

Hillsborough County Extension Service
5339 S. CR 579, Seffner FL., 33584
(813) 744-5519 fax (813) 744-5776

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Tree & Landscape Short Course 2001

The plan is in place for the 2001 Tree & Landscape Short Course. This event, held in conjunction with the Tampa Spring Expo trade show, has been a mainstay of the horticulture industry the Bay Area for about 20 years. Attendance for the past several years has averaged 450. This year the location of the event has been changed to the Four Points Sheraton Hotel at the east end of Hillsborough Ave, just before I-4. The new location is just minutes from the Florida State Fairgrounds where the Tampa Spring Expo (horticulture trade show) will also be held. **See the enclosed flyer** for program details and registration information. Full information and a registration form is available on line at

<http://prohort.ifas.ufl.edu/index.htm> Don't miss it!

Register for CEU Classes Now!

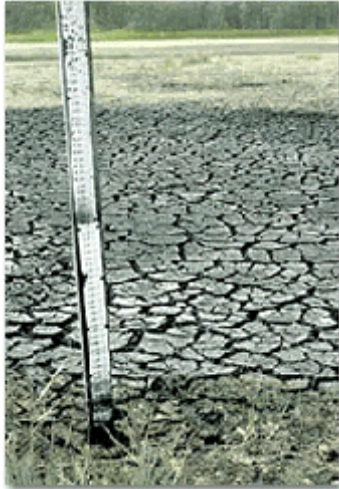
The Calendar of Events later in this newsletter lists **MANY** CEU classes. Check the listings and register for the local classes or the CEU's you need to keep your license, or go to

<http://pest.ifas.ufl.edu/ceu.htm>
for a state-wide list of approved classes.

Speaking of CEU's...

Did you know that the University of Florida and IFAS (Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences) has 19 software tutorials that provide CEU's for various pesticide license categories? Go to this site: <http://www.ifas.ufl.edu/~pest/> then go to "Buggy Software" for complete information.

Drought Update



As of Nov 22, **SWFWMD** issued this advisory: "Water levels remain below normal throughout the Southwest Florida Water Management District. The Governing Board agreed on June 27 to extend emergency watering restrictions until water levels return to their normal ranges. If the water resources do not recover to at least the low normal range, next spring's dry season will again place extraordinary stress on those resources. The District-wide Jan. - Oct. rainfall total of 33.56 inches is the driest Jan.- Oct. on record. The second driest Jan. - Oct. was recorded in 1916 with a total of 34.45 inches. District

Southwest Florida
Water Management District

rainfall records extend back to 1915. (Source: <http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/news/files/112200adv21.htm>)

The **Tampa Bay Wholesale Growers** issued the following statement: "The water situation is critical and will get worse. Expect total bans on outside watering in several areas! **TBWG Executive Director Hugh Gramling** has been contacted by various government agencies concerning the impending drought and further water restrictions. The hydrological conditions have not rebounded to the normal levels and weather predictions are for a dry fall and winter. This being the case, we are entering the dry season in much worse shape than last year." (Source: Fax newsletter dated 11-20-00)

To view current water restriction guidelines for all counties in West Central Florida, go to:

http://www.tampabaywater.org/New_TBW/Watering_Times/watering_times.htm

FNGA's Ben Bolusky says "hydrological conditions appear particularly worrisome in the Tampa area....It's imperative everyone conserve water to avoid mandatory restrictions. Before trying to tighten the faucet further, efforts must be directed towards effective enforcement. ...This underscores why Florida's nursery and landscape industry must have representatives appointed and sitting on the Water Management Districts' Governing Boards." (Source: Fax newsletter dated Nov 26, 2000)

Did You Know...

...that UF/ IFAS Davie Campus has written the **Pest Ants of Florida** handbook. Certified Pest Control Operators Association calls it "...the best Ant Handbook and Guide of Florida Ants **ever** written." The handbook is in color and printed on waterproof paper. It includes identification, foraging characteristics, nest sites, diet, common complaints and distribution by county. The handbook is available from CPCO for \$7 plus tax & shipping. Contact CPCO at 954-724-8806.

Quotable Quote:

A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.
Unknown

Canker Decontamination Reminder

This is a follow-up to the story in October's "Growing Concerns." That brief story noted the requirement by DACS that landscapers and other horticulture professionals in Dade and Broward Counties decontaminate themselves and their equipment every time they leave a property containing even one citrus tree. Remember, like Dade and Broward, there is also a citrus canker quarantine area in southern Hillsborough County. See the map at :

<http://doacs.state.fl.us/~pi/canker/maps.htm>

To avoid the spread of this disease, horticulture professionals (landscape, pest control or arborists) that may work within the quarantine area in residential or commercial properties containing citrus must decontaminate. The Dept of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) reminds them that :



In order to prevent the spread of citrus canker disease, it is essential that personnel or equipment working in citrus nurseries, groves, or near any citrus plants be decontaminated, regardless of whether or not an infestation has been proven to exist.

How do you decontaminate? DACS says:



Equipment

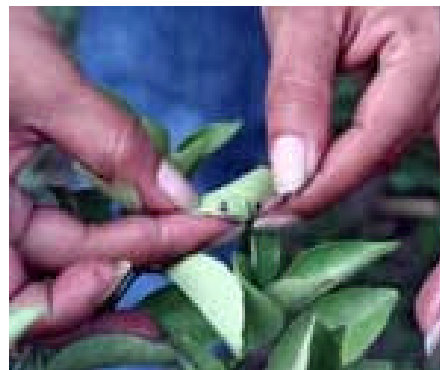
Equipment should be regularly pressure-washed with detergent and inspected for freedom from plant debris and soil residue, then further disinfected with one of the following quaternary ammonium compounds listed below. The undercarriage of the equipment should also be cleaned and disinfected.

Personnel

Risks of acquiring and dispersing canker inoculum are greatest when diseased citrus plant material and surrounding vegetation are wet. It is always wise to avoid unnecessary contact. All workers should disinfect hands, arms and any other part of the body that has contacted citrus and surrounding vegetation, plus any clothing, gloves, shoes, small personal items (pen, hand lens, glasses, pocketknife, etc.) that have come in contact with risky plant material using one of the following prescribed products in accordance with label directions. (Larger equipment should be treated with the products described in the EQUIPMENT section.) It is important that the users of these products **READ AND FOLLOW THE LABEL DIRECTIONS** because some products are for skin use only, and call for a follow-up water rinse, or soap and water hand washing **BEFORE** use of the product. Others are one-step no rinse products, and can also be applied to clothing while being worn. Allow the no-rinse products to air-dry. For hands, use normal hand washing action for 20 to 30 seconds, paying special attention to fingernails and between fingers. Products marked with an "*" are in a formulation that can be applied to clothing and shoes using a spray dispenser. With all products, avoid contact with eyes.

While the full list of decontamination chemicals is on the DACS website noted above, one of the alternatives to the specialty chemicals follows:

Household Bleach (Chlorine) A solution for decontamination of tools and equipment can be made using

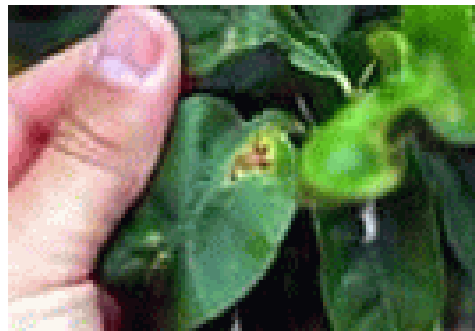


household bleach. Apply 200 ppm to all surfaces to the point of run-off and maintain a pH of 6.0 to 7.5. Most solutions made with 1 ounce of bleach to 1 gallon of water meet this criteria. This solution loses its strength in approximately 2 to 3 days during hot weather months.

(Source: <http://doacs.state.fl.us/~pi/canker/decontamination.pdf>)

More Canker News...

...the citrus canker controversy in Florida is almost as big a battle as the state's presidential election results. A Broward County circuit judge ruled that only diseased trees would be removed from homeowners' property, at least for now, according to Miami Herald. Previously, USDA officials were removing any citrus trees within 1,900 ft. of an infected tree. USDA announced that \$8 million has been allocated to replace citrus trees removed from residential properties and \$58 million would go to Florida orchard growers who lost trees due to the disease. (Source: *Weekly NMPRO e-mail for November 21, 2000*)



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Did You Know?

...according to a PLCAA, a 1999 Gallup Poll showed that 21 million US households spent a record \$16.8 billion on professional green industry services. Lawn and landscape maintenance was the Number 1 green industry hired by homeowners.

Quotable Quote: You know you're from upstate NY when you define summer as three months of bad sledding. - Unknown

Some Uses of Diazinon to be Discontinued?

Indoor uses of diazinon likely will be discontinued. U.S. EPA had requested new data be developed to continue certain uses of diazinon, in compliance with FQPA, but Novartis decided it would no longer support diazinon's indoor uses, which include greenhouse applications. "We regret that Novartis has had to make the business decision to no longer support indoor uses of diazinon," said product mgr. Pat Willenbrock. "We regret the loss of this valuable tool, particularly for our colleagues in the ornamental and structural pest control markets. Unfortunately, sales in these sectors no longer justify the heavy commitment of resources now required to support any indoor uses." (Chemically Speaking - August, 2000)



Letter to the Editor

This letter comments on the story in the October "Growing Concerns" about the new termite found in the Florida keys, *Coptotermes havilandi*, or Haviland's subterranean termite. "Dear Sir,

The bad news is that yet another species of termite has invaded our space.... worse news is that we might be lulled into a false sense of security by the statement "...the termites are weak flyers, so it will be years before they can spread to mainland Florida."

TERMITES DO NOT INVADE BY FLYING ONLY. If so, we are asked to believe that the Formosan species "flew" from Taiwan, formerly Formosa, to the mainland US. Perhaps the spread of Haviland's subterranean termite to the mainland is already secured, or is inevitable, but we as professionals, are obliged to foster a public awareness of the exclusionary tactics, which if taken as of now, will determine how severe a problem *Coptotermes havilandi*, will become on mainland Florida.

Ron Persaud

P.S. I am slightly disappointed that this was published without comment in the prestigious journal "CPCO Advantage"

Did You Know

...that there is a link on the **ProHort** website for information and forms concerning all the diagnostic services offered by the Extension Service and the University of Florida? Go to the homepage at <http://prohort.ifas.ufl.edu/index.htm> then click on "Commercial" on the left side of the page. There you will find a link to lots of info, forms etc on soil pH testing , soil nutrient testing, plant disease analysis, insect ID, plant ID, and nematode testing.

Computers...

A Dell customer called technical support to say he couldn't get his computer to fax anything. After 40 minutes of trouble-shooting, the technician discovered the man was trying to fax a piece of paper by holding it in front of the monitor screen and hitting the "send" key.

Another customer was asked to send a copy of her defective diskettes. A few days later a letter arrived from the customer along with photocopies of the floppies.

A confused caller to IBM was having troubles printing documents. He told the technician that the computer had said it "couldn't find printer." The user had also tried turning the computer screen to face the printer but that his computer still couldn't "see" the

Formosan: The Super Termite



Formosan workers & soldiers

The greatest man vs. insect challenge of the new millennium may be the Formosan termite, predicts a University of Georgia researcher in the January 31 issue of the Royal Entomological Society's Bulletin. Ecologist Mark Hunter says the voracious insect will take on creosoted poles, electrical switches, telephone cables, live trees and water line seals with determination. RISE focused on the threat in a successful news media forum early last year in New Orleans, where the insect already has heavily infested historic homes as well as 30 percent of the city's majestic live oaks. USDA's Agricultural Research Service has pinpointed control of this pest as a research priority. (Source: *CPCO Advantage*, June 2000)

Quotable Quote:

For every action, there is an equal and opposite criticism. - Unknown

Skunk Vine

Skunk vine (*Paederia foetida*) is an invasive woody vine from Asia which has become naturalized throughout the southeastern United States. Reportedly first introduced to the US in 1897 as a "potential fiber crop", skunk vine has now been documented to occur in 17 counties in central and north central Florida. See Atlas of Florida vascular Plants, www.plantatlas.usf.edu, for current distribution.



It actually does smell more-or-less skunk-like, especially when crushed. The aggressive, competitive plant may grow high into the trees in a variety of habitats, from mesic hammocks to xeric sand hill communities. It creates dense canopies leading to damage or death of native vegetation and appears to prefer sunny floodplains and bottomlands. It can even grow under water.

It was included in Category I, "Species that are invading and disrupting native plant communities in Florida," of the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council List of Invasive Species in 1993. It was added to the Florida Noxious Weed List (5B-57.007 F.A.C.) in 1999, making it illegal to possess, move, or release in Florida. See FLEPPC Exotic Plant Database, www.fleppc.org.

Relatively little is known about the ecophysiology and management of skunk vine. University of Florida graduate student, Dorothy Brazis, is investigating the ecophysiology and control of the plant. It produces seeds but it is not known if the seeds are spread by birds or other animals. (Mocking birds are said to feed on its seeds.) Its stems root freely.

Characteristics

Its stems, climbing or prostrate, are reported to grow to 30 feet long. Interestingly, the stems "invariably twine to the right." There is much variation in the shapes and sizes of the leaves. However, most skunk vine leaf

blades have rounded-to-heart-shaped bases and long-pointed tips. The leaves have smooth margins (entire). Leaves may be opposite on the stem or, rarely, in whorls of three. Stipules are conspicuous. Leaves and flowers are on petioles (stems), which are mostly rather long (to 2.5 in. long). Skunk vine flowers are smallish, light grayish pink or lilac, with red centers. The fruit are small, shiny brown orbs having 2 black seeds.

Control

Some hand removal of skunkvine in landscape situations will be necessary but large-scale hand removal in natural areas has proven ineffective. Cut stems die above, but regrow from below. One way skunkvine is spread is by transport of rooted fragments and seeds. Always be careful not to dispose of skunkvine where seeds can germinate or stem fragments take



root. Flooding decreases vigor but plants remain alive when submersed for at least 192 days. Herbicides that contain the active ingredients triclopyr amine (Garlon 3A and Brush-B-Gone), triclopyr ester (Garlon 4), and imazapic (Plateau) provide effective control. Garlon 3A, Garlon 4, and Plateau are available at agriculture supply stores. Brush-B-Gon is available at hardware and garden supply stores. Complete control is not achieved with a single application; follow-up applications are necessary. Avoid contact of herbicides with sensitive non-target vegetation. Use herbicides according to all directions on the label. (Sources: UF/IFAS Extension publication # SS-AGR-80 at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/WG208> and the UF/IFAS Center for Invasive and Aquatic Plants page titled "Skunk Vine" at <http://aquat1.ifas.ufl.edu/paefoe.html>)

Pesticide Registrations & Changes

Monsanto has added a cut stump application in forestry site preparation and renovation to their **Roundup®** (glyphosate) label.

Novartis will no longer support the use of diazinon indoors, including greenhouse applications. See the article elsewhere in this newsletter.

Novartis has added the control of whiteflies and thrips on ornamentals to their **AVID®** (abamectin) label.

Mycotech, as a result of the IR-4 project, can add usage on roses in greenhouses, ground beds and containers to their **CINNAMITE®** (cinnamaldehyde) label.

FMA/Aventis have requested EPA to delete all home and residential uses and any use other than commercial agricultural crops and commercial ornamentals from their **THIODAN®** (endosulfan) label effective 1-16-2001. (Source: *Various issues of Chemically Speaking*)

Awards and Honors

Brenda Shamblin of Basically Groundcovers has been selected as **Outstanding Woman in Agriculture** by the Hillsborough County Fair. Brenda is currently president of the Tampa Bay Wholesale Growers.

Greg Shiver recently received the **Outstanding Agriculture Volunteer of the Year** by the Hillsborough County Extension Service. Greg is currently serving as the chairman of Youth Environmental Horticulture Activities sponsored by the Extension Service.

Mel Edelstein, Executive Director of CPCO was voted one of the **25 most influential people in the pest control industry** at the National Pest Management Association Convention in Las Vegas.

New Contact Info for FTGA

FTGA, the Florida Turfgrass Association has moved. Their new address is 3008 E. Robinson St, Orlando, Fl., 32801-1968. Phone - 800-882-6721, Website address -

www.ftga.org, e-mail turf@ftga.org

In Business News...

Ryobi Outdoor, makers of hand-held outdoor power products was recently acquired by MTD, and LESCO recently announced it would carry Kawasaki exclusively as it's hand-held equipment line.

Beneficial Success

...the release of thousands of parasitic wasps (*Anagyrus kamali*) in S. Calif. resulted in the reduction (96%) of the population of pink hibiscus mealybug, USDA reports. The mealybug was first detected in Imperial County, Calif., in Sept. 1999. USDA had previously used the wasp to control the mealybug in the Caribbean. APHIS is working with Calif. Dept. of Food and Ag. to control the spread of the mealybug. The mealybug is a pest of more than 200 plant species including ornamentals, vegetables and fruit trees. (Source: *GMPRO greEn-MAIL*, for Nov. 21, 2000)

Quotable Quote: Hell hath no fury like the lawyer of a woman scorned.

Websites of Interest

<http://www.horticopia.com/>

If you've ever seen **Horticopia** the book, you know what a wonderful reference it is. Now Horticopia is available on CD, with different portions available separately. **Horticopia A-Z** has 9700 color photos and detailed info on 4200 plants in a searchable database all on a single CD for \$99.95 **Perennials & Annuals Edition II** is \$120, **Trees, Shrubs and Groundcovers Edition II** is \$180. Both Edition II volumes can be purchased for \$288. Look for details on the above website.

<http://www.plantapalm.com/>

This site is by the Palm & Cycad Societies of Florida. It contains both the Virtual Palm Encyclopedia and the Virtual Cycad Encyclopedia. I can't say enough about these sites. Both sites include evolution, biology, taxonomy, and articles until you can't read anymore. Also included are scientific descriptions and photos of what appears to be every cycad and palm known to man. I counted around 350 types of cycads. The main instigator of these sites, Jody Haynes, an Extension agent in Miami says there are over 1200 photos of palms. This site was obviously put together by some very compulsive people. What a great site!

Association & Organization Websites

ANLA - American Nursery and Landscape Association - <http://www.anla.org/>

FTGA - Fla Turfgrass Assoc - www.ftga.org

ISA - International Society of Arborists - Florida Chapter - <http://www.floridaisa.org/>

ALCA - American Landscape Contractors Assoc - <http://www.alca.org/>

TBWG - Tampa Bay Wholesale Growers - <http://www.tbwg.org/>

ASLA - American Society of Landscape Architects - <http://www.asla.org/asla/>

ASHS - American Society of Horticultural Science - <http://www.ashs.org/>

FSHS - Fla Society of Horticultural Science -
<http://valencia.lal.ufl.edu/jkbu/fshs/index.html>

FNGA - Florida Nurserymen & Growers Association - www.fnga.org

FPRA - Fla Park & Recreation Assoc - <http://www.frpa.org/>

AMCA - American Mosquito Control Assoc - <http://www.mosquito.org/>

FMCA - Fla Mosquito Control Assoc - <http://www.floridamosquito.org/>

FLEPPC - Fla Exotic Plant Pest Council - <http://www.fleppc.org/>

AFNN - Assoc of Fla Native Nurseries - <http://www.afnn.org/>

LMA - Landscape Maintenance Association - www.floridayards.com

Calendar of Events

- Jan 5 - Limited Commercial Exam Prep Class** - HCC Brandon Campus - Contact Bill Phagan 813-961-2149
- Jan 6 - Limited Commercial Exam Prep Class** - Palm Beach - Contact Bob Kessler 954-346-6487
- Jan 9 – FTGA Regional Turf Conference – FCNP CEU’s** - Lake Worth– Contact 1-800-882-6721 or see the enclosed flyer
- Jan 9 - Pesticide Testing** - Hillsborough Extension office - 813-744-5519
- Jan 17 – FTGA Regional Turf Conference - Tampa – FCNP CEU’s** – Contact 1-800-882-6721 or see the enclosed flyer
- Jan 17 – 20 Tropical Plant Industry Exhibition (TPIE)** This year the event will include together a **Retail Short Course - FCNP CEU’S** - contact FNGA at 1-800-375-3642
- Jan 19 – Business & Horticulture Classes** Contact Bill Phagan for topics & details 813-961-2149
- Jan 19 – FTGA Regional Turf Conference** – Orlando – **FCNP CEU’s** Contact 1-800-882-6721 or see the enclosed flyer
- Jan 20 - Pest Control Operator CEU Class** - Contact Bob Kessler 954-346-6487
- Jan 26 - Aquatics CEU Class** - (tentative - call to confirm) 8-10am Hillsborough Extension Office
- Jan 26 - Core CEU Class** - (tentative - call to confirm) 10-12noon Hillsborough Extension Office
- Jan 26 - Right-of-Way CEU Class** - (tentative - call to confirm) 1-3pm Hillsborough Extension Office
- Jan 30 – First Annual Ant Symposium**– Hosted by CPCO - Marriot Westshore 813-287-2555
- Jan 31 – First Annual Ant Symposium**– Hosted by CPCO - Ft Lauderdale Airport Hilton 954-920-3300
- Jan 30 - Ornamental & Turf Exam Prep Class** - 9 -11am Hillsborough Extension office 813-744-5519 (tentative - call to confirm)
- Jan 31 – FTGA Regional Turf Conference** –Jacksonville - **FCNP CEU’s** – Contact 1-800-882-6721 or see the enclosed flyer
- Feb 1 – FTGA Regional Turf Conference** – Milton - **FCNP CEU’s** Contact 1-800-882-6721 or see the enclosed flyer
- Feb 2 - Limited Commercial Exam Prep Class** - HCC Brandon Campus - Contact Bill Phagan 813-961-2149
- Feb 13 - Pesticide Testing** - Hillsborough County Extension office 813-744-5519
- Feb 13-15 - SE Regional Public Health Pest Conference** - Sheraton 4 Points, Panama City Beach Contact Jack Peterson 850-872-4184 x 36
- Feb 16 – Business & Horticulture Classes** Contact Bill Phagan for topics & details 813-961-2149
- Feb 20 - CEU class for O&T, Limited L&O, and Limited Commercial** - (tentative - call to confirm) Hillsborough County Extension office - 8-10am 813-744-5519
- Feb 20 - Core CEU Class** - (tentative - call to confirm) 10-12noon Hillsborough Extension Office
- Feb 23 – Tree & Landscape Short Course – FCNP CEU’S – NEW LOCATION!!**
Sheraton 4-Points at Hillsborough and Orient Rd, Tampa, Contact 813-744-5519
- Feb 23-25 - Tampa Spring Expo - FCNP CEU’s - THE Horticulture Trade Show** in West Central Florida - Hosted by the Tampa Bay Wholesale Growers Contact 813-655-1914

Feb 27 - Private Applicator Exam Prep Class - (tentative - call to confirm)

Hillsborough County Extension office - 813-744-5514

Mar 1 - 11 - Strawberry Festival - Plant City

Mar 2 - Limited Commercial Exam Prep Class - HCC Brandon Campus - Contact Bill

Phagan 813-961-2149

Mar 3 - Limited Commercial Exam Prep Class - Orange County - Contact Bob Kessler 954-346-6487

Mar 9 – Business & Horticulture Classes Contact Bill Phagan for topics & details 813-961-2149

Mar 13 - Pesticide Testing - 9am Hillsborough County Extension office 813-744-5519

Mar 17 - Limited Structural CEU Class - (tentative - call to confirm) Hillsborough

County Extension Office 9am - 1pm 813-744-5519

Mar 20 - Private Applicator CEU Class - 8-10am (tentative - call to confirm)

Hillsborough County Extension office 813-744-5519

Mar 20 - Core CEU Class - 10-12noon -(tentative - call to confirm) Hillsborough County Extension office 813-744-5519

Mar 27 - Aquatic Exam Prep Class - 8-12noon Hillsborough County Extension Office - 813-744-5519 (tentative - call to confirm)

Apr 6 - Limited Commercial Exam Prep Class - HCC Brandon Campus - Contact Bill

Phagan 813-961-2149

Apr 10 - Pesticide Testing - 9am Hillsborough County Extension office - 813-744-5519

Apr 20 – Business & Horticulture Classes Contact Bill Phagan for topics & details 813-961-2149

Apr 25 - Right-Of-Way Exam Prep Class - 9-11am - Hillsborough Extension Office

813-744-5519 (tentative - call to confirm)

Hillsborough Community College

Schedule of Classes

These Classes Begin Jan 8th, 2001

Course #	Course Name	Section #	Times	Days	Room#
ORH 1412	Plant Growth & Physiology	12594	7-9:50pm	Tues	PFLS 109
IPM 1631	Plant Pests	12599	7-9:50pm	Mon	PFLS 109
IPM 1631L	Plant Pests Lab	12601	5-6:50pm	Mon	PFLS 109
ORH 1262	Floriculture	12604	7-9:50pm	Wed	PFLS 109
ORH 1262L	Floriculture Lab	12607	5-6:50pm	Wed	PFLS 109
ORH 2212	Woody Ornamentals	12589	8-9:50am	Sat	Lowry Park
ORH 2212L	Woody Ornamentals Lab	12590	10-1:50pm	Sat	Lowry Park
ORH 1220	Turf & Landscape Mgmt	20972	7-9:50pm	Thur	PFLS 109
HOS 1220	Horticulture Science	21549	6:45-8:20pm	Mon/Wed	UACCC Rn 139

Contact Fred Webb 813-757-2104 or Joan Raynor 813-757-2112

Just My Opinion...

With the labor shortage that exists, nearly anyone can find a job in horticulture. Moving up through the ranks, gaining professionalism, and learning to manage and lead takes hard work, dedication and EDUCATION! The only schools nearby that offer degrees in horticulture are Hillsborough Community College and Florida Southern College in Lakeland. If you're looking at a career in horticulture...education is the way to go! Dave Palmer