



February 10, 2020

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:  

Conferences Include Several SWFREC Speakers

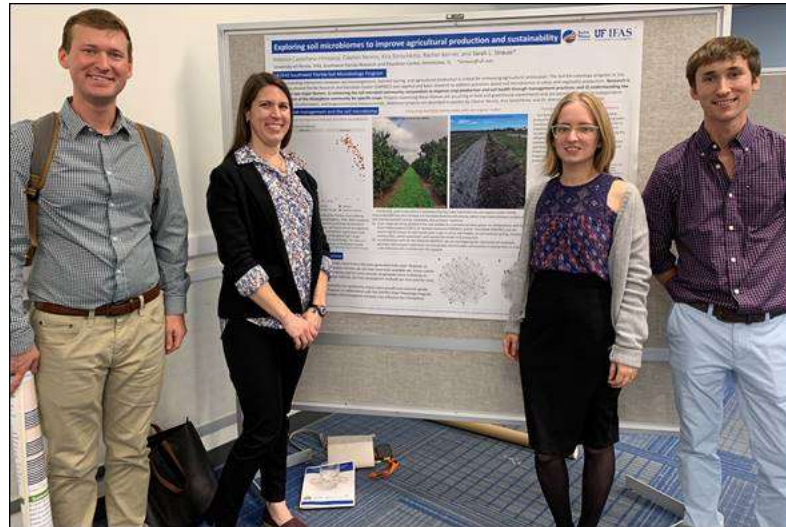
Faculty Make Presentations at the 2020 Florida Citrus Show Last Month in Fort Pierce:

- Entomologist Dr. Jawwad Qureshi: **“Pest Management in Citrus Under Protective Screen (CUPS).”**
- Precision ag engineer Dr. Yiannis Ampatzidis: **“Precision Farming Techniques for Citrus Production”**
- Soil microbiologist Dr. Sara Strauss: **“Cover Crop in Citrus: Considerations, Challenges, and Preliminary Data”**
- Plant physiologist Dr. Ute Albrecht: **“Root Architectures and Growth of Two Year Old Valencia Trees Propagated on Different Rootstocks”**

Soil Microbiology Program Presents Posters in Gainesville

At last month’s “Pathways Towards the Next Generation of Agriculture and Natural Resources in Florida” conference of the Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine, two posters were presented:

- **“Use of Cover Crops to Improve Soil Health in Citrus Agroecosystems”** (postdoctoral associate Dr. Antonio Castellano-Hinojosa and soil microbiologist Dr. Sarah Strauss are first and fourth authors, respectively).
- **“Exploring Soil Microbiomes to Improve Agricultural Production and Sustainability”** (authors, in order, are: postdoctoral associate Dr. Antonio Castellano-Hinojosa, Ph.D. student Clayton Nevins, Ph.D. student Kira Sorochkina, biological scientist Rachel Berner, and soil microbiologist Dr. Sarah Strauss).



Nevins, Strauss, Sorochkina, Castellano-Hinojosa

Faculty Talks BMPs

SWFREC ag and natural resource economist Dr. Tara Wade gave a presentation at the annual meeting of the Southern Agricultural Economics Association last week in Louisville, Kentucky. She presented **“The Adoption of Multiple Best Management Practices by Florida Vegetable and Agronomic Crop Growers,”** which detailed research being conducted by her Ph.D. student, Moonwon Soh.

News Crew Goes Live from SWFREC



NBC-2 TV out of Fort Myers and Naples sent a crew out to SWFREC on January 22 to do a live report about cold temperatures and their effect on agriculture. Reporter Megan Myers interviewed center director Dr. Kelly Morgan live in the citrus grove during the 5AM and 6AM news telecasts, when the temperature was 34 degrees.

EREC Seminar Series Features Precision Ag

Precision ag engineer Dr. Yiannis Ampatzidis presented "UAV-based Applications in Agriculture" at the UF/IFAS Everglades Research and Education Center last week as part of its Thursday seminar series.



Graduate Student Scores Awards

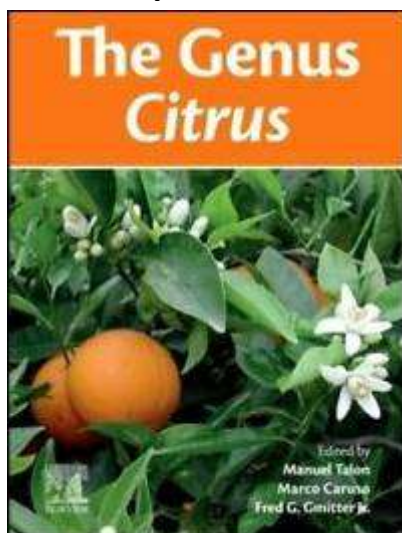
Ph.D. student Clayton Nevins has received three recent awards:

- Yara Doctoral Scholarship, Florida Fertilizer and Agrichemical Association. Scholarships are designed to promote the study of agriculture in higher education and to encourage academic excellence among students pursuing agriculture studies. This award includes \$3,000.
- Biogeochemistry Graduate Fellowship Award, University of Florida, Wetland Biogeochemistry Laboratory/Soil and Water Science Department. This award is from an endowment to support and promote research and education in biochemical cycling of macro-elements in terrestrial, wetlands, and aquatic ecosystems with a focus on ecosystem productivity, climate change, water quality, and sea level rise. The award includes \$1,500 to be used for research- or study-related activities.
- Sam Polston Graduate Fellowship, University of Florida, Soil and Water Sciences Department (SWSD). Presented annually to an outstanding SWSD graduate student who leads the way among the department's graduate students in academic performance and research. This award includes \$1,000.



Soil microbiologist Dr. Sarah Strauss is chair of Nevins' graduate student committee.

Book Chapter



A new scientific agricultural book out includes a chapter co-authored by center director (and soil and water scientist) Dr. Kelly Morgan. **“The Genus *Citrus*”** contains **“Chapter 15: Soil and Nutrition Interactions,”** of which Dr. Morgan is fifth author. For more information about the book and purchasing details, click here:

<https://www.elsevier.com/books/the-genus-citrus/9780128121634>.

Trade Journal Publications

- **“Tomato Fertilizer Recommendations for Florida,”** written by vegetable horticulturist Dr. Phillip Williams, appears in the February issue of Vegetable and Specialty Crop News magazine. The article is part of an issue that focuses on rising to the challenges of farming.” To read the full article, click here and advance to page 18:
<http://www.mirabelsmagazinecentral.com/DigitalEdition/index.html?id=1e77ca9a-1852-420b-98a7-409bf9830ef1>.
- **“Citrus Leprosis Poses a Threat to Florida”** (plant pathologist Dr. Ozgur Batuman is second author) appears in the February issue of Citrus Industry magazine. To read the full article, click here and advance to page 10:
<http://www.mirabelsmagazinecentral.com/DigitalEdition/index.html?id=18e1203a-964b-4d4c-8538-3a70e6d560a2>.

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:

February 19, 2020, 10:00am-12:30pm

Citrus Squeezer: Food Safety and Regulatory Requirements Related to Citrus SWFREC

State specialized food science agent Matt Krug will be among the speakers. His talk, **“An Introduction to Produce Safety for Citrus Growers,”** will include an overview of produce safety rule implementation, foodborne pathogens of concern, routes of contamination, and potential exemptions and recordkeeping. For the full agenda, click here:

https://calendar.google.com/calendar/event?eid=MDI1MWJtbDR0bWdwbjk1NDE0aWsxZDNicHEga3VlbzhtOGI5M3RtY2RqZmw4djN2bDAYbTBAZw&ctz=America/New_York.

Registration is required: 863-674-4092 or maz@ufl.edu.

February 20, 2020, 9:45am-2:00pm

Weed Science and Economics Workshop for Master Gardener Agents and Volunteers SWFREC

SWFREC presentations will include:

- Weed scientist Dr. Ramdas Kanissery: **“Weed Identification and Management” and “Hands-on’ Weed Identification”**
- Ag resource economist Dr. Tara Wade: **“Cost Assessment of Weed Management”**

To see the full agenda and for registration details, click here:

https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/events-agendas/2020-02-20-Weed-Science-Economics-Workshop-Agenda_Flyer.pdf.

February 25, 2020, 9:00am-12:30pm

Vegetable Growers Meeting: Update of Tomato and Cucurbit Viruses

SWFREC

SWFREC presentations will include:

- Plant pathologist Dr. Pam Roberts: **“Update on Cucurbit Viruses in Florida”**
- Plant pathologist Dr. Ozgur Batuman: **“Update on Tomato Brown Rugose Fruit Virus”**
- Entomologist Dr. Jawwad Qureshi: **“Management of Disease Vectors in Tomatoes and Cucurbits”**

To RSVP, call 239-658-3400 or email zshobert@ufl.edu. To see the full agenda, click here: <https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/events-agendas/2020-02-25-Vegetable-Grower-Meeting.pdf>.

April 8, 2020, 7:30am-6:30pm
Certified Crop Advisor Workshop
SWFREC

For holders of a Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) license ONLY. Registration information will be sent via email to CCAs soon.

April 17, 2020, 10:00am-1:00pm
SWFREC Citrus Advisory Committee Meeting
SWFREC

To RSVP, contact Jennifer at 239-658-3415 or jderleth@ufl.edu.

April 21, 2020, 10:00am-1:00pm
SWFREC Vegetable Advisory Committee Meeting
SWFREC

To RSVP, contact Jennifer at 239-658-3415 or jderleth@ufl.edu.

May 1 & 2, 2020, 7:30am-1:30pm
30th Annual Farm Safety Day
SWFREC

Same program is offered both days. For more information and registration details, click here: <https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/events-agendas/2020-05-0102-Farm-Safety-Day.pdf>.

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