An earlier than normal cold front that crossed over south Florida on September 19 - 20 bought with it slightly cooler temperatures and drier conditions just in time for the first day of fall. Although temps only fell a few degrees and may have been missed by newcomers to the Sunshine State, it sure felt good.

Rainfall has been variable across the region with many places experiencing a dramatic decrease in precipitation compared to the near daily downpours, which characterized much of the early part of September. Other areas report receiving rain nearly everyday for the past three weeks with accumulations of over 20 inches since the season began. As is typical on the sandy soils of South Florida, many areas dried out rapidly where the rains have slowed. In a number of areas, growers who had been actively pumping water off fields a few weeks ago report they are now irrigating crops and pumping water into fields to create favorable conditions for land preparation.

Temperatures averaged near normal with daytime highs in most locations reaching into the upper 80’s and low 90’s. Nighttime temperatures have been fairly pleasant dipping in the 60’s and 70’s. Cooler night temperatures are much welcome and should help improve fruit set.

FAWN Weather Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Air Temp °F</th>
<th>Rainfall (Inches)</th>
<th>Hours Below Certain Temperature (hours)</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Min</td>
<td>Max</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balm</td>
<td>9/15 – 9/28/06</td>
<td>59.5</td>
<td>89.1</td>
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<td>Ft Lauderdale</td>
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<td>9/15 – 9/28/06</td>
<td>67.8</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immokalee</td>
<td>9/15 – 9/28/06</td>
<td>68.1</td>
<td>92.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Field preparation and planting is in full swing across South Florida. Around Homestead, tomato, bean and corn planting is gaining pace. Strawberry planting in Hillsborough County will start next week. Fieldwork and planting is continuing with most areas on schedule and early crops look good.

The short-term forecast from the National Weather Service in Miami indicates the front, which moved over South Florida yesterday will wash out tonight as another cold front over the Southeast works into the area on Saturday.

The second front will then wash out Saturday night into Sunday, as high pressure builds into the southeast US from the central plain states. This will keep winds from the northeast and provide for breezy conditions by Sunday night.

The high will remain nearly stationary through most of next week while strengthening. A trough of low pressure will remain over the western Caribbean Sea through most of next week. This will allow for the pressure gradient to tighten up over the next week...and allow for windy conditions over the east coast areas and breezy over rest of the area. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms could develop over the Atlantic push west through the week. For additional information, visit the National Weather Service in Miami website at http://www.srh.noaa.gov/mfl/newpage/index.html

Insects

Whiteflies

Respondents on the East Coast report mostly low whitefly numbers with some exceptions being noted. Around St Lucie County reports indicate that significant numbers of adults whitefly appear to be blowing into new planting from other areas/hosts. Counts in Palm Beach are mostly low with some nymphs beginning to show in the oldest plantings.

Growers and scouts around Immokalee are reporting scattered whiteflies are running slightly higher than normal for this early in the season but note that counts have declined in recent days.

Reports from the Ruskin area indicate whitefly adult numbers are still quite low in most locations. In spite of this, virus has been higher than expected in some fields, but the daily increase in virus that we were seeing is slowing somewhat. Immatures are increasing as the Admire/Platinum wears off.

Around Homestead, reports indicate that early tomato and beans already under whitefly pressure. Whitefly numbers have been relatively low but apparently are already spreading virus as the first report of TYLCV is from in a field just three weeks old

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

Worms

Respondents from Manatee County report that armyworms are on the increase. Worm pressure in general is increasing, including southern armyworms, hornworms, fruitworms, loopers.

Around Southwest Florida, worm numbers have been low levels even below normal with growers reporting a smattering of fruitworms, loopers, southern and beet armyworms and hornworms depending on the location. Some organic producers have reported problems controlling beet armyworms.
Reports from the East Coast indicate no serious worm pressure anywhere with only few beet armyworms showing in most places.

Around the Glades respondents indicate that no fall armyworm populations above 10% have been observed, and this is on corn that is at the 6-7-leaf stage. They note that this is lower than normal for fall corn, and are optimistic that fall armyworm pressure might be lower than normal this fall.

**Chili Thrips**

FDAC’s reports that Chili thrips was found on Citrus spp. in a Hendry County retail establishment. A quarantine is in place along with orders to treat or destroy the product.

*Scirtothrips dorsalis* is a significant pest of chili pepper, citrus, castor, cotton, onion and other crops in tropical and subtropical regions of Asia, Africa Eastern Europe, Oceania, and Japan. Over the past few months, the presence of *S. dorsalis* was confirmed in Florida in 16 counties from Alachua to Monroe on plants ranging from ornamentals to citrus and pepper.

This pest is polyphagous and feeds on a variety of wild and cultivated plants including many fruits and vegetables grown in Florida. *Scirtothrips dorsalis* feeds on new growth of nearly all vegetative plant parts of host plants including buds, leaves, flowers, fruits and stems. Feeding deforms young leaves and stains or scars fruits.

Feeding on the surface of young plant tissues creates wounds, which initially appear shiny and silver and become yellow to greenish-brown. Flowers become brown and wilted in appearance. Under dry weather conditions, population densities tend to increase, and heavier feeding damage results. Symptoms of feeding are also more pronounced and appear more quickly when plants are water stressed.

*Scirtothrips dorsalis* is a pest of economic importance in citrus growing regions of Asia, where feeding by piercing, sucking mouthparts can cause significant leaf and flower deformation, fruit damage, and yield reduction. *Scirtothrips dorsalis* is also an economically important pest of chili pepper; where feeding can wilt, distort, or stunt young leaves/shoots and cause premature leaf, bud or flower drop. In some varieties of chili peppers, 75% of leaves may be deformed due to the activity of piercing-sucking insects. Yield losses attributed to *S. dorsalis* in chili pepper range from 20% to nearly 50%. The insect may also vector of tomato spotted wilt virus.

For more info, go to [http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/lso/thripslinks.htm](http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/lso/thripslinks.htm)

**Broad Mites**

Reports from Palm Beach and other east Coast Counties indicate that broadmites are starting to build in older pepper.

Around Ruskin, broadmites are being reported in pepper plants, showing the typical new leaf distortion.

In Hillsborough County reports indicate that broad mites are starting to showing up in large numbers on pepper in some fields.

Respondents in SW Florida indicate that broadmite and beginning to flare up in pepper and are also present on eggplant in a number of locations.
Asian Gray Weevil

Sources on the East Coast report an incidence of Asian gray weevil (*Myllocerus undatus*) causing problems on edible soybeans. This weevil is a recent invader from Asia that was first reported in Florida in 2000 and has since become established in a number of counties in Southern Florida and has been reported on over 68 different host plants. These weevils have also been found in the Clewiston area recently causing damage to ornamental plants.

Leafminer

A few early leafminer are beginning to show up at very low numbers across the area.

Diseases

Bacterial Spot

Around Immokalee, bacterial spot is present in pepper and tomato with some older planting exhibiting low to moderate incidence and occurrence. Many younger plantings are still clean.

Respondents in the Ruskin area report that bacterial spot is the major disease problem on tomato at the moment and can be found in just about every field at varying degrees of severity and indicate that pressure is not likely to subside until this morning leaf wetness ends along with the showers. In Hillsborough County reports indicate that Cool, dry weather would likely do more than any fungicides growers are spraying. Bacterial spot is also moving into peppers following recent rains.

East Coast producers report that bacterial spot remains low in pepper and tomato and note that it has not been spreading aggressively where present.

Around Homestead growers and scouts report low but increasing levels of bacteria on both tomato and beans.

Bacterial spot is caused by the bacterium, *Xanthomonas campestris pv vesicatoria*. Entry into the plant occurs through stomata or wounds made by wind driven soil, insects, or cultural operations. Bacterial spot can be seed transmitted, but most inocula comes from volunteers or infected plant debris in the soil. Temperatures of 75-87°F are ideal for bacterial spot but infections can occur at higher or lower temperatures.

Symptoms of bacterial spot appear as small, water-soaked, greasy spots on infected leaflets. On tomatoes, distinct spots with or without yellowing occur. Individual leaf spots may coalesce with each other, resulting in the browning of entire leaflets. Fruit spots often begin as dark specks with or without a white halo. As spots enlarge, they become raised and scab-like.

In pepper, symptoms are similar to those in tomato, except that spots may be lighter in color and fruit lesions may appear blistered. In mature plants, leaflet infection is most concentrated on older leaves and defoliation may occur in severe infections. Positive diagnosis requires lab tests as other diseases may cause symptoms that appear similar to those of bacterial spot.

An integrated approach is needed to manage this disease. Sanitation is important. Pepper and tomato volunteers and solanaceous weeds should be destroyed between crops. Transplant houses should be located away from tomato or pepper fields. Purchase only certified disease-free transplants.
Since water movement spreads the bacteria from diseased to healthy plants, workers and farm equipment should be kept out of fields when fields are wet because the disease will spread readily under wet conditions.

There are commercial pepper varieties that are resistant to races 1, 2, 3, and 5 but researchers have identified no fewer than ten different races of *Xanthomonas campestris*. Since no variety incorporates resistance to all known races, it is important that growers use varieties that have resistance to races that occur in their area. No resistant tomato varieties are available commercially.

**It is important to apply sprays before and during rainy periods.** If conditions are favorable, frequent spraying may not be sufficient to maintain bacterial spot below damaging levels.

The traditional recommendation for bacterial spot control consists of copper and maneb or mancozeb. Attention to application techniques is as important as choice of material in achieving adequate control. The effectiveness of copper is limited, because of the widespread occurrence of copper tolerance among strains of *X. campestris* pv. *vesicatoria*.

There is some indication that the use of organosilicate adjuvants and applications of magnesium might increase the incidence and severity of bacterial spot infections.

In the past few years a number of new products have come on the market that have given good results in research trials when used in rotation with traditional controls. These include Tanos (Dupont) as well as the SAR elicitor Actigard (Syngenta), and Serenade (AgraQuest).

Over the past few years, some growers and researchers have experienced success with the bacteriophage (bacterial virus) AgriPhage (Omnilytics) for the control of bacterial spot.

A number of growers have also reported good results using Oxidate (Biosafe Systems) as a sanitizing agent following cultural operations or weather events favoring the development and spread of the disease. In all cases it is important to be proactive and practice preventative management, as it is far easier to control the disease before it becomes widely established in the field.

**Pythium**

Growers and scouts around Manatee County report scattered problems with aerial pythium in scattered locations, especially on older plants.

In the Immokalee area, growers also report scattered problems with pythium on pepper and tomato. Occurrence is patchy and confined mainly to wet spots. Some plant loss has been reported.

Growers in Palm Beach and Martin counties are also reporting some scattered problems with the disease.

**TYLCV**

Growers and scouts in Palmetto Ruskin report that TYLCV remains one of the major problems this season. Phyllis Gilreath reports that while growers thought they had done a better job cleaning up earlier after the spring crop, apparently the host free period was not long enough and/or there are additional hosts out there that we still don’t know about. Although whitley adult numbers are still quite low in most locations, virus has been higher than expected in some fields in spite of the low whitefly counts, but reports indicate that the daily increase in virus that we were seeing is slowing somewhat.
Reports from Hillsborough County indicate variable incidence and occurrence of TYLCV depending on the location ranging from some fields with 40-60% infection rate and some fields at 10% or less.

Around Immokalee TYLCV has been detected in a few scattered locations but remains at very low levels.

Respondents on the east Coast report mostly very low TYLCV levels with the exception of some locations around St Lucie County where whitefly number and virus has been higher. Some reports of infected transplants apparently originating in the greenhouse have also been received.

First reports of TYLCV on tomato have been confirmed in Homestead. Occurrence is extremely limited at present. Reports indicate that while whitefly numbers have been relatively low but they are apparently already spreading virus, which may not bode well for this early in the season! There has been some speculation that lack of strong storms and a relatively dry summer probably allowed more whiteflies to survive on okra, weed hosts, and such ornamentals as hibiscus.

**Southern Blight**

Southern blight has been reported from a number of locations around Manatee County. Respondents report that this season affected plants are not only in the usual wet, tail end areas where one typically expects to find it, but also in drier areas of the fields and somewhat earlier than expected. The outbreak seems to be scattered in blocks that are dry and likely has to do with the frequent rains that have been seen in many areas over the last month. While some of this blight is just starting to show up, much of it has been around for the last 2-3 weeks. It is also being seen on white, silver and metalized plastic, regardless of the rate of methyl bromide used.

Respondents on the East Coast note scattered problems with southern blight. Some have indicated that incidence seems to be higher where low rates of methyl bromide where used under metalized mulch.

Around Southwest Florida, low levels of southern blight have been reported in scattered locations.

**Phytophthora**

Growers and scouts around Palm Beach County are reporting some problems with Phytophthora, mostly in older pepper plants that has seen a lot of rain.

**Choanephora wet rot**

Choanephora wet rot has been detected in a few older pepper fields around Immokalee.

Wet rot has also been reported on some early beans in Palm Beach County.

**News You Can Use**

**El Niño Returns and Will Impact on Agriculture in the Southeast**

El Niño has returned for the first time since 2003 and will have substantial impacts on our climate for the next 3-6 months. It appears that El Niño has returned for the first time since the weak event of 2002-2003. Unusually warm sea surface temperatures began to appear along the equator around the International Date Line in July and have since spread all the way to the coast of South America. The spread of unusually warm water has taken on the traditional El Niño pattern in the last two weeks. It is very likely that the current El Niño will intensify further and last through the winter of 2007.
Since the current forecast calls for a weak event again, its effects may be less evident than during a normal or strong El Niño event such as the ones of 1982-83 and 1997-98. It is important to remember that for the portions of the Southeast United States (Florida, the coastal plains of Alabama and Georgia) El Niño brings very wet and cool winter and spring seasons. El Niño is also known to be associated with a relatively inactive tropical hurricane season. We believe that now is a good opportunity to review some of the implications that El Niño has on our agricultural industry.

**Effect on Winter Vegetables** - Tomato and green peppers generally yield less during El Niño years than during Neutral or La Niña years. Most soil-borne pathogens and fruit quality problems increase in El Niño years. Fruit quality problems like gray wall are also more prevalent in El Niño years.

**What does El Niño mean for the Southeast in the near future?** While this El Niño event began a little later in the year than most warm events, summer/fall is the usual development season when sea surface temperatures may rise and spread across the Pacific. El Niño normally reaches peak intensity and coverage in the winter months. Because of this seasonality of El Niño, the first impact felt in the Southeast U.S. is the relative inactivity of the hurricane season. In spite of predictions to the contrary, 2006 has so far been a quiet tropical season and many are blaming the developing El Niño. El Niño is known to create an environment of high shear (winds changing with height) over hurricane formation regions in the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico that hinders hurricane development. With El Niño continuing to grow and with the hurricane season over half over, we expect the remainder of the hurricane season to continue below average activity.

Partially due to the expected decrease in tropical activity, El Niño actually brings drier than normal conditions (20% - 30% less rain than normal) to the Florida, southern Alabama, and southern Georgia in the months of September and October. Rainfall from tropical systems is an integral component of the climate of the Southeast in the fall, which is otherwise fairly dry without the impact of a tropical system. El Niño does not have much influence on temperatures during these months.

**El Niño and our winter climate.** Once the colder months arrive (November - March), the classic El Niño climate patterns that we are familiar with should establish themselves and control our weather over that time. El Niño is known to bring more frequent storms, excessive rainfall, and cooler temperatures to Florida and coastal Alabama and Georgia. Florida can expect 40% - 60% more rainfall than normal in the winter months. It is believed that the increase in rain and cloudiness associated with El Niño causes average temperatures to be cooler than normal during the winter months. These cooler temperatures result in greater chill accumulations over the course of the season. While average temperatures are often cooler, El Niño actually reduces the risk of severe cold outbreaks in Florida and the Southeast. The strong subtropical jet stream that is typical of El Niño acts to "block" the intrusions of cold arctic air masses.

News Release by the Southeast Climate Consortium, for more information, go to [http://www.agclimate.org/Development/apps/agClimate/controller/perl/agClimate.pl](http://www.agclimate.org/Development/apps/agClimate/controller/perl/agClimate.pl)

**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. They have compiled information into an interdisciplinary, comprehensive resource that will direct the user through the process of IPM planning. This guide will present the use 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 for Florida Tomato and Pepper Production** is a work in progress and can be seen on line at [http://ipm.ifas.ufl.edu/agricultural/vegetables/tomato/T&PGuide.htm](http://ipm.ifas.ufl.edu/agricultural/vegetables/tomato/T&PGuide.htm), your suggestions and comments are welcome. When complete the guide will be published and will be available for purchase.
**Pesticide Registrations and Actions**

2 (ee) Recommendation for Assail on Pepper Weevil

Cerexagri has received approval for a supplemental label for a 2(ee) recommendation for the control of pepper weevil with Assail 30SG. The 2(ee) allows Assail to be applied with a rate range of 2.5-4 oz per acre on fruiting vegetables.

Begin applications when pepper weevil adults first appear and flower buds and/or fruit are present. Apply on a 7 to 14-day interval. Use a 7-day interval and the high rate under heavy insect pressure.

- Do not make more than 4 applications per season.
- Do not apply more than once every 7 days.
- Do not apply less than 7 days before harvest (PHI = 7 days).
- Do not exceed a total of 0.5 lbs. active ingredient (16.0 ozs. product) per acre per season.

The supplemental label and the federally registered label must be in the possession of the user at the time of pesticide application. This FIFRA 2(ee) recommendation expires December 31, 2006.

**Decisions Issued for Lindane, PCNB, and Carbofuran**

The final push towards EPA reregistration that was due in August 2006 has produced some interesting outcomes.

Lindane, which has only been used recently as a seed treatment, is no longer allowed to be used in any pesticide products. Once all of the registrants of technical and end use products request cancellation, tolerances for lindane will be revoked.

The fungicide PCNB (approximately 3,000 pounds used in Florida in 2005) will not be eligible for registration on turf, residential ornamentals, cole crops (unless for clubroot), green bean, cotton, potato, dry beans and peas, garlic, peanut, tomato, pepper, and ornamentals in commercial production (except for flowering bulbs). Those uses eligible for registration are cole crops (clubroot only), ornamental bulbs for commercial production and seed treatment.

As for the pesticide carbofuran (approximately 16,000 pounds used in Florida in 2005), the EPA stated in early August that all uses will be canceled immediately except for corn, pepper, artichoke and sunflower, which will be phased out by 2010. The registrant, FMC Corporation, disputes the Agency’s evaluation of carbofuran and the decision to cancel all uses of the chemical, and would not voluntarily cancel registration while examining legal options. (*Federal Register, 8/2/06, 8/9/06 & 8/30/06, Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News, 8/7/06, Chemical Regulation Reporter, 8/21/06*).

**Other Actions**

- Based on a request by IR-4, tolerances for residues of the fungicide fenhexamid (Elevate®) are approved. Tolerances of importance to Florida include cilantro leaves, non-bell pepper, and pomegranate. (*Federal Register, 8/2/06*).

- Based on a request by K-I Chemical U.S.A., tolerances for residues of the fungicide benthiavalicarb are approved. This fungicide is an amino acid carbamate, which controls downy mildew and oomycete fungi. Tolerances of importance to Florida include tomato. (*Federal Register, 9/1/06*).
Based on a request by IR-4, tolerances are approved for the herbicide dimethenamid (Outlook®). Tolerances of importance to Florida include green onion and leek. *(Federal Register, 8/23/06).*

Based on a request by IR-4, tolerances are approved for the herbicide s-metolachlor (Dual Magnum®). Tolerances of importance to Florida include winter squash. *(Federal Register, 8/30/06).*

In response to emergency exemptions, EPA has issued time-limited tolerances for the fungicide triflumizole (Procure®). Tolerances have been issued for broccoli, Chinese cabbage, collards, cilantro, dandelion, kale, kohlrabi, mustard greens, parsley, Swiss chard, and turnip greens. The tolerances expire on 12/31/09. *(Federal Register, 8/23/06).*

Based on a request by IR-4, tolerances are approved for the fungicide azoxystrobin (Amistar®). Tolerances of importance to Florida include citrus fruit/pulp/oil, pea and bean succulent or dried (subgroups 6B & 6C), foliage of legume vegetable (group 7) and fruiting vegetable (group 8, except tomato). *(Federal Register, 8/23/06).*

Based on a request by IR-4, tolerances are approved for the miticide fenpyroximate (FujiMite®). Tolerances of importance to Florida include citrus fruit/pulp/oil, cotton gin byproducts and undelinted seed, and mint. *(Federal Register, 8/23/06).*

Based on a request by IR-4, tolerances are approved for the miticide bifenazate (Acramite®). Tolerances of importance to Florida include tuberous and corm vegetables (subgroup 1C). *(Federal Register, 8/30/06).*

Based on a request by IR-4, tolerances are approved for the fungicide quinoxyfen (Quintec®). Tolerances of importance to Florida include head/leaf lettuce, melon (subgroup 9A), pepper (bell and non-bell), and strawberry. *(Federal Register, 8/25/06).*

Based on a request by IR-4, tolerances are approved for the fungicide kresoxim (Sovran®). Tolerances of importance to Florida include cucurbit vegetables (group 9). *(Federal Register, 8/25/06).*

Excerpted from Chemically Speaking, September 2006.

**Sinbar (Terbacil) labeled on Watermelon**

Dr. Bill Stall, Horticultural Sciences Department, University of Florida has advised that Sinbar herbicide has just received a supplemental label for use for control of annual broadleaf weeds in watermelon. A maximum of one preemergence, ground application of Sinbar (terbacil) may be applied at a rate of 2 to 4 ounces product (0.1 to 0.2 lb ai) per acre. A 70-day preharvest interval (PHI) is required.

Sinbar may be used for direct seeded or transplanted watermelons. For direct seeded watermelons, apply post seeding, but preemergence where transplants are used, apply pretransplant. In mulch culture, apply pre-under the mulch or can be applied to row middles.

Sinbar is especially effective for annual morningglory and nightshade. Be especially aware of plant back restrictions. Use lower rate on very sandy soil with low organic matter and for seeded watermelons.

Use on watermelon only. Other cucurbıt crops, such as squash, cucumber and muskmelon are not tolerant to terbacil. Have the supplemental label in hand before use.
Are You Legal??

It is important for people that deal with fumigants to have proper licensure for use of these materials. The only categories that allow the use of fumigants are Private applicator, Raw Ag Commodity Fumigation, or Soil and Greenhouse Fumigation under Chapter 487 or Commercial Fumigation under Chapter 482.

Note that holders of public or commercial licenses in the row crop category are not authorized to put out fumigants. The most appropriate license for somebody with either public or commercial licenses working with agricultural crops is the Soil and Greenhouse Fumigation license.

Up Coming Meetings

Palm Beach County

October 2, 2006   **Pesticide Applicator Testing**      (8 am - 4 pm any category exam)  
West Palm Beach, Florida

8:00 am - 10:00 am   General Standards/Core Test Review (2 CEUs)  
10:00 am - noon      Private Applicator Test Review (2 CEUs)  
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm    Ornamental and Turf Test Review (2 CEUs)

October 4, 2006   **Pesticide Applicator Testing**      (8 am - 4 pm any category exam)  
Belle Glade, Florida

8:00 am - 10:00 am   General Standards/Core Test Review (2 CEUs)  
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm    Agricultural Row Crop Test Review (2 CEUs)

October 4, 2006   **Lettuce Advisory Committee**  10:30 am – 12:30 pm  
UF/IFAS EREC  
Belle Glade, Florida

Lunch provided. Contact Darrin Parmenter, 561-233-1725.

October 4, 2006   **The Immigration Debate and its Impact on Florida Agriculture**  1:00 – 3:00 pm  
UF/IFAS EREC  
Belle Glade, Florida

Contact Darrin Parmenter at (561) 233-1725.

October 18, 2006   **WPS How to Comply Update and Train-the-Trainer**  9:00 am - 1:30 pm  
UF/IFAS EREC  
Belle Glade, Florida

Lunch provided. Contact Darrin Parmenter at (561) 233-1725.
Southwest Florida

October 9-10, 2006  Restricted Pesticide Applicator Classes  Oct. 9 – Core, Private  Oct. 10 – Row, Tree Aquatic

Hendry County Extension Office  
1085 Pratt Boulevard  
LaBelle, Florida

Contact Gene McAvoy at 863-674-4092 for details

October 11-12, 2006  Spanish Pesticide Applicator Prep Classes  9:00 AM

Hendry County Extension Office  
1085 Pratt Boulevard  
LaBelle, Florida

Contact Gene McAvoy at 863-674-4092 for details

Note: Testing will be conducted in English

October 26, 2006  WPS Handler Training  9:00 AM - Spanish  1:00 PM - English

Hendry County Extension Office  
1085 Pratt Boulevard  
LaBelle, Florida

Contact Gene McAvoy at 863-674-4092 for details

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

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

AgClimate is an interactive website maintained by the Southeast Climate Consortium, which provides climate, agriculture, and forestry information that allows users to assess resource management options with respect to their probable outcomes under forecast climate conditions. At present it includes: 1) background climate information and a climate tool that allows decision makers to compare climate variability under different ENSO conditions; 2) crop information and tools for peanut, tomato, and potato; 3) forest management and wildfire risk assessment; and 4) links to other sources of related information of value to decision makers.

The Southeast Climate Consortium, or SECC, is a coalition of six universities - Florida State University, University of Florida, University of Miami, University of Georgia, Auburn University, and University of Alabama-Huntsville. Go to http://www.agclimate.org/Development/apps/agClimate/controller/perl/agClimate.pl

Featured Creatures: The Good, The Bad and The Pretty – provides in-depth profiles of insects, nematodes, arachnids and other organisms that are of interest to Florida's residents. An associated purpose is to support professionals in agriculture, horticulture, and urban pest control. The site is a cooperative venture of the University of Florida's Department of Entomology and Nematology and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Division of Plant Industry. Files can be searched by common name, scientific name, and crop or habitat. Check it out at http://creatures.ifas.ufl.edu/

Quotable Quotes

A true friend is someone who knows you're a good egg even if you're a little cracked....

Become a possibilitarian. No matter how dark things seem to be or actually are, raise your sights and see possibilities - always see them, for they're always there. - Dr. Norman Vincent Peale

We should be careful to get out of an experience only the wisdom that is in it--and stop there; lest we be like the cat that sits down on a hot stove-lid. She will never sit down on a hot stove-lid again, and that is well; but also she will never sit down on a cold one anymore. -- Mark Twain

A government big enough to give you everything you want, is strong enough to take everything you have. – Thomas Jefferson

It’s a sorry frog that won't croak on his own pond's behalf. - Lawton Childs

On the Lighter Side

Heaven or Hell?

A man and his dog were walking along a road. The man was enjoying the scenery, when it suddenly occurred to him that he was dead. He remembered dying, and that the dog walking beside him had been dead for years. He wondered where the road was leading them.
After a while, they came to a high, white stone wall along one side of the road. It looked like fine marble. At the top of a long hill, it was broken by a tall arch that glowed in the sunlight.

When he was standing before it he saw a magnificent gate in the arch that looked like mother-of-pearl, and the street that led to the gate looked like pure gold. He and the dog walked toward the gate, and as he got closer, he saw a man at a desk to one side.

When he was close enough, he called out, "Excuse me, where are we?"

"This is Heaven, sir," the man answered.

"Wow! Would you happen to have some water?" the man asked.

"Of course, sir. Come right in, and I'll have some ice water brought right up." The man gestured, and the gate began to open.

"Can my friend," gesturing toward his dog, "come in, too?" the traveler asked.

"I'm sorry, sir, but we don't accept pets."

The man thought a moment and then turned back toward the road and continued the way he had been going with his dog.

After another long walk, and at the top of another long hill, he came to a dirt road leading through a farm gate that looked as if it had never been closed. There was no fence.

As he approached the gate, he saw a man inside, leaning against a tree and reading a book. "Excuse me!" he called to the man. "Do you have any water?"

"Yeah, sure, there's a pump over there, come on in."

"How about my friend here?" the traveler gestured to the dog.

"There should be a bowl by the pump."

They went through the gate, and sure enough, there was an old-fashioned hand pump with a bowl beside it. The traveler filled the water bowl and took a long drink himself, then he gave some to the dog.

When they were full, he and the dog walked back toward the man who was standing by the tree.

"What do you call this place?" the traveler asked.

"This is Heaven," he answered.

"Well, that's confusing," the traveler said. "The man down the road said that was Heaven, too."

"Oh, you mean the place with the gold streets and pearly gates? Nope. That's hell."

"Doesn't it make you mad for them to use your name like that?"
"No, we're just happy that they screen out the folks who would leave their best friends behind."

**How It Works in Washington…..**

Three contractors were bidding to fix the White House fence, one from Chicago, another from Kentucky and the third from Florida. They were with a White House official examining the fence.

The Florida contractor took out a tape measure, did some measuring, then worked on some figures with a pencil. "Well," he said, "I figure the job will run about $900. That would be $400 for materials, $400 for my crew, and $100 profit for me."

The Kentucky contractor also did some measuring and figuring, then said, "I can do this job for $700. That would be $300 for materials, $300 for my crew, and $100 profit for me."

The Chicago contractor didn't do any measuring or figuring, but leaned over to the White House official and whispered, "$2,700."

The official was incredulous and said, "You didn't even measure like the other guys! How did you come up with such a high figure?"

"Easy," the Chicagoan explained, "$1,000 for you, $1,000 for me, and we hire the guy from Kentucky."

**Contributors** include: Joel Allingham/AgriCare, Inc, Karen Armbrester/SWFREC, Kathy Smith/Agricultural Pest Management, Bruce Corbitt/West Coast Tomato Growers, Dr. Kent Cushman/SWFREC, Dr. Phyllis Gilreath/Manatee County Extension, Michael Hare/Drip Tape Solutions, Fred Heald/Farmers Supply, Sarah Hornsby/AgCropCon, Cecil Howell/Taylor & Fulton, Loren Horsman/Glades Crop Care, Keith Jackson/SWFREC, Bruce Johnson/General Crop Management, Dr. Mary Lamberts/Miami-Dade County Extension, Leon Lucas/Glades Crop Care, Bob Mathews, Glades Crop Care, Mark Mosler/UF/IFAS Pesticide Information Office, Gene McAvoy/Hendry County Extension, Alice McGhee/Thomas Produce, Jimmy Morales/Pro Source One, Chuck Obern/C&B Farm, Teresa Olczyk/ Miami-Dade County Extension, Dr. Aaron Palmateer/TREC, Darrin Parmenter/Palm Beach County Extension, Dr. Ken Pernezny/EREC, Dr. Pam Roberts/SWFREC, Dr. Nancy Roe/Farming Systems Research, Wes Roan/6 L's, Kevin Seitzinger/Gargiulo, Jay Shivler/ C&B Farm, Ken Shuler/Stephen’s Produce, Ed Skvarch/St Lucie County Extension, John Stanford/Thomas Produce, Mike Stanford/MED Farms, Dr. Phil Stansly/SWFREC, Eugene Tolar/Bright Star Farms, Mark Verbeck/GulfCoast Ag, and Alicia Whidden/Hillsborough County Extension.

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

Hendry County Extension Office
PO Box 68
LaBelle, Florida 33975
Web: [http://hchort.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://hchort.ifas.ufl.edu/)

863-674-4092 phone
2863-673-5939 mobile - Nextel 159*114449*
863-674-4097 fax
GmcAvoy@ifas.ufl.edu
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**Thomas Produce Company**  
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Grower and Shippers of Quality Vegetables  
9905 Clint Moore Road  
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Toll Free 877-724-8787  Cell 863-673-2892

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David Pensabene: Production Manager  
Naples Operations  
Phone 239-353-0300  Fax 239-353-3407

**Farming Systems Research**  
5609 Lakeview Mews Drive  
Boynton Beach, Florida 33437  
Phone 561-638-2755

**Glades Crop Care, Inc.**  
Leaders in Crop Health Management  
Charlie Mellinger, Ph.D.  
Phone 561-746-3740  Fax 561-746-3775

**Triangle Chemical Company**  
PO Box 537  
Groveland, Florida 34736  
Toll Free 877-724-8787  Cell 863-673-2892

**Gargiulo**  
Growers Shippers Importers Exporters  
David Pensabene: Production Manager  
Naples Operations  
Phone 239-353-0300  Fax 239-353-3407

**Farming Systems Research**  
5609 Lakeview Mews Drive  
Boynton Beach, Florida 33437  
Phone 561-638-2755

**Glades Crop Care, Inc.**  
Leaders in Crop Health Management  
Charlie Mellinger, Ph.D.  
Phone 561-746-3740  Fax 561-746-3775

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Phone 239-657-8254  Fax 239-657-2005

**Damon Shelor**  
*ProSource One*  
Immokalee, Florida  
Office 239-657-8374  Cell 239-707-6142  
E-mail: dshelor@ProSourceOne.com

**Ed Early**  
*Dupont Agricultural Products*  
5100 South Cleveland Avenue  
Fort Myers, Florida 33907  
Phone 239-332-1467  Mobile 239-994-8594

**Rachel Walters**  
*Bayer CropScience*  
32871 Washington Loop Road  
Punta Gorda, FL 33982  
Phone 941-575-5149  Cell 239-707-1198

**Glen Kaufman**  
*Paramount Seeds, Inc.*  
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Palm City, Florida 34991  
Phone 772-221-0653  Fax 772-221-0102

**Walter Preston**  
*Manatee Fruit Company*  
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**John Frieden**  
Abacus (Abemectin)  
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Valdosta, Georgia 31602  
Office 229-253-1646 johnfr@rotam.com

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*Dow AgroSciences LLC*  
Phone 706-473-9229  
AgNet 158*17*29723

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**Sarah Hornsby, CCA**  
*Agricultural Crop Consulting, Inc*  
Scouting: Manatee, Hillsborough, Collier  
Office/Fax 941-776-1122  
Cell 941-713-6116  
Email: AgCropCon@aol.com

**Donald Allen**  
*AGLIME SALES INC*  
1375 Thornburg Road  
Babson Park, Florida 33827-9549  
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Gaylon Pfieffer
**BASF Corporation**
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Office 813-818-9594 Fax 813-818-8694
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Darrell Thorpe 352-483-6569
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Fort Myers, Florida 33919
Cell 239-707-7677 Nextel: 158*17*24422

Chuck Obern
**C & B Farm**
CR 835
Clewiston, FL 33415
Office 863-983-8269 Fax 863-983-8030
Cell 239-250-0551

Bart Hoopingarner
**Cerexagri-Nisso LLC**
3605 162 Ave E
Parrish, FL 34219
Cell 941-737-7444 Fax 941-776-1844
bart.hoopingarner@cerexagri.com

Jay Hallaron
**Chemtura Corporation**
321-231-2277 cell 407-256-4667 cell
jay_hallaron@cromptoncorp.com

Jared Revell
**United Agri Products**
116 Jerome Drive
Immokalee, Florida
239-657-3168 office 239-253-0585 cell

Dr. Henry Yonce
**KAC Agricultural Research**
Scouting, Consulting
Research
386-736-0098 work 386-527-1124 cell
HDYONCE@msn.com

Ted Holmes
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**CDMS**
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