



October 22, 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:  

Register Today for Nov. 14 SWFREC Open House!

The Annual SWFREC Open House is set for Thursday, November 14! **“Before the Bounty: The Science of Crop Production”** is the theme of the event, which will run from **10:00am to 2:00pm**. Among the activities that will be available:

- Narrated tours aboard tractor-powered trolleys of our vegetable fields and citrus grove. You’ll learn about production practices of these commodities in southwest Florida and current research projects being conducted by SWFREC faculty and staff, such as methods to conserve water, improve fertilizer efficiency, and reduce the impact of pesticides and nutrients on the environment. In addition, you’ll observe efforts being pursued to combat two key diseases of citrus: greening and black spot.
- Presentations in our laboratories. You’ll hear about a plethora of current research, from how citrus trees are grafted to strengthen their resistance to pests and diseases to the use of unmanned aerial vehicles and innovative automation technology to assist in the production of citrus and vegetables.
- Educational science demonstrations. Our Ph.D. and master’s graduate students, biological scientists, and lab technicians will provide a glimpse into current research being conducted in their respective programs, such as scientific experiments and hands-on activities.

- Outreach education. You'll have the opportunity to talk with UF/IFAS Extension personnel from multiple counties about available programs and services and learn about other entities that touch communities across southwest Florida.

Lunch will be served from 11:00am to 1:00pm. To reserve your spot, please call 239-658-3400 or e-mail jderleth@ufl.edu.



YOU'RE INVITED
SWREC OPEN HOUSE
NOVEMBER 14, 2019
Before the Bounty: The Science of Crop Production

You and your colleagues are cordially invited to the annual open house at the UF/IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center (SWREC).

Enjoy casual tours of our laboratories, guided trolley tours of our farm facilities, and educational science demonstrations.

Learn about research, Extension, and other outreach activities that touch every community in southwest Florida.

Open house will take place between **10 a.m. & 2 p.m.** with lunch being served from **11 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

RSVP by phone at (239) 658-3400 or email to jderleth@ufl.edu

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 Presentation is not available at this location.
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Peer-Reviewed Article

- **“Evaluation of Steam Application for Weed Management in Citrus”** has been published in Applied Engineering in Agriculture journal (volume 35, issue 5). Precision ag post-doctoral research associate Jaafar Abdulridha, weed scientist Dr. Ramdas Kanissery, weed science lab technician Camille McAvoy, and precision ag engineer Dr. Yiannis Ampatzidis are first-fourth authors, respectively. To read the full article, click here: <https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/precision-ag-eng/2019-Abdulridha-Kanissery-McAvoy-Ampatzidis-Steam-Application-Weed-Citrus-ASABE.pdf>.

Trade Journal Articles

- **“IPCs for HLB Prevention in Young Trees”** is published in the October issue of Citrus Industry magazine. Citrus horticulturist Dr. Fernando Alferez, master's student Susmita Gaire, plant physiologist Dr. Ute Albrecht, citrus pathologist Dr. Ozgur Batuman, and entomologist Dr. Jawwad Qureshi are first-fifth authors, respectively. To read the article, click here: <http://citrusindustry.net/2019/10/15/ipcs-for-hlb-prevention-in-young-trees/>.
- **“Putting Fresh Fruit To the Test”** is published in the October issue of Citrus Industry magazine. Citrus horticulturist Dr. Fernando Alferez is fourth author. To read the article, click here: <http://citrusindustry.net/2019/10/22/putting-fresh-fruit-to-the-test/>.

Extension Publication

The following article was recently published on the UF/IFAS Electronic Data Information Source web site (www.edis.ifas.ufl.edu):

- **“Citrus Nursery Production Guide, Chapter 7: Seed and Budwood Production, Transport, and Conservation.”** Citrus horticulturist Dr. Fernando Alferez is first author. To read the full article, click here: <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/hs1336>.

TV Report Spotlights Research

WINK-TV news recently aired a story about research being conducted by precision ag engineer Dr. Yiannis Ampatzidis. **“UF Researchers Develop Tool That Targets Chemical Spray Directly to Plants”** features his precision sprayer that utilizes cameras and artificial intelligence to limit chemical spraying to weeds only. The story also includes related comments from Gene McAvoy, the center's assistant director of stakeholder relations. To view the report, click here:

<https://www.winknews.com/2019/10/10/uf-researches-develop-tool-that-targets-chemical-spray-directly-to-plants/>.

Graduate Student Residence Groundbreaking Receives Coverage

Brad Buck, a writer with UF/IFAS Communications Services, covered the center's groundbreaking ceremony in late September for a new graduate student residence. His story, **“Graduate Students Play Big Role in Research,”** has been picked up by numerous news outlets. It focuses on the importance of graduate student research to growers in southwest Florida and the growing need for additional on-site housing space. The structure is to be named the Philip A. Stansly Graduate Student Residence in honor of former SWFREC entomologist Dr. Phil Stansly, who passed away one year ago. To read Buck's story as it appeared online, click here: <http://citrusindustry.net/2019/10/07/graduate-students-play-big-role-in-research/>.

Operation Clean Sweep

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services announces the 2019-2020 Operation Clean Sweep program, a mobile pesticide collection effort that provides a safe way to dispose of cancelled, suspended, and unusable pesticides. The free service is available to farms/groves, greenhouses, nurseries, golf courses, and pest control entities. For more information, including how to sign up, click here: <https://floridadep.gov/waste/permitting-compliance-assistance/content/operation-cleansweep-pesticides>.

Upcoming Events:

October 31, 2019, 8:30am-2:00pm

Citrus Production Practices for Establishing Groves

UF/IFAS Taylor County Extension Office, Perry, FL

Citrus horticulturist Dr. Fernando Alferez will be a program speaker. For full agenda and registration information, click here:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pboYOo9SE3uQMfUJH1WIRjpG4TmOkc1E/view>.



November 19-20, 2019

UF/IFAS Farm Labor Supervisor Training

SWFREC

For schedule and registration information, click here:

https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/economics/SWREC_FarmLaborSupervisorTrainingProgramFlyer2019.jpg

December 16, 2019, 1:00-3:00pm

Discussion of Local Agriculture Issues with Legislators

SWFREC

For agenda and registration information, click here:

<https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/events-agendas/2019-12-16-Legislative-Meeting-Flyer.pdf>.

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