm the taxman, yeah I'm the taxman
If you drive a car, I'll tax the street,
If you try to sit, I'll tax your seat.
If you get too cold I'll tax the heat,
If you take a walk, I'll tax your feet.
Don't ask me what I want it for
If you don't want to pay some more
'Cause I'm the taxman, yeah, I'm the taxman
Now my advice for those who die
Declare the pennies on your eyes
'Cause I'm the taxman, yeah, I'm the taxman
And you're working for no one but me.

Forrest Gump goes to heaven

The day finally arrived. Forrest Gump dies and goes to Heaven. He is at the Pearly Gates, met by St. Peter himself. However, the gates are closed, and Forrest approaches the gatekeeper.

St. Peter said, 'Well, Forrest, it is certainly good to see you. We have heard a lot about you. I must tell you, though, that the place is filling up fast, and we have been administering an entrance examination for everyone. The test is short, but you have to pass it before you can get into Heaven.'

Forrest responds, 'It sure is good to be here, St. Peter, sir. But, nobody ever told me about any entrance exam. I sure hope that the test ain't too hard. Life was a big enough test as it was.'

St. Peter continued, 'Yes, I know, Forrest, but the test is only three questions.

First: What two days of the week begin with the letter T?
Second: How many seconds are there in a year?
Third: What is God's first name?'

Forrest leaves to think the questions over. He returns the next day and sees St. Peter, who waves him up, and says, ‘Now that you have had a chance to think the questions over, tell me your answers'

Forrest replied, 'Well, the first one -- which two days in the week begins with the letter 'T'? Shucks, that one is easy. That would be Today and Tomorrow.'

The Saint's eyes opened wide and he exclaimed, 'Forrest, that is not what I was thinking, but you do have a point, and I guess I did not specify, so I will give you credit for that answer.' 'How about the next one?' asked St. Peter 'How many seconds in a year?

Now that one is harder,' replied Forrest, but I thunk and thunk about that, and I guess the only answer can be twelve.' Astounded, St. Peter said, 'Twelve? Twelve? Forrest, how in Heaven's name could you come up with twelve seconds in a year?'

Forrest replied, 'Shucks, there's got to be twelve: January 2nd, February 2nd, March 2nd ...’

'Hold it,' interrupts St. Peter. 'I see where you are going with this, and I see your point, though that was not quite what I had in mind ... but I will have to give you credit for that one, too. Let us go on with the third and final question.

Can you tell me God's first name'?

'Sure,' Forrest replied, 'it's Andy.' 'Andy?' exclaimed an exasperated and frustrated St Peter.

'Ok, I can understand how you came up with your answers to my first two questions, but just how in the world did you come up with the name Andy as the first name of God?'

'Shucks, that was the easiest one of all,' Forrest replied. 'I learnt it from the song,

'ANDY WALKS WITH ME,
ANDY TALKS WITH ME,
ANDY TELLS ME I AM HIS OWN....’

St. Peter opened the Pearly Gates, and said: 'Run Forrest Run!

Would you like to Dance?

An old woman walked up and tied her old mule to the hitching post, as she stood there, brushing some of the dust from her face and clothes, a young gunslinger stepped out of the saloon with a gun in one hand and a bottle of whiskey in the other. The young gunslinger looked at the old woman and laughed, "Hey old woman, have you ever danced?"

The old woman looked up at the gunslinger and said, "No, I never did dance... never really wanted to."

A crowd had gathered as the gunslinger grinned and said "Well, you old bag, you're gonna dance now," and started shooting at the old woman's feet.

The old woman prospector not wanting to get her toe blown off, started hopping around. Everybody was laughing. When his last bullet had been fired, the young gunslinger, still laughing, holstered his gun and turned around to go back into the saloon.

The old woman turned to her pack mule, pulled out a double-barreled shotgun, and cocked both hammers. The loud clicks carried clearly through the desert air, and the crowd stopped laughing immediately.

The young gunslinger heard the sounds, too, and he turned around very slowly. The silence was almost deafening. The crowd watched as the young gunman stared at the old woman and the large gaping holes of those twin barrels.

The barrels of the shotgun never wavered in the old woman's hands, as she quietly said, "Son, have you ever kissed a mule's ass?"

The gunslinger swallowed hard and said, "No Ma'am... but I've always wanted to.

There are five lessons here for all of us:

1 - Never be arrogant.
2 - Don't waste ammunition.
3 - Whiskey makes you think you're smarter than you are.
4 - Always make sure you know who has the power.
5 - Don't mess with old people; they didn't get old by being stupid.

Note: State and local budgets cuts are threatening to further reduce our funding – if you are receiving currently receiving the hotline by mail and would like to switch over to electronic delivery – just drop me an email. It is much quicker and you will get the hotline within minutes of my completing it and help conserve dwindling resources at the same time. Thanks to those that have already made the switch.

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