



May 13, 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.

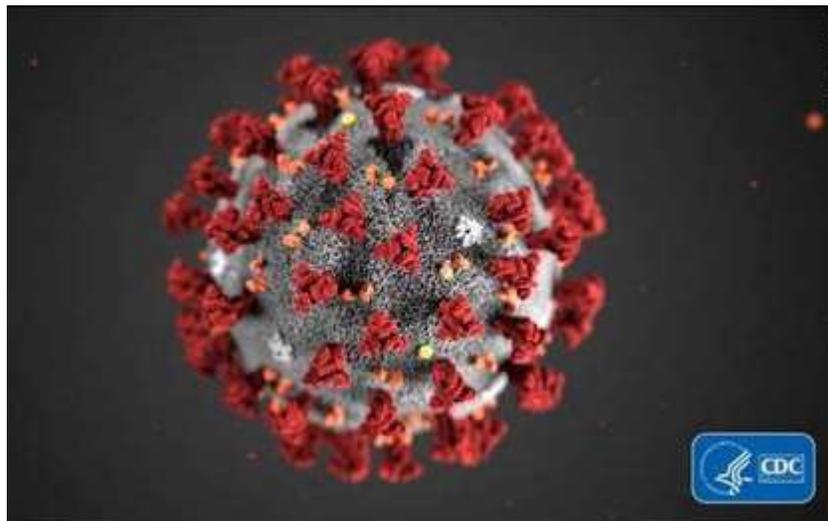
**Web site:** <https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/>

**Social media:**  

**In This Edition:**

- **Important Notice: Coronavirus (and announcing a new virtual grower meeting for late May)**
- **Appointment Announced for UF/IFAS VP Position**
- **Coronavirus Information Continues to Be Published**
- **New Ag Economist Announced for SWFREC**
- **Extension Publications Provide Virus Info**
- **Survey Seeks Information from Florida Growers**
- **Pesticide License Renewal Grace Period Extended**
- **Graduate Student Residence Progress Photos**
- **Peer-reviewed Journal Article**
- **Extension Publication**
- **Possible Graft Incompatibility**
- **Operation Clean Sweep**
- **Upcoming Events**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** We strive to be prudent and provide the best service possible while keeping our clientele and our staff safe during this uncertain time. In view of the precautions required to contain Coronavirus (COVID-19), while the center is not officially closed, its operations have been reduced to essential services. Rather than visiting the center, our



grower clientele is encouraged to contact faculty and staff via e-mail addresses provided on our web site: <https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/>. In addition, we continue to develop new virtual educational seminars. The first two, vegetable grower meetings in late March and mid-April, were deemed successes with thirty-five-plus participants each.

**The next seminar is a Vegetable Grower Meeting slated for Thursday, May 28, 10am-12pm. The seminar, Precise Technology Applications in Agriculture, will include a presentation by SWFREC precision ag engineer Dr. Yiannis Ampatzidis titled “Emerging Technologies for Vegetables.”** This talk will focus on smart technologies for vegetable crops that will help improve sustainability and reduce production costs and environmental impacts. To see the full agenda and connection details, click here: <https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/events-agendas/2020-05-28-Vegetable-Growers-meeting-online.pdf>. REU CEU and CCA credit will be applied.

**Plus, there are two additional virtual meetings planned for June that include SWFREC speakers. Scroll down to “Upcoming Events” to see those!**

### **Appointment Announced for UF/IFAS VP Position**



Dr. J. Scott Angle has been named UF/IFAS Vice President of Agriculture and Natural Resources and will begin his new role in mid-July. Angle will replace current VP Dr. Jack Payne, who has served in that role for ten years and is scheduled to retire in June. UF President Dr. Kent Fuchs made the announcement last week.

Angle currently serves as director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). He spent more than 35 years in agricultural science

and administration, including 25 years as a professor of soil science and administrator (Director of the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station and Maryland Cooperative Extension) at the University of Maryland. His early work focused on the study of losses of nutrients from agro-ecosystems and their impact on the Chesapeake Bay. He also studied the impact of heavy metals on the food chain with the goal of protecting the food supply from these harmful elements. From 2005 to 2015, Angle served as dean and director of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of Georgia. He is a fellow in the American Society of Agronomy and the Soil Science Society of America and a Fulbright Fellow, having worked at the Rothamsted (Research) Experimental Station in the United Kingdom. He subsequently served as president and CEO of the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC), an international public organization (IPO) dedicated to helping the poorest farmers of the world produce more food. Welcome to IFAS, Dr. Angle!

### **Coronavirus Information Continues to Be Published**

Associate director of stakeholder relations Gene McAvoy has been busy with media interviews in light of COVID-19. Click on the links below to see the most recent articles that include his comments and expertise:

- <http://citrusindustry.net/2020/04/29/valencia-oranges-hit-by-covid-19-weather/>
- <https://www.news-press.com/story/money/small-business/2020/04/25/publix-donate-extra-food-milk-buys-struggling-farmers/3027546001/>
- <https://www.naplesnews.com/story/news/local/2019/10/10/tomato-virus-found-imported-tomatoes-causes-concern-growers/3928363002/>

### **New Ag Economist Announced for SWFREC**



Dr. Kimberly Morgan has accepted the position of agricultural and resource economist and will begin her post in August. She comes to SWFREC from her current position as associate professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, Virginia.

Dr. Morgan is a Gator at heart. She received her B.S. degree in animal science from UF in 1993. She earned her M.S. degree in food and resource economics from UF in 1997 and her Ph.D. in the same department in 2007. She served as assistant professor at Virginia Tech from 2013-2019, when she was promoted to associate professor.

Welcome, Dr. Morgan! We are excited to have you become a part of the SWFREC team!

## Extension Publications Provide Virus Info

To read articles written by UF/IFAS faculty and staff about the Coronavirus, you can visit the Electronic Data Information Source here: [https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\\_covid19](https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic_covid19).

## Survey Seeks Information from Florida Growers

UF/IFAS Extension has been hearing from agriculture and aquaculture producers throughout the state about ways the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting their daily work and livelihoods. In this unprecedented and challenging time, the value of their work has never been more evident. It is with this in mind that the UF/IFAS Food and Resource Economics Department has developed five surveys, one of which is specific to agriculture and aquaculture operations designed to be completed by an agriculture and/or aquaculture professional involved in production, processing, and/or transportation. It encompasses crop production, forestry/timber, nursery and greenhouse operations, agritourism, beekeeping, etc. Click here to access and complete the survey:

[https://ufl.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3sYZE3NF19Ik949](https://ufl.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3sYZE3NF19Ik949). Your participation is important during this time and is much appreciated.

## Pesticide License Renewal Grace Period Extended

Florida agriculture commissioner Nikki Fried has extended the timeframe for reporting and renewing restricted-use pesticide licenses by an additional sixty days, effective April 20, 2020. Please note that UF/IFAS does offer a number of online resources for obtaining credits. Click here for more information: <https://ifas-pest.catalog.instructure.com/>.

## Graduate Student Residence Progress Photos



## Peer-reviewed Journal Article

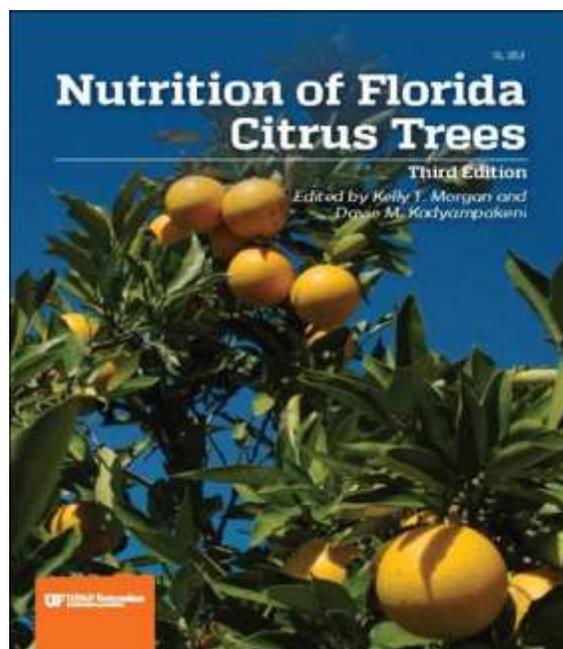
**Influence of Rootstock Propagation Method on Traits of Grafted Sweet Orange Trees** has been published in HortScience (55(5):729–737. 2020). Plant physiologist Dr. Ute Albrecht, Ph.D. student Shahrzad Bodaghi, and biological scientist Bo Meyering are first-third authors, respectively. To read the full article, click here:

<https://journals.ashs.org/hortsci/view/journals/hortsci/55/5/article-p729.xml>.

## Extension Publication

**“Nutrition of Florida Citrus Trees, Third Edition”** is now available on the UF/IFAS Electronic Data Information Source (EDIS) web site. Center director (and soil scientist) Dr. Kelly Morgan is an editor of the publication. Contributing SWFREC authors include Dr. Morgan, citrus horticulturist Dr. Fernando Alferez, postdoctoral assistant Dr. Said Hamido, and professor emeritus Dr. Edward A. Hanlon. Multi-county citrus extension agent Dr. Mongi Zekri is also a contributing author. To see the final version, click here:

[https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/soil-water/EDIS\\_SL253\\_Nutrition\\_FL\\_Citrus\\_Trees.pdf](https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/soil-water/EDIS_SL253_Nutrition_FL_Citrus_Trees.pdf)



## Notice: Possible Graft Incompatibility

Recently, some apparent graft compatibility issues affecting the new citrus rootstock US-1283 and particular scions were noticed. To read a brief statement about this, click here:

[https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/plant-physiology/2020-02-14-Albrecht\\_Notice-possible-graft-incompatibility.pdf](https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/plant-physiology/2020-02-14-Albrecht_Notice-possible-graft-incompatibility.pdf). For further information, contact SWFREC plant

physiologist Dr. Ute Albrecht ([ualbrecht@ufl.edu](mailto:ualbrecht@ufl.edu)) or Dr. Kim Bowman ([Kim.bowman@usda.gov](mailto:Kim.bowman@usda.gov)), research geneticist with USDA ARS in Fort Pierce.

## 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

**June 16, 2020, 1pm online**

**2020 UF/IFAS Virtual Ag Best Management Practices (BMPs) Summit: Precision and Variable Rate Spraying and Fertilizer Application**

Open to extension agents and growers. SWFREC precision ag engineer Dr. Yiannis Ampatzidis is the speaker

Extension agents register for IST 31849

To link to seminar online: <http://zoom.us>, click “Join a Meeting,” and enter this code: 187 845 490

**June 23, 2020, 1pm online**

**2020 UF/IFAS Virtual Ag Best Management Practices (BMPs) Summit: Panel—Successful BMP Implementation and Why It Worked**

Open to extension agents and growers. SWFREC associate director of stakeholder relations Gene McAvoy is a panelist

Extension agents register for IST 31849

To link to seminar online: <http://zoom.us>, click “Join a Meeting,” and enter this code: 187 845 490

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Julie A. Carson

Marketing and Communications Specialist

UF/IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center

2685 SR 29 North

Immokalee, FL 34142

P: 239-658-3462

F: 239-658-3469

[carsonj@ufl.edu](mailto:carsonj@ufl.edu)

<http://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu>