



PALM BEACH COUNTY EXTENSION AGRICULTURE NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY - AUGUST 2007

July 9 8:00 am - 12:00 pm 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Pesticide Applicator Training, West Palm Beach General Standards/Core Training & Test Review (4 CEUs) Ornamental & Turf Test Review (2 CEUs)
July 11 8:00 am - 3:00 pm	Testing - Any Category - Belle Glade There will be no training offered on this day
July 12 9:00 am - 11:00 am	FREE-Spanish WPS Handler Training, Belle Glade Call 561-996-1655 to register before July 10
July 30 9:00 am - 3:00 pm	English Six Hour Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance Training & Exam Preparation, West Palm Beach Call 561-996-1655 to register before July 24, *\$50 per participant (notebook and refreshments) **\$150 exam fee must be paid to FDOACS prior to testing
August 6 8:00 am - 10:00 am 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Pesticide Applicator Training - West Palm Beach General Standards / Core Training & Test Review (2 CEUs) Natural Areas Weed Management (2 CEUs)
August 8 8:00 am - 12:00 pm 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Pesticide Applicator Training - Belle Glade General Standards / Core Training & Test Review (2 CEUs) Agricultural Row Crop Test Review (2 CEUs)
August 13 8:00 am - 4:00 pm	DOT Pilot Escort Training and Exam Prep - Belle Glade Provided by Rohland Bryant of Pinellas Technical Education Center Call 561-996-1655 to register, *\$215 per person , minimum 10 participants needed
August 16 9:00 am - 11:00 am	FREE- Tractor Safety Training - Belle Glade Call 561-996-1655 to register, minimum 10 participants needed
August 30 9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Worker Protection Standard: Compliance & Train-the-Trainer, West Palm Beach Call 561-996-1655 to register, *\$20 per person (notebook and lunch provided), minimum of 25 participants needed

West Palm Beach
559 N. Military Trail
(561) 233-1725

Cesar Asuaje
Hispanic Farm Labor
CRAsuaje@ifas.ufl.edu

Alyssa Dodd
Ag & Natural Resources
ADodd@ifas.ufl.edu

Vegetable Agent
Vacant

Belle Glade
2976 State Road 15
(561) 996-1655

Ron Rice
Agronomic Crops
RWRice@ifas.ufl.edu

Kiley Harper-Larsen
Agricultural Safety
Kiley@ifas.ufl.edu

Glades Youth Learn About Farm Safety

On May 10, 2007, Palm Beach County Extension hosted our 10th Annual **Progressive Agriculture Farm Safety Day**. It was a resounding success! Over 200 fourth-grade students and their teachers attended. County Commissioner Jess Santamaria and Glades-area liaison Michael Jackson also participated in this event.

Children rotated through learning stations where they took part in activities such as drowning prevention, chemical safety and lawnmower safety. Other presentations included Africanized honey bees, heavy equipment, weather, and wildlife. Instructors were volunteers from local safety organizations, agricultural businesses, and University of Florida/IFAS Extension.

Explorers from PBSO - Belle Glade and Pahokee Fire-Rescue, ages 11-18 volunteered as group leaders. Members of the Muckrackers 4-H and Belle Glade FFA assisted instructors at stations and United States Sugar Corp. employees with lunch.

This camp would not be possible without the funding of local businesses. A special and heartfelt "thank you" to everyone that supported us through their generous donations.

If you would like more information about this event or other safety programming, contact Kiley Harper-Larsen at 561-996-1655 or kiley@ufl.edu



Above: Ron Rice, Sugarcane Agent, promotes Africanized Honey Bee safety.. Above Right: Kiley Harper, Agricultural Safety Agent, County Commissioner Jess Santamaria and Glades-liaison Michael Jackson answer questions from Glades-area 4th graders.

2007 Progressive Agriculture Farm Safety Day Local Sponsors

Duda Farm Fresh Foods	Lewis Friend Farms
Everglades Farm Equipment	Monsanto Ag Products
Exit Realty	McNeill Harvesting
Farm Bureau	Okeelanta Corp.
Florida Crystals	Orsenigo Farms
Glade & Grove Supply	PBC Firefighters' Union
Glades Area Fire Rescue Volunteers	PBC Health Care District
Glades Gas	Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative
Gold Coast Credit Union	Sugar Farms Cooperative
Growers Management Inc.	Syngenta Crop Protection
Integrity Farms	T Holt Farms
J. T. Boynton Farms	United States Sugar Corp.
King Ranch - Florida	Wedgworth Farms
Lake Hardware & Farm Supply	

NEWS AND NOTES

Survival rate of Phytophthora

The oomycete *Phytophthora capsici* is the plant pathogen responsible for Phytophthora blight, a devastating disease of bell pepper, cucumber, pumpkin and related crops occurring worldwide. This pathogen caused major losses in Florida vegetable production during the past decade, especially on bell pepper and summer squash.



UF/IFAS researchers studied the survival of the oospore during two separate years of study under three different soil treatments: soil solarization, soil fumigation with methyl bromide-chloropicrin (67:33), and a non-treated soil control. No *P. capsici* was detected in the fumigated treatments during any sampling date. In both the solarization and non-treated soils, viable *P. capsici* was detected at all sampling periods.

However, populations of *P. capsici* were lower in the soil solarization treatments than in the non-treated soil. This data indicates that oospores of *P. capsici* have the potential to survive for at least a year in Florida farming soils and may serve as initial inoculum for future Phytophthora blight outbreaks. (*Plant Disease*, Vol. 91 No. 5, May 2007). Courtesy of *Chemically Speaking*, May 2007.

Bee Health

University of California San Francisco researchers reported in late April that a fungus that caused widespread loss of bee colonies in Europe and Asia may also be playing a crucial role in the mysterious phenomenon known as Colony Collapse Disorder. This disorder is destroying bee colonies across the United States. Researchers have been struggling for months to explain the disorder, and the new findings provide the first solid evidence pointing to a potential cause.

The results are "highly preliminary" and are from only a few hives from Le Grand in Merced County, UCSF biochemist Joe DeRisi said. "We don't want to give anybody the impression

that this thing has been solved." Other researchers have also found the fungus, a single-celled parasite called *Nosema ceranae*, in affected hives from around the country - as well as in some hives where bees had survived. However, those researchers have also found two other fungi and half a dozen viruses in the dead bees. (*LA Times*, 4/26/07). Courtesy of *Chemically Speaking*, May 2007.

Below: Absconded hives (Ann Johanson *The NewYorkTimes*)



Visit IFAS Extension on the Web at:

University of Florida IFAS Extension

SOLUTIONS
for your LIFE



About Extension Local Offices FAQ Success Stories

SolutionsForYourLife.com

Thank You!



For Sponsoring This Newsletter Issue!

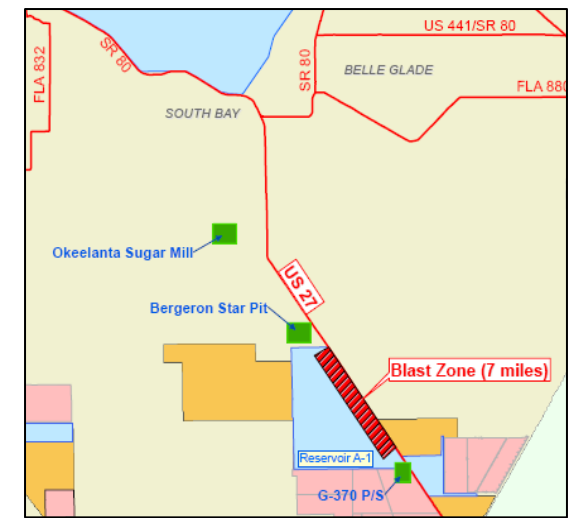
EAA RESERVOIR BLASTING BEGINS NEAR U.S. 27

Continuing construction on the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Reservoir) is moving to the western edge of U.S. 27 through Palm Beach County, affecting farms and drivers along a seven-mile stretch of the highway. Engineers and explosives technicians will be blasting through rock and soil within 150 feet of the highway's edge to create the EAA Reservoir's seepage canal.

The massive aboveground reservoir - an Everglades restoration project of the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)- will hold 190,000 acre-feet or 62 billion gallons of water when complete. Once operational, the EAA Reservoir will store water released from Lake Okeechobee, reducing harmful freshwater discharges to coastal estuaries and providing storage for stormwater runoff from the EAA.

www.pbfdot.com.

For reservoir project information, contact Florida Department of Transportation Palm Beach County Public Information Manager Christie Klammer, (561) 641.6440, or South Florida Water Management District Project Coordinator Kimberley Koptak, (561) 682-6163. Courtesy of the SFWMD.



Above : On or after July 16, project blasting will begin near U.S. 27, about 15 miles south of South Bay.

Construction details:

- On or after July 16, project blasting will begin near U.S. 27, about 15 miles south of South Bay.
- For the safety of the general public, all four lanes will be closed for about one hour during weekday blasting. This will bring northbound and southbound traffic to a rolling stop between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. In unforeseen circumstances blasts could occur as early as 8 a.m. or as late as 5 p.m.
- The project requires 133 blasts, one every weekday for six months, with each blast removing about 300 feet of rock.
- All work will stop during inclement weather, or in other unforeseen circumstances, which could postpone the project's completion date. All work will stop if U.S. 27 is needed as a hurricane evacuation route.
- For up-to-date traveler information, drivers can call the Florida Department of Transportation at 511, or visit the website at

LAKE WORTH LAGOON SYMPOSIUM HIGHLIGHTS MANAGEMENT EFFORTS

More than 250 environmental professionals, educators, residents, industry and community leaders converged at Palm Beach Atlantic University on May 16 for the *Lake Worth Lagoon Symposium*. Researchers, managers and local government officials shared updates on the state of the lagoon, conservation and habitat enhancement efforts, and economic aspects of the lagoon.

The Lake Worth Lagoon, Palm Beach County's largest urban estuary, spans more than 350 square miles that drain to the Lake Worth and Boynton inlets. Although the lagoon is completely surrounded by urbanized areas, it contains environmentally sensitive natural resources in need of protection. Participants received the latest research on seagrasses, sea turtles, manatees, oysters, birds, and water quality in the lagoon. Updates and technical presentations were given on several projects including

the Snook Islands Environmental Enhancement Project, the C-51 (West Palm Beach Canal) Muck Dredging project and the North Palm Beach County Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. The marine industry also participated, sharing information on the economics of waterway access, recreational fishing and the Port of Palm Beach.

Symposium partners included Palm Beach County, Florida Atlantic University Center of Environmental Studies, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Inland Navigation District, Lagoon Keepers, Lake Worth Drainage District, Marine Industries Association of Palm Beach County, Port of Palm Beach, South Florida Water Management District, University of Florida IFAS and West Palm Beach Fishing Club.

For more information on the *Lake Worth Lagoon Symposium* visit: www.pbcgov.com/erm/lwlsymposium.