



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

June 1, 2012

**Low pressure persisted throughout most of the month of May over the eastern United States, allowed for a moist and unstable south to southwest wind flow over south Florida.** This flow allowed showers and thunderstorms to develop each day mainly over the interior and east coast metro areas.

**The daily cycle of showers and thunderstorms which defines the South Florida rainy season began earlier than normal this year.** This year's rainy season started on Tuesday, May 8th which is almost two weeks earlier than the median start date of May 20th and the earliest start since 2003.

**Total rainfall amounts for the first half of May ranged from 1 to 3 inches over the Gulf Coast to 3 to 5 inches over the eastern metro areas with isolated amounts in excess of 8 inches over portions of Miami-Dade and Broward Counties.**

## FAWN Weather Summary

Date	Air Temp °F		Rainfall (Inches)	Ave Relative Humidity (Percent)	ET (Inches/Day) (Average)
	Min	Max			
<b>Balm</b>					
5/1 – 5/31/12	58.59	95.18	2.05	75	0.18
<b>Belle Glade</b>					
5/1 – 5/31/12	62.46	92.68	3.46	85	0.18
<b>Clewiston</b>					
5/1 – 5/31/12	63.28	93.22	6.09	83	0.17
<b>Ft Lauderdale</b>					
5/1 – 5/31/12	67.62	92.16	14.07	80	0.16
<b>Fort Pierce</b>					
5/1 – 5/31/12	63.23	92.46	5.42	79	0.17
<b>Homestead</b>					
5/1 – 5/31/12	63.7	94.35	10.32	84	0.16
<b>Immokalee</b>					
5/1 – 5/31/12	58.95	95.79	1.09	77	0.18

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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

**Daytime highs have been running into the low to mid 90's most days with night temps in the mid 60's.**

**The season is over for many South Florida Growers with just a week or two remaining for tomatoes in the Manatee Ruskin area and sweet corn growers around Belle Glade.**

**The National Weather Service forecast indicates drier air will spread east and southeast across south Florida through the day Saturday resulting in a general drying pattern.** Temperatures will climb back into the 90's with the warmest conditions expected inland and across the eastern areas with the westerly flow continuing. For the longer term (Monday - Wednesday) sufficient moisture combined with daily sea breeze formation will be enough to result in isolated to scattered storms each afternoon.

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

**Sanitation, Sanitation, Sanitation...**

**Once again as we near the end of the deal, growers are reminded of the importance of sanitation in an integrated pest management program.** Disease and insects do not magically materialize to plague growers. Many require a living host to carry them from one season to another.

**Field sanitation is one of the most important tactics in vegetable pest and disease management.** One of the best things that growers can do for themselves and their neighbors is to clean up crop residues promptly after harvest. Sanitation is an important IPM technique that should not be overlooked as an effective, preventative tool against many vegetable pest and disease problems. Sanitation includes any practice that eradicates or reduces the amount of pathogen inoculum, pests, or weed seeds present and thus helps reduce or eliminate subsequent pest and disease problems.

**Prompt crop destruction at the end of the season will immediately end the production of disease inoculum and insects and eliminate the spread of diseases and pests to any other host plants in the vicinity.** Downy and powdery mildew on melons can spread via wind from older, diseased plants to plants in surrounding fields that are still maturing. These diseases are obligate parasites. This means that they can only grow and multiply on living host tissue. Some plant pathogens, such as the bacterium that causes bacterial spot of tomato and pepper, are unable to survive for extended periods of time outside of the host tissue. Plowing or disking under infected plant debris helps not only by covering up the inoculum but also speeds up the disintegration of plant tissue and kills the pathogen. Good sanitation will help control a number of important vegetable pathogens.

**Cull piles should not be neglected as several scouts over the past few years have reported that they have found both insects and diseases such as TYLCV, late blight, whiteflies and others in volunteer plants springing up around cull piles.**

**Soil tillage can destroy insects and expose them to birds and other predators. It can also speed the breakdown of plant residues that harbor insects and plant pathogens.** By either allowing the organic matter in a field to decompose completely before you plant the next crop and /or allowing a fallow period between crops, you can enhance the control of a number of insects and diseases.

**Destruction of tomato vines will kill off white fly populations and eliminate transmission of the tomato yellow leaf curl virus to subsequent crops and also eliminate inoculum from late blight and other fungal diseases.** This is particularly important in the case of TYLCV, as sanitation, a crop free period, and whitefly control are the only tools currently available for the management of this disease.

**A crop-free period is also considered a necessity for the control of a number of other important vegetable pests such as pepper weevil, tomato pinworm, and *Thrips palmi* and is recommended for management of all vegetable pests.**

**A little extra effort spent in cleaning up old fields at the end of the season may well prevent or reduce a number of potential problems next fall!**

**Summer weed management can be a challenge and will become increasingly important in the post-methyl bromide era.** Growers should check field margins to make sure that pest species are not building up there and migrating out into cropping areas. Many insects over summer on weeds, so efforts to control them can be profitable by reducing their movement into the crops next growing season.

**Weeds are also known reservoirs of nematodes as well as a number of viral, fungal and bacterial pathogens.** Weeds and volunteers should be removed to prevent the survival and over-summering of pathogens that could serve as inoculum reservoirs for the next crop. Techniques such as mowing off pepper should not be relied upon as this often results in re-sprouts, which can harbor pests and disease problems over summer.

**The use of cover crops and summer fallowing of fields are also effective tools in reducing weed populations that can cause problems in the subsequent crop.** The role of summer fallow in weed management is often overlooked and again promises to become more important in the absence of methyl bromide as a component of a comprehensive methyl bromide alternative strategy. Summer fallow keeps new weed seeds from being added to the soil seed-bank. It also reduces the increases in asexual propagated plants such as nutsedge. Yellow nutsedge can put out 70 new tubers (nuts) every two months. Keeping the weeds from propagating will reduce the weed problems encountered during the next cropping season and help reduce insects and diseases that may over summer in weedy fields.

**Chemical fallowing is a twist on the traditional method of fallowing that depends on disking fields throughout the summer period to reduce weed pressure in subsequent crops.** One approach uses glyphosate to kill weeds during the crop free period. Note with some combinations of high use rates, heavy weed infestation, soil fumigation, short plant back times and other factors growers have experienced carryover resulting in phytotoxicity and plant damage in subsequent crops on sandy soils.

**Cover crops planted prior to the main cash crop can also improve soil fertility and provide a valuable source of organic matter.**

**With pending new regulations for fumigants, building soil organic matter content with summer cover crops can help provide credit which will allow reductions in the proposed required buffer zones which will come into effect in 2012-13.** For example by raising soil organic content to the 1 - 2 % level in the fumigated block you can reduce buffer zones by 20%, increase soil organic content to 2 - 3 % and you get a 30% buffer zone reduction.

**When devising a crop rotation strategy, a grower should also be aware of which crops and cover crops might increase disease problems.** Sunn hemp can increase soil populations of *Pythium* and *Rhizoctonia* damping-off fungi. Some varieties of cowpea may host root-knot nematode. These factors should be considered before selecting a cover crop.

**Soil solarization is the use of plastic tarps placed on the soil surface to increase soil temperatures to a level that kills soilborne pathogens, weeds, and other crop pests.** Soil solarization works best when summer temperatures are uniformly high. These conditions don't always occur in Florida. Soil solarization will not eradicate a pathogen from a field, but it may lower pathogen populations.

**Soil flooding is a related means of creating conditions—in this case, saturated soil over an extended period - that might result in a decline of soil-borne pathogens.**

**Integrated pest and disease management is a year round commitment that should incorporate a combination of cultural, biological and chemical pest management techniques.**

## **News You Can Use**

### **Early Start to the 2012 Rainy Season**

The daily cycle of showers and thunderstorms which defines the South Florida rainy season began earlier than normal this year. This year's rainy season started on Tuesday, May 8th which is almost two weeks earlier than the median start date of May 20th and the earliest start since 2003.

The rainy season start date is determined as the date when showers and thunderstorms increase in coverage and intensity over much of the south Florida peninsula and continue to develop on a daily basis thereafter, only interrupted by short episodes of dry weather lasting no more than a few days. An increase in atmospheric moisture and instability is the main cause of the daily showers and thunderstorms. This year's rainy season start was aided by a trough in the mid to upper levels of the atmosphere which added to the instability in the atmosphere during the past week.

Despite the early start to this year's rainy season, not all areas have received equal amounts of rain. While portions of the interior and east coast have received heavy rainfall during the past week, areas near the Gulf coast have seen less rain. This is due to the prevailing wind flow which has been out of the west and focused most of the showers and thunderstorms well inland of the Gulf coast. Nevertheless, a shift to more easterly winds along with the already-present moisture and instability would bring increased rainfall to these areas.

### **Improved drought conditions continue for the Eastern and Lake Okeechobee areas of South Florida**

Low pressure persisted throughout most of the month of May over the eastern United States, allowing for a moist and unstable south to southwest wind flow over South Florida. This flow allowed showers and thunderstorms to develop each day mainly over the interior and east coast metro areas. Total rainfall amounts for the first half of May ranged from 1 to 3 inches over the Gulf Coast to 3 to 5 inches over the eastern metro areas with isolated amounts in excess of 8 inches over portions of Miami-Dade and Broward counties.

Rainfall in the first half of May resulted in improvement to the drought conditions across the interior and East Coast metro areas. Moderate drought conditions are presently in place over Glades and Hendry counties as well as western sections of Palm Beach and northern Collier County. Abnormally dry conditions exist for the remainder of Collier County.

### **Hydrological Impacts**

The water level in wells over the East Coast metro areas has increased to 10 to 30 percent above normal levels while the interior and gulf coast have remained near normal levels. The water level in Glades and Hendry county wells were still at the lowest 10 to 30 percent of normal levels.

The underground water reservoirs in Palm Beach County were around 16.3 feet which is 2 feet above normal. In Broward County, the reservoirs were around 11.9 feet which is 1 foot above normal. In Miami Dade County, the underground water reservoirs were around 9.5 feet...which is 0.9 feet above normal.

The level of Lake Okeechobee was around 11.76 feet as of May 23, which was about 1.40 feet below the normal level of 13.16 feet. The level of Fisheating Creek was 0.2 feet as of May 24, which was around 1 foot below the normal level of 1.2 feet for this time of year.

### **Downy Mildew Resistant Cucumber**

Cucumber farmers in the U.S. and Canada will have new hybrid options that help protect against damaging downy mildew.

Seminis® seed brand will offer growers two downy mildew resistant cucumber varieties: SV3462CS and SV4719CS, which will be offered exclusively with FarMore® F1400 Cucumber Technology from Syngenta Seed Care. The proprietary seed protection system provides superior fungal disease and insect control while working to maximize cucumber production value by enhancing performance and quality. (Plant Management Network, Plant Health Progress, 4/20/12)

### **New Biopesticide in the Works**

Researchers at Montana State University-Bozeman (MSU) have discovered a bacterium that could control a variety of plant diseases and are working to develop and commercialize it by early 2013. The product will be based on *Bacillus mycoides* isolate J, which itself is a naturally occurring, nonpathogenic bacterium that triggers a plant's immune response to pathogenic fungi, bacteria and viruses resulting in systemic acquired resistance to diseases.

MSU scientist Barry Jacobsen first discovered the bacterium in 1994 when a field of sugar beet crops in Sidney, MT had been devastated and nearly wiped out due to *Cercospora* leaf spot. Area farmers were spending millions of dollars on aerial applications of fungicides to fight the disease, but were losing the battle due to resistance. Dr. Jacobsen and his team of researchers looked to the few surviving plants to find out what enabled them to ward off the fungal disease. The researchers isolated over 300 bacteria found on the healthy leaves, and found that one *Bacillus mycoides* isolate J had the ability to fight the leaf spot. It works by turning on one particular gene, the NPR1 gene, which is found in most plants and most food crops except for peanuts. When this gene is turned on, it triggers the plant's immune response, setting in motion a whole range of defenses for the plant.

“Within five minutes of that bacillus spore being on the plant leaf, the plant knows it's there and it starts its defense reactions,” said Dr. Jacobsen. “It reacts by producing hydrogen peroxide and some other things and this thickens cell walls and makes it more difficult for a pathogen to infect. Within a day it starts to produce enzymes that attack fungi and bacteria. And it's very effective on viruses as well, but so far we don't understand how that happens.” The bacterium need only be sprinkled on any location of the plant for the NPR1 gene to activate throughout the entire plant. (MSU News Service, 3/8/12).

### **Pesticide Potpourri**

- On April 5, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) registered the microbial pesticide product *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* strain D-747 (Double Nickel 55®) for control of fungi and bacteria in outdoor agricultural crops, greenhouses, nurseries, shadehouses, ornamentals, and turfgrass. The EPA registration number for the Certis USA, LLC product is 70051-108. (FDACS PREC Agenda, 5/3/12).
- On April 16, the FDACS registered the fungicide penthiopyrad (Fontelis®) to control diseases on fruiting vegetables, cucurbits, peanut, legumes, and other crops. The EPA registration number for the DuPont product is 352-834. (FDACS PREC Agenda, 5/3/12)

- Based on a request by IR-4, the EPA has approved tolerances for the miticide acequinocyl (Kanemite®/Shuttle®). Tolerances of importance to the region include succulent shelled bean, cucumber, cowpea hay and forage, small climbing fruit, (subgroup 13-07F), melons (subgroup 9A), and edamame (succulent soybean vegetable). (Federal Register, 5/2/12).
- Based on a request by Mitsui Chemical Agro, Inc., the EPA has approved tolerances for the fungicide penthiopyrad. Tolerances of importance to the region include brassica head and stem (subgroup 5A), brassica leafy greens (subgroups 5B), sweet/pop/field corn stover, grain, and forage (or whole cob husk removed for sweet corn), cotton, pecan, peanut, rye, sorghum, bulb vegetables (group 3-07), cucurbit vegetables (group 9), foliage/pods/vines of legumes (groups 6A/6B/7), fruiting vegetables (group 8), leafy vegetables except brassica (group 4), leaves of roots and tubers (group 2), root and tuber/corm vegetables except sugar beet (subgroups 1B/1C), and tomato paste. (Federal Register, 3/9/12).
- Based on a request by Syngenta Crop Protection, the EPA has approved tolerances for the insecticide thiamethoxam (Actara®/Centric®). Tolerances of importance to the region include avocado, green bean, brassica head and stem (subgroup 5A), brassica leafy greens (subgroups 5B), blueberry, canistel, citrus (group 10), sweet/pop/field corn stover, grain, and forage (or whole cob husk removed for sweet corn), small vine fruits (subgroup 13-07F), stone fruit (group 12), mango, peanut, potato, rye, sapodilla, mamey and black sapote, sorghum, star apple, cucurbit vegetables (group 9), legume vegetables (group 6), fruiting vegetables (group 8), leafy vegetables except brassica (group 4), tuber and corm vegetables except potato (subgroup 1D), root vegetables (subgroup 1A), and tomato paste. (Federal Register, 3/2/12).

## Up Coming Meetings

**June 3-6, 2012**

### **Florida State Horticulture Society Annual Meeting**

Delray Beach Marriott - Beach Resort  
Delray Beach, Florida

<http://fshs.org/meetings.shtml>

**June 7, 2011**

### **Pesticide License Applicator Training and Testing**

CORE 7:45 AM – 12 Noon  
Private 1 PM - 5 PM

UF/IFAS Hendry County Extension Office  
1085 Pratt Boulevard  
LaBelle, Florida

Call 863-674-4092 to RSVP or more information.

**June 7, 2011**

### **Pesticide License Applicator Training and Testing**

Row/Tree Crop 7:45 AM – 12 Noon  
Aquatic 1 PM - 5 PM

UF/IFAS Hendry County Extension Office  
1085 Pratt Boulevard  
LaBelle, Florida

Call 863-674-4092 to RSVP or more information.

**June 13- 16, 2012**

**Florida Seed Association 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

Pink Shell Resort  
Fort Myers Beach, Florida

Contact Arlen Wood for registration info - 863-698-6879 or awood@seedway.com

**June 22, 2012**

**Spanish Core Pesticide Training and Exam 8:00am-3:00pm**

UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center  
Wimauma, Florida

Agenda and registration available here: <http://spanishcore6-22-12.eventbrite.com/>

**June 29, 2012**

**Spanish Private Applicator Pesticide Training and Exam 8:00am-3:00pm**

UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research and Education Center  
Wimauma, Florida

Agenda and registration available here: <http://spanishprv6-29-12.eventbrite.com/> or  
Please Call Crystal or Jennifer at (941)722-4524 with any questions you may have.

**July 29- 29, 2012**

**Florida Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises Conference.**

Kissimmee, Florida

<http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/smallfarms/agenda.html>

**November 4-6, 2012**

**21st International Pepper Conference**

Naples Grande  
Naples, Florida

For more information, go to <http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/pepper2012/>

**Opportunities**

**Biological Scientist - UF/IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center in Immokalee**

Biological Scientist – This is a professional biologist position for field and laboratory work. Responsible for carrying out day-to-day activities in support of the Vegetable Horticulturist’s research and extension program, in the major vegetable production areas in South Florida, housed at the University of Florida’s Southwest Florida Research and Education Center in Immokalee.

Minimum qualifications are a Bachelor’s degree in horticulture or other related discipline and one year of appropriate experience. This position includes full health and retirement benefits, salary commensurate with experience.

To apply, complete the on-line University of Florida application at <https://jobs.ufl.edu/> (requisition #0900791).  
Deadline for application is June 30, 2012.

**Tomato Product Advancement Specialist I-** Lipman Research & Development is seeking a highly skilled plant scientist to serve as Product Advancement Specialist for our fresh market tomato breeding program located near Fort Myers, FL. This is a great opportunity to learn many facets of vegetable research and development, production and distribution. You will be involved in a challenging array of crop related duties including the execution and oversight of daily field and lab experiments designed to evaluate a broad range of unique experimental tomato products.

Responsibilities include but are not limited to field trial establishment, harvest operations, data collection and analysis, fruit evaluation, sampling, product transport, reporting of results, and labor management.

This position will report to and work closely with the Director of Breeding and R&D staff. Qualifications include a Bachelor's degree in Horticulture, Agronomy, Pathology, Entomology or related field with hands-on experience in a breeding or agricultural research program desirable.

Applicant must be bilingual and able to give detailed instructions in Spanish/English. Strong problem solving and multitasking skills are essential. Periodic domestic/seasonal travel to various farming sites will be required.

Working environments include field, laboratory and packing house.

Lipman R&D offers a competitive salary, attractive benefits package and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

To apply, send resume/vitae and a cover letter indicating the position of interest to: Human Resources Director, Lipman Produce, P.O. Box 3088, Immokalee, FL 34143. Fax (239)-657-9764 or preferably e-mail to: maria.jimenez@lipmanproduce.com

## **Research Aide**

Location: Immokalee, Florida

Harris Moran Seed Company brings vegetable seed products to the world. Committed to innovation and inspired by worldwide partnerships in scientific, industrial and commercial fields, we develop vegetable seeds for markets in more than 65 countries across the globe. Harris Moran Seed Company is part of the HM.Clause business unit entity, which belongs to Limagrains, an international cooperative headquartered in France. If you are a qualified applicant interested in working in a fast-paced, culturally diverse team environment, we invite you to take a close look at our job opportunities.

The Research Aide will act as team leader and support the day to day breeding activities for the Florida fresh market tomato breeding program. With daily supervision from Research Assistants, Associates and/or Plant Breeders, the primary responsibilities for this position will include:

- Seeding, transplanting and cultural care of tomatoes for greenhouse and field breeding purposes.
- Seed processing including harvesting, seed extraction and packaging.
- Greenhouse plant care and pollination of tomatoes for hybrid seed production.
- Supervising seasonal employees for field harvest and variety evaluation.
- Collecting data and providing reports on the data collected.
- Ensuring the accuracy of seed and field plot labeling.
- May work in the field, greenhouse, lab, office and other work environments required by the position.
- Other duties may be assigned as needed.

Qualifications:



- High school diploma with seed industry experience and/or associates degree in agriculture.
- Bilingual in English/Spanish.
- Great interpersonal and collaboration skills.
- Basic computer skills in Microsoft Office, Internet Explorer and any email application.
- Must be detail oriented and able to perform accurate data entry.
- Must be able to travel occasionally.
- Must be able to lift 50 pounds.
- Must be able to work in adverse weather conditions.

Harris Moran is an "at will" employer.  
 Equal Opportunity Employer.  
 Drug Free Workplace.

Send resume and salary history to:  
 Harris Moran  
 PO Box 4938  
 Modesto CA 95352  
 USA  
 or by e-mail to: [hr@hmclause.com](mailto:hr@hmclause.com)

### **Growers Wanted**

Custom Pak which is a division of the 6 L's company (Lipman Produce) is looking for grower contacts in south Florida to purchase the following commodities:

- Watermelon
- Canteloupe
- Honeydew
- Butternut Squash
- Pumpkin

Custom Pak is also actively looking to contract/buy from Florida growers for this coming season and going forward.

For more information, contact Peter Cicero

Email: [Peter.Cicero@LipmanProduce.com](mailto:Peter.Cicero@LipmanProduce.com) or phone: 330-240-3019

### **Farm Land for Lease**

Farm Land for lease in LaBelle area – contact Clyde Lavender at 863-673-2338

Farm Land for lease on Babcock Ranch, Hwy 31, Charlotte County. Rotational fields or permanent locations, phone 941-639-3958

### **Websites**

**The EPA Pesticide Product Label System (PPLS)** provides a collection of pesticide product labels (Adobe PDF format) that have been approved by EPA under Section 3 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). – go to <http://oaspub.epa.gov/apex/pesticides/f?p=PPLS:1>

**The University of Florida - a Grand Example of the Land-Grant University.** One year, four months and 17 days before Abraham Lincoln addressed a war-weary crowd at the dedication of a cemetery in Gettysburg, the President signed legislation that made an immediate and everlasting impact on the way people experience their lives. The Morrill Act established the land-grant university system and essentially initiated what could be defined as "The Education Revolution" that thrives to this day.

Some of the most highly regarded universities in the nation are land-grant institutions. The University of Florida is proud to be one of them. – see <http://landgrant.ufl.edu/>

**Land Grant University of Florida video** – check it out at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q6d1Zy7EkFA>

**SW Florida Vegetable Grower Facebook Page** providing up-to-date news for vegetable growers and industry reps on the go! Become a friend - <http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/pages/SW-Florida-Vegetable-Grower/149291468443385>

### **Quotable Quotes**

Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be. - Abraham Lincoln

He who has a thousand friends has not a friend to spare, and he who has one enemy will meet him everywhere. - Ali ibn-Abi-Talib

You can make more friends in two months by becoming interested in other people than you can in two years by trying to get other people interested in you. - Dale Carnegie

No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted. - Aesop

If people concentrated on the really important things in life, there'd be a shortage of fishing poles. - Doug Larson

Hell hath no fury like a bureaucrat scorned. - Milton Friedman

### **On the Lighter Side**

#### **Southerner**

You are a Southerner if understand these truths.

A possum is a flat animal that sleeps in the middle of the road.

There are 5,000 types of snakes and 4,998 of them live in the South.

There are 10,000 types of spiders. All 10,000 of them live in the South, plus a couple no one's seen before.

If it grows, it'll stick ya. If it crawls, it'll bite cha.

Onced and Twiced are words.

It is not a shopping cart, it is a buggy!

Jawl-P? Means, did you all go to the bathroom?

People actually grow, eat and like okra.

Fixinto is one word. It means I'm going to do that.

There is no such thing as lunch. There is only dinner and then there's supper.

Iced tea is appropriate for all meals and you start drinking it when you're two. We do like a little tea with our sugar. It is referred to as the Wine of the South.

Backwards and forwards means I know everything about you.

The word jeet is actually a question meaning, 'Did you eat?'

You don't have to wear a watch, because it doesn't matter what time it is, you work until you're done or it's too dark to see.

You don't PUSH buttons, you MASH em.

Ya'll is singular. All ya'll is plural.

All the festivals across the state are named after a fruit, vegetable, grain, insect, or animal.

You carry jumper cables in your car - for your OWN car.

You only own five spices: salt, pepper, mustard, Tabasco and ketchup.

The local papers cover national and international news on one page, but require 6 pages for local high school sports, the motor sports, and gossip.

Everyone you meet is a Honey, Sugar, Miss(first name) or Mr.(first name)

You think that the first day of deer season is a national holiday.

You know what a hissy fit is.

Fried catfish is the other white meat.

We don't need no dang Driver's Ed. If our mama says we can drive, we can drive!!!

### **Worms in Church - Four worms and a lesson to be learned!!!!**

A minister decided that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to his Sunday sermon.

Four worms were placed into four separate jars.

The first worm was put into a container of alcohol.

The second worm was put into a container of cigarette smoke.

The third worm was put into a container of chocolate syrup.

The fourth worm was put into a container of good clean soil.

At the conclusion of the sermon, the Minister reported the following results:

The first worm in alcohol...Dead.  
The second worm in cigarette smoke...Dead.  
Third worm in chocolate syrup...Dead.  
Fourth worm in good clean soil...Alive.

So the Minister asked the congregation, “What did you learn from this demonstration?”

An old woman was sitting in the back, quickly raised her hand and said, “As long as you drink, smoke and eat chocolate, you won't have worms!”

That pretty much ended the service!

**HOPE YOU have a GREAT SUMMER  
and that you manage to get some well-deserved REST and RECREATION!**

**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.**

**Contributors** include: Joel Allingham/AgriCare, Inc, Jeff Bechtel/Syngenta Flowers, Bruce Corbitt/West Coast Tomato Growers, Gordon DeCou/Agri Tech Services Of Bradenton, Fred Heald/Farmers Supply, Sarah Hornsby/AgCropCon, Cecil Howell/H & R Farms, Bruce Johnson/General Crop Management, Barry Kostyk/SWFREC, Dr. Mary Lamberts/Miami-Dade County Extension, Leon Lucas/Glades Crop Care, Chris Miller/Glades Crop Care, Mark Mossler/UF/IFAS Pesticide Information Office, Gene McAvoy/Hendry County Extension, Alice McGhee/Thomas Produce, Dr. Gregg Nuessly/EREC Chuck Obern/C&B Farm, Dr. Monica Ozores-Hampton/SWFREC, Dr. Ken Pernezny/EREC, Dr. Rick Raid/ EREC, Dr Ron Rice/Palm Beach County Extension, Dr Pam Roberts/SWFREC, Dr. Nancy Roe/Farming Systems Research, Wes Roan/6 L's, Dr. Dak Seal/ TREC, Kevin Seitzinger/Gargiulo, Ken Shuler/Stephen's Produce, Crystal Snodgrass/Manatee County Extension, Dr. Phil Stansly/SWFREC, Dr Gary Vallad/GCREC , Mark Verbeck/GulfCoast Ag, Alicia Whidden/Hillsborough County Extension, Dr Henry Yonce/KAC Ag Research and Dr. Shouan Zhang/TREC.

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.

**Note: the hotline will resume publication for the 2012-13 South Florida Vegetable Season in September.**

Gene McAvoy  
County Extension Director / Extension Agent IV  
Regional Specialized Agent - Vegetables/Ornamental Horticulture

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