

2/23/09

Hello out there!

Yahoo!

The 2009 Tree and Landscape Short Course is over and we think it went very well!

It was great to see so many of you!

Seeing everyone in one spot is probably my favorite part of the whole thing!

We are very relieved- not that we don't enjoy the time!

Coming soon

Look for links to the videos of the speakers' presentations available online in the coming weeks and a follow up survey about how you intend to use the information and practices presented.

Moving on to what's next...

What's next?

I have to get through one more large event before I can make progress on the BMP and limited trainings you have been asking about.

Remember I am planning an aquatic training March 11 at Balm for CEUs. I will send more details as soon as I can.

For now 200 kids to organize.....

Youth Events

Each Extension Agent is required to spend 5% of their time on 4H and Youth Events.

Since the Nursery Agent position has been vacant it's been more like 10% for me- but that position has been filled and Shawn Steed will start March 2! Yahoo!!

2009 Youth Plant Show and Sale at the Florida Strawberry Festival

This is an event which is traditionally run by the Nursery Agent with some help from me- (almost there!!) It does a great job of encouraging youth in developing skills in horticulture and demonstrates financial reward for a job well done.

Hillsborough County students have been preparing for months, eagerly awaiting...

The 2009 Youth Plant Show and Sale

Sunday, March 1st, 2009 at the Florida Strawberry Festival.

The 35th annual Youth Plant Show and Sale adds a new dimension to the curriculum in Jr. and Sr. High Schools and 4-H clubs alike, training tomorrow's horticultural work force. This event is sponsored by Hillsborough County Extension, the Tampa Bay Chapter of the Florida Nursery Growers and Landscape Association (FNGLA), and the Florida Strawberry Festival. It serves to open communication among youth leaders and wholesale producers of ornamental plants and increases interest in ornamental horticulture by offering youth a meaningful activity that not only educates but offers reward and significant recognition.

133 Students experienced the reward of hard work and a job well done through the 2008 Youth Plant Show by raising at least one lot of quality plants according to the Florida Grades and Standards for auction at the sale. Youth involved sold a total of 267 lots totaling \$41,840 earning an average of \$314 per student and a lot of experience and fun in the middle. The 2009 sale will include a silent auction beginning at noon and live auction beginning at 2:00 p.m. and will be located in the newly expanded portion of the fairgrounds across from Tomlin Middle School.

Come out and buy something would ya?!

NEEDED

Sponsors to cover the costs of the parking lot rented for last year's buyers. This encourages buyers to attend and makes it easy for them to bring their goodies back with them.

FNGLA traditionally fronts the money for this but we need willing companies to contribute to cover the \$500 cost. Please let me know if you are interested. Your name is printed in the Youth Plant Sale Order as an incentive. Traditionally nurseries have covered this- but things are not looking so hot for them at the moment so I'm asking anyone that might be interested.

On another note

If I have not said it lately and you need to find out about a particular event,

You can always check the calendar page of prohort here

<http://prohort.ifas.ufl.edu/events/index.shtml>

I post the events I know of there but I do not email out about all of them- there are just too many!

At the top you will find links to nearby counties commercial horticulture pages

And link to Bureau of Compliance Monitoring where you can do a CEU class search if needed.

There are also links to the Statewide Extension calendar

And links to finding our local Extension office.

Don't Forget

If you need Aquatic CEUs plan for March 11 at Gulf Coast Research and Education Center. I will get the online registration finished soon.

Happy Monday?

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