



May 23, 2019

Welcome to SWFREC Update E-news! This newsletter is distributed biweekly and contains news about the center and its faculty and staff, program research updates, and upcoming events.

Web site: <https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Social media:  

May Workshops Educate Growers, Plan for Future

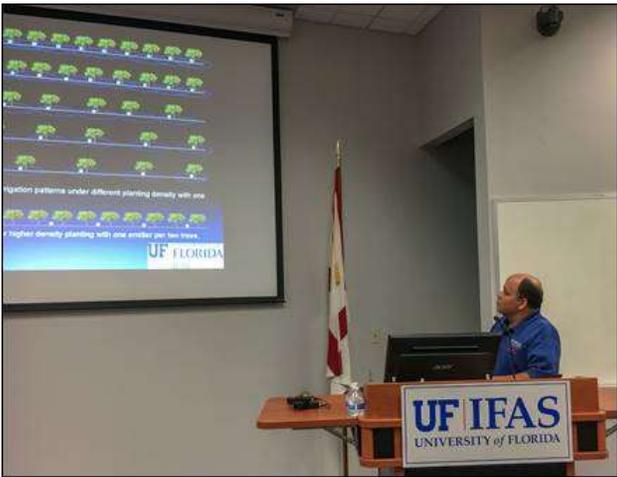
Nearly 50 people participated in the SWFREC Spring Vegetable Seminar this week. The crowd included a wide array of specialties, from growers and packinghouse managers to chemical representatives and master gardeners. Research in the spotlight included the control of pests such as broadmite, diamondback moth, whitefly, and fall armyworm (entomologist Dr. Jawwad Qureshi), symptom identification and management protocols for powdery mildew in cucurbits (pathologist Dr. Pam Roberts), developing and quantifying payment for water-related services from vegetable production and how water farming improves environmental sustainability (ag engineer Dr. Sanjay Shukla), exploring potential benefits of soil microbial amendments and measuring changes to the soil microbial community (soil microbiologist Dr. Sarah Strauss), utilization of a SmartIrrigation App scheduling tool to increase production yield (soil and water science Ph.D. student Timothy Ayankojo), and strategies to alleviate chilling injury to sweet basil during cold storage (plant physiologist Dr. Ute Albrecht).



Ayankojo

More than thirty growers participated in last week's Risks in Technology Adoption Citrus Field Day. Grove demonstrations highlighted three research trials: determining the amount of irrigation required to grow trees at higher tree densities without reducing tree productivity (soil and water sciences postdoctoral research associate Dr. Said Hamido), determining if application of soil/foliar micronutrients improves tree leaf nutrient concentrations and growth of HLB affected trees (soil and water sciences graduate research assistant Ali Atta), and utilization of liquid carbon dioxide for efficient herbicide application via a boom mounted to an ATV (weed scientist Dr. Ramdas Kanissery).

Indoor presentations covered research from technology adoption trends in ag and costs of equipment (ag and natural resources economist Dr. Tara Wade) to agrochemical application methods in citrus production, such as needle-assisted trunk infusion (citrus pathologist Dr. Ozgur Batuman). Additional presentations highlighted citrus weed management methods (Dr. Kanissery) and precision ag techniques being utilized in citrus, such as utilizing artificial intelligence to monitor and map insects in a grove and using GIS-based software to visualize data obtained by unmanned aerial vehicles (precision ag engineer Dr. Yiannis Ampatzidis).



Hamido



Atta



Wade

More than 40 growers and UF/IFAS scientists participated in the Citrus Black Spot Technical Working Group Workshop last week. The event was organized by citrus pathologist Dr. Ozgur Batuman. The group focuses on research projects that target this fungal disease that causes a reduction in fruit quantity and quality.



Upcoming Events:

May 30, 2019, 7:45am-12:00pm

Commercial/Public Agricultural Tree Crop Pesticide License Training/Exam

UF/IFAS Hendry County Extension Office, LaBelle

For a detailed agenda, click here, then click on the May 30

event: <https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/about-us/calendar/>. Cost is \$20. To register, call Debra at 863-674-4092 or e-mail drourks@ufl.edu.

June 6, 2019, 10:00am-12:00pm

UF/IFAS Industrial Hemp Pilot Project Update

SWFREC

For more information, click here, then click on the June 6

event: <https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/about-us/calendar/>. Preregistration is required by calling 863-674-4092 or e-mail to maz@ufl.edu.

June 26, 2019, 9:00am-12:00pm

Managing Risk with Crop Insurance

SWFREC

For details and registration information, click

here: https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/events-agendas/2019-06-26-FFT_Crop_Insurance.pdf.

July 24, 2019, 8:30am-4:30pm

Certified Pile Burner Training/Exam

SWFREC

Cost is \$50. Course limited to 50 people. For more information and registration form, click

here: https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/events-agendas/2019-07-24-FL_Certified_Pile_Burner_Training.pdf.

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