

CITRUS



Peace River Valley Citrus Growers Association

Grower Meetings Discuss Coordination

PRVCGA held three consecutive grower luncheon meetings June 2-4 to discuss coordination of psyllid control in our growing region. This worthwhile topic is the best avenue growers have to date to help slow the spread of Greening.

Nearly 100 growers attended the three meetings to hear Dr. Michael Rogers, Assistant Professor of Entomology at the UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center, explain how this process can help citrus growers. If coordination becomes the

norm, growers who are not involved will experience higher populations of psyllid in their groves.

The process is widely touted by growers who are already participating in coordinated control efforts. At each meeting, local growers spoke in favor of the process expounding on their positive experience.

IFAS is ready and willing to help with the coordination process. They will be scientifically documenting psyllid populations in these control areas and collecting data.

They hope to prove to doubting growers the process is controlling populations better, slowing the spread of Greening and hopefully reflecting lower grower costs. They are offering coordinated growers a website keeping participating growers informed of their activities, timing and chemistry.

Two key items grower must address in the coordination process is

See "Management Areas" on Page 4

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Special points of interest:

- Coordination of Citrus Management Spray Areas*
- FDOC Budget Reviewed*
- Citrus Expo*
- Blue Jacket Program Helps FFA*

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Research projects in Jeopardy

In what seems a conspiracy against Florida citrus growers, funding opportunities and options for research have disappeared on both the state and federal level.

A part of the new Citrus Research & Development Foundation's (CRDF)

budget, USDA Specialty Crop Funding from the Farm Bill and state legislation and appropriations will not materialize to fund portions of the 2010-2011 CRDF budget. This means important research may not be funded.

The state expected funding was expected to come in two forms. The first, a general revenue \$1 million appropriation, has been cut by Governor Crist from the state's budget. The second, the Research Box Tax Referendum approved

See "Jeopardy" Page 2

Vetoes Spark Controversy



Governor Charlie Crist has sent waves of concern throughout Florida agriculture in vetoing several pieces of legislation passed by the 2010 Legislature. These bills held a variety of items important to the well being of Florida producers.

Specifically of interest to the Florida citrus industry was the formal

language creating the Citrus Research and Development Foundation through the University of Florida, and its funding source, the Research Box Tax. Also nixed by the Governor was research funding designated in the state's budget.

It is possible a special Legislative Session will be called. If this is the case, PRVCGA is among many agricultural groups who are asking the

Legislative Leadership to consider overriding the Governor's veto. This drastic and highly political measure was reached in concerns the Governor, and candidate for Congress undervalues the importance of Florida agriculture and will continue this view in the federal government, if elected.

We will continue to monitor this process on your behalf.

Albritton Resigns From FCC



Ben Albritton, chair of the Florida Citrus Commission for the past two years, has resigned his seat on the Commission. Ben resigned to actively

pursue his bid for the Florida House of Representatives.

Ben is an active member of PRVCGA and has served on our board of Directors and as President of the Board. He

is seeking election to Baxter Troutman's term limited seat for The Florida House of Representatives, District 44. His resignation is a loss for the industry. His ultimate goal, if he is elected, is to serve the citrus industry in new and exciting avenues.

It is well known the Florida Legislature is lacking agricultural knowledge, a reflection of the voting public. It is critically important agricultural knowledgeable individuals are

elected.

Ben notes, "My resignation from the Florida Citrus Commission was a hard thing to do. I enjoyed my time on the Commission and did my best to represent the growers of the Peace River Valley well. I hope I ultimately will be able to continue to service this area as a Ag knowledgeable legislator."

Jeopardy Continued from Page 1

by Florida growers in January. The referendum approved a two cent increase over the previous one cent tax. This \$3-4 million funding source is being replaced by continuing the previous research box tax of 1 cent, providing between \$1-2 million.

This is the second year the Specialty

crop funding hasn't become a reality. Growers are left holding the bag with a \$2.8 million budget shortfall.

PRVCGA considers FDOC budget To balance their 2010-11 budget, the CDRF has asked the Florida Department of Citrus to again come to their rescue adding the lost 2.8 million

to the already budgeted 8 million. This creates a dilemma in funding options and again pits advertising against research, a position growers are all too familiar.



PAC Process Underway

We will have an unprecedented number of new legislatures coming into the legislature in the 2010 state elections. It will be an important year to assure newcomers are Ag friendly.

Our PAC committee will meet in the next month and will be reviewing local candidates looking for these ag friendly candidates statewide. PAC

committee members Fran Becker, (Chair) Mike Carter, Keith Davis, Steve Johnson, Dave Owens and Justin Sorrells will have a big job.

Our PAC is substantially funded with \$15,000. This is very impressive for an association of our size and gives us

an opportunity to influence Florida agriculture's political strength.

It is important the proper candidates receive support. If you have a personal connection to a candidate, please contact one of the PAC members or the office staff.

FDOC Budget Reviewed

The board of PRVCGA met June 7 to consider the Florida Department of Citrus budget. The original budget proposal reflected a 4 cent or \$8 million of needed funds for the Citrus Research & Development Foundation. This \$8 million has now grown to \$10.8 million due to the loss of government funding (See article on page 1 entitled “Research Funding in Jeopardy”).

To balance their 2010-11 budget, the CDRF has asked the Florida Department of Citrus to again come to their rescue adding the lost \$2.8 million to the already budgeted \$8 million. This creates a dilemma in funding options and again pits advertising against research, a position growers are all too familiar.

In a effort to assure marketing and research continues, the Board of PRVCGA voted in support of funding the \$2.8 million of additional research funding, without raiding the marketing funding. It is their hopes the projected 143 million box crop projected in the budget will be a low projection and the USDA estimate will indicate a larger crop during the October 8, 2010 crop estimate announcement.

Their letter to the Florida Department of Citrus reads as follows:

Thank you for presenting the Florida Department of Citrus’ 2010-2011 program Plans & Budget to Peace River Valley Citrus Growers Association Board. The dual presentations by the Department and the Citrus Research & Development Foundation proved to be very helpful, due to the continuing research component in the FDOC budget.

It is unfortunate the Florida citrus growers are once again faced with a difficult decision, which is more important-research or marketing. Florida growers have worked diligently to divide these two facets bringing sound budgeting practices and a clear division of funding sources into affect. Yet, due to a string of misfortunes and poor communication, growers are now forced to choose between two important facets of their business or face with an additional expense few can afford.

To properly fund the industries obligations in research without again stripping the marketing program, the Board of Peace River Valley Citrus Growers Association voted in support of the Florida Department of Citrus increasing its proposed budget by \$2.8 million to

fund research. It is the board’s hope some of the funding required will be obtained by an increase in the crop size over your budgeted projections. If this is not the case, we would not support any increase in the processed orange box tax over \$.255.

It should be noted Peace River Valley Citrus Growers Association is not in favor of increasing expenses for growers. However, we do believe research and applied application of forthcoming findings is the only way to sustain the industry through this current disease crisis. We would hope future planning processes will have contingency plans for challenges such as those faced this year in obtaining appropriate funding.

Industry Responses

Industry Organization	Marketing Programs	Proposed Preliminary Budget	Disease Research	Misc. Notes
HCCGA	*	*	*	
GCGA	*	*	*	
IRCL	Y	Y	Y	
FCPKr	N/A	Y-FO*	Y	Include prec specialty as funding source for FVDMC
PRVCGA	Y-OO	Y*-OO	\$19.8m	Expect increase in crop size; increase OO up to \$8.265/floor
FCM	Y	Y w/changes	\$19.0m	Reduce OO marketing \$1.0m
FCPA	generally support	Y*	Y	

*reserve right to reveal in October

Management Areas Continued from Page 1

completion of sprays in a two week window and using products within the management area with the same mode of action. The two week timeframe is the time it takes adult psyllid to lay eggs and is meant to better control the lifecycle of the psyllid. Coordinating application of products with the same mode of action will help slow psyllid chemical resistance.

The IFAS inspectors will help growers inspect for psyllid and to document progress. Having consistent data will make it easier to support expanded coordination and at some point support possibly a statewide control program.

GIS maps will show where product is applied. This will assist participating growers in recruiting additional participants and creating bigger areas.

PRVCGA is not contacting individual growers at this point. Growers are encouraged to work with their neighbors to create the management areas. As these areas begin to coordinate and IFAS assembles their Citrus Management Area team, we will be a conduit of information.

Growers already coordinating are advising new areas start simple. Since all growers have individual ideas of products, timing and application methods, they believe it

may be easiest to agree on dormant sprays first. Then, build to areas where growers already have programs.

As always, the grower meeting would not have been possible without our sponsors, GOWAN and Krause Grove Service. All will agree, the sponsors made sure attendees were well fed.

We also appreciate Chemical Containers and Newton Crouch for providing a display of low volume sprayers at each meeting. With all of us working together, this process will be much easier for all.



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Pre-Registration Form

Please Check One

- (1) Grove owner, Manager, Foreman, Caretaker, Citrus Nursery
- (1) I am a Certified Crop Adviser
- (2) Handler, Packer, Shipper, Processor, Fruit Buyer
- (3) Association Executives and Board Members, Government, University, Research, Legislative, Student
- (4) Product Manufacturer, Vendor, or Supplier Representative doing business with growers or others in the citrus industry (see admission details)
- Other _____

To register visit www.CitrusExpo.net or mail or fax form to:
CitrusExposm, 5053, NW Hwy. 225A, Ocala, FL 34482. Ph: 352-671-1909;
Fax: 888-957-2226 • CitrusExpo@SoutheastAgNet.com

Complimentary meal tickets provided at registration desk
Please check days you plan to attend

- Wednesday Aug. 18, 2010
- Thursday Aug. 19, 2010

Name _____

Company/Farm: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____


Phone: _____


E-mail: _____


2010 PRVCGA Associate Members

Aglime Sales, Inc.	Flatwoods Consulting Group	Peace River Citrus Products, Inc.
Agricultural Services International	Florida Citrus Mutual	Progressive Water Resources, LLC
Bayer Crop Science	Florida Citrus Service, Inc.	Raymond James & Assoc., Inc.
Brandt	Florida Fuel of Hardee County, Inc.	Root Solutions
Bright Tiger, LLC	Florida Orange Marketers, Inc.	Roper Grower Co-Op/Tree See
Bright Leaf Citrus Nursery	Florikan	RSM McGladrey
BV Oil Co.	Flo-Tec, Inc.	Russ Groves Service, Inc.
C.W. Harrison, Inc.	G.P. Solutions	Scotts Professional Horticulture
Carden & Associates, Inc.	GSI Supply, Inc.	South Florida Land Sales
Carlton Law Firm, P.A.	George Mason Citrus, Inc.	Southeast AgNet/Citrus Industry Magazine
CF Industries	GOWAN Co.	Southern Gardens Citrus Processing
Chemical Containers, Inc.	Growers Fertilizer Corp.	Stallings Crop Insurance, Inc.
Citrus Solutions, LLC	Gulf Citrus Management	Steele Truck Center, Inc.
Clear Springs Enterprises, LLC	Hackney, Ames and Heitman PA	Sun Ag, Inc.
Conley Grove Service, Inc.	Hardee County Farm Bureau	Sunbelt Reserch & Development Co.
Crop Protection Services	Heller Bros. Packing Corp.	SunTrust Bank
Custom Harvest Insurance LTD.	Howard Fertilizer and Chemical	SunTrust Investment Services, Inc. – The Benton/Aguilar Group
Cutrale Citrus Juices USA, Inc.	Johnson Harvesting, Inc.	Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.
DeSoto Automotive, Inc.	Joshua Citrus, Inc.	The Andersons, Inc.
DeSoto Insurance Agency, Inc.	Joshua Water Control District	The Avanti Company
DeSoto Machine Shop/Triangle	KeyPlex	Three L
DLF International, Inc.	Krause Grove Service, Inc.	Tranex d/b/a Valencia Harvesting
Dunson Harvesting, Inc.	L. Dicks, Inc.	Triangle Chemical Company
E Co Consultants, Inc.	Locher Environmental Tech, LLC	Tropicana Products
EKC Citrus Growers, LLC	Louis Dreyfus Citrus	U.S. 1031 Exchange Services, Inc.
Environmental Consulting & Technology Inc.	Lykes Insurance, Inc.	United Irrigation Supply, Inc.
Everglades Harvesting & Hauling	Maassen Oil Company, Inc.	Wauchula State Bank
Farkas Citrus Nursery	Martin Realty Fla, Inc.	Wedgworth's, Inc.
Farm Credit Leasing	Monsanto	Wells & Associates Ins Agency
Farm Credit of S.W. Florida	Morgan Stanley Smith Barney	WilsonMiller, Inc.
Fields Equipment Co., Inc.	Newton Crouch, Inc.	Yara North America, LTD.
First National Bank of Wauchula	ORO-Agri, Inc.	
First State Bank of Arcadia	Pantuso, Inc.	
	Pavese Law Firm	


People, Places, & Things

 The Southwest Florida Water Management District has completed rulemaking amending section 5.1 of the Water Use Permit Manual to specify when water use permittees are required to submit the Flow Meter Accuracy Verification Forms, Required every 5 years, the form will now be submitted during a specific month depending upon the county in which the permitted water withdrawal facilities are located, thus spreading out the testing and report submittal requirements over 12 months. The new rule becomes effective on June 10, 2010, and is available on the District's website at <http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/permits/>.


 SWFWMD is proposing changes to the 20-Year Water Use Permit rules. This notice appeared in the Florida Administrative Weekly, May 7 and can be viewed online at www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/rules/proposed/details/2/.

 The Southwest Florida Water Management District is proposing a rule amendment to 40D-9.170 F.A.C. regarding hunting on District lands. A copy of the proposed rules can be

viewed on the District's web site at <http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/rules/proposed/details/18/>.

 The May 2010 Florida Citrus Economic and Market Indicators report is available on the web at: http://www.fdocgrower.com/d/economic_and_market_research/availability_and_movement/indicators-florida_citrus_economic_and_market-2010/may_2010.pdf.

Continuing its investment in the future of agriculture, Syngenta Crop Protection, Syngenta Seed Care™ and Syngenta Seeds ROGERS® Brand are supporting the Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association's (FFVA) education scholarship. Applications are currently being accepted, and the scholarship is open to Florida high school seniors and college students interested in pursuing a career in agriculture. The \$5,000 scholarship opportunity requires applications and essays be submitted by August 20 at www.SyngentaFFVAScholarship.com. For additional information, visit the [Scholarship Website](#), or contact Dan Burke at 919-870-5718 or

dburke@gibbs-soell.com. There is also a Facebook page called Look to  Ag for Your Future students can join.

The UF-IFAS Range Cattle Research & Education Center is offering free testing for the first 200 samples of soil and plant tissue (from established Bahia grass pastures) received between April 1 & June 30. In addition, participants will receive fertilizer recommendations and copies of educational materials. Soil & plant tissue samples must be submitted together. Contact Reyna at 863-735-1314 X206 or email [Reyna Speckmann](mailto:ReynaSpeckmann).

The 24th Annual Environmental Permitting Summer School will take place July 21-23 at Marriott's Marco Island Resort. Participants will be able to choose a personalized curriculum by selecting 8 out of 51 offered courses. Registration fees are \$515 for Florida Chamber members and \$545 for



Blue Jacket Program Helps FFA



Gary Sawyer from Syngenta presented the Blue Jacket Program to the PRVCGA board of directors at their June meeting. The program is designed to raise funds for the national and local Future Farmers of America chapters.

It works by Syngenta matching every \$2,500 donated to the national FFA chapter. Five hundred dollars of that funding will then be sent to the local FFA chapter of the donors choice.

Youth agricultural education programs are a focus of PRVCGA and the

association commends Syngenta for the efforts to help agriculture's youth. In support of the Syngenta program, PRVCGA encourages members to donate individually or in community groups to either this program or your local FFA chapter.

It is vitally important we have a constant stream of agriculturalist to sustain the Florida citrus industry. If our youth turns away from agriculture to other opportunities, eventually Florida agriculture will cease.

Please support our future farmers by donating. For more information contact the office staff or Gary Sawyer of Syngenta at 813-917-1818.

Welcome New Associate Member

Newton Crouch, Inc.



Peace River Valley Citrus Growers Association

10 East Oak Street, Suite B
Arcadia, Florida 34266

Phone: 863-494-0061

Phone: 863-773-2644

Fax: 863-494-4976

E-mail: oj@prvcitrus.org



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Gary Sawyer
Syngenta Crop Protection Inc.
1606 W Swilley Rd., Plant City, FL 33567
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