Insect Management in Pecans

Disease and insects are often the limiting factors in the production of pecans in Florida. The crop requires about 7 months to develop and during that time is subject to attack by a variety of pests. A good disease and insect control program is important, not only in protecting the maturing crop, but it is essential to the production of high yields year after year.

Trees, which are prematurely defoliated by insects, mites, and diseases, frequently produce nuts of low quality and set a light crop the following year. Pecan varieties differ in resistance to scab and other diseases. Scab susceptible varieties will require more fungicide sprays than resistant varieties. Check with your county extension agent to determine the most suitable varieties for local conditions.

Although today's pecan grower is fortunate to have effective fungicides, insecticides, and improved spray equipment available to him, spraying for pest control is not an easy job. It requires attention to many details that on the surface may seem unimportant. Even the best spray program can be improved if the following cultural and sanitary practices are followed:

1. Provide better air circulation in orchard; mow or disc weeds, and prune low hanging limbs. Keeping the tree row weed-free by use of herbicides is recommended.
2. Maintain tree vigor by following recommended fertility practices. (See Circular 280-B, *Pecan Production in Florida*.)

Perhaps the three most important factors in a spray program are timing, coverage and rate.

For further information about these three important spray program factors refer to the UF/IFAS Extension Publication *Insect Management in Pecans* available at the following link [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/IG077](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/IG077)

If you have any questions send an email message to agazula@ufl.edu or call 352-955-2402
Pesticide Updates

**Spinetoram:** On May 21, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) approved the Special Local Needs registration EPA SLN FL-090009 for Delegate® (spinetoram) use in citrus at low volume to manage Asian citrus psyllid. (FDACS PREC Agenda, 6/4/09).

**Uniconazole:** The FDACS has approved the use of Sumagic® plant growth regulator (uniconazole) use on fruiting vegetable transplants. The EPA Reg. No. for the Valent U.S.A. Corporation product is 59639-37. (FDACS PREC Agenda, 6/4/09).

**Novaluron:** The EPA has approved time-limited tolerances for the insecticide novaluron (Rimon®) on strawberry. The tolerance expires at the end of 2011. (Federal Register, 5/6/09).

**Acibenzolar:** The EPA has approved tolerances for the systemic activator acibenzolar (Actigard®) and its metabolites on brassica vegetables (group 5), fruiting vegetables (group 8), leafy vegetables (group 4), cucurbit vegetables (group 9), and bulb onion. (Federal Register, 5/26/09).

**Etoxazole:** The EPA has approved tolerances for the miticide etoxazole (Zeal®). Tolerances of importance to Florida include cucumber and tomato. (Federal Register, 5/27/09).

**Endosulfan:** The EPA is accepting comments on the proposed restricted entry interval (REI) modifications to endosulfan insecticide products. The REIs are being lengthened from 2 or 3 days for crops such as cucumber, watermelon, and squash, to 18- to 22-days. Affected stakeholders should contact the PIO for assistance or information regarding the comments.

**Carbofuran:** On May 15, the EPA issued a final rule revoking all the tolerances for the insecticide carbofuran (Furadan®). Tolerances of include sweet corn, cotton seed, cucumber, melon, pepper, potato, rice, sorghum, strawberry, squash, and sugarcane, will expire/are revoked at the end of 2009. (Federal Register, 5/15/09).

**Trifloxysulfuron:** On May 20, the FDACS approved Syngenta’s experimental use permit (EUP) for use of Monument® (trifloxysulfuron) herbicide to control hydrilla in retention and non-flowing ponds. The permit is EUP No. FL09-EUP-01 and expires at the end of the year. (FDACS letter of 5/20/09).

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New Farmer’s Market Opening in Putnam County in July

The new farmer’s market in Putnam County will open in July and will have room for about 200 vendors. The market will be an open air market operating year around (except during the Fair).

**Location:** The farmer’s market will be located in the Putnam County Fairgrounds, 117 Yelvington Rd., East Palatka, FL, 32131.

**Hours of Operation:** The hours of operation will be Mondays from 7:00 am to 2:00pm... rain or shine. The market will feature local and organic produce, a variety of fruits, honey and a host of other products.

**For further information contact:**
Dennis Harvin  
E-mail: dcharvin@bellsouth.net  
Phone: 386-467-8969 or 386-244-4454

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“Earn One Core CEU Online”

Read the article “Two Foes To Know” on www.floridagrower.net and then take the test.

**Link to the article:** http://www.growingproduce.com/floridagrower/ceu/?storyid=2059

For further information contact Aparna Gazula your Commercial Horticulture Extension Agent at 352-955-2402, email agazula@ufl.edu
Introduction: There are two predominant strawberry (Fragaria ananassa Duch.) production systems throughout the world: Open-field cultivation and production under protective structures (e.g. high-tunnels and greenhouses). In California and Florida, strawberry is produced predominately under open-field conditions, whereas in Japan and in parts of Europe, such as Spain, Netherlands, and Germany, the latter system is widely utilized. Because the environmental differences between of these two systems, there is a necessity for breeding cultivars that could be adapted to each specific situation. ‘Florida Elyana’ is the first Florida-bred cultivar designed for tunnel and greenhouse production. It is a short-day plant and produces flavorful fruit. ‘Florida Elyana’ produces larger fruit than ‘Strawberry Festival’, which is the predominant cultivar in Florida and it holds a large market share in Spain, Morocco, and Egypt.

Origin: ‘Florida Elyana’ strawberry (Fragaria ananassa Duch.) originated from a 2000 cross between FL 96-114 and FL 95-200. FL 96-114 resulted from a cross between ‘Sweet Charlie’, a 1992 University of Florida release, and ‘Cuesta’ (U.S. Plant Patent 8,662), a Univ. of California cultivar released in the early 1990s. FL 95-200 is a result of a cross of the lines FL 93-46 and FL 93-66, both of which have a number of cultivars in its complex pedigree, including ‘Rosa Linda’ and ‘Pajaro’.

Description: ‘Florida Elyana’ is a short-day cultivar. It is smaller and has a lower stature plant than ‘Strawberry Festival’. This habit, along with fruit that are attached to long pedicels, makes the fruit easy to harvest. ‘Florida Elyana’ produces larger fruit than ‘Strawberry Festival’. It has a mean fruit weight in west central Florida of between 24 and 27 g, compared to between 17 and 21 g for ‘Strawberry Festival’. Fruit are mostly medium-conic to wedge-shaped, with the wedge-shaped fruit often showing a longitudinal crease on the broad sides of the fruit. ‘Florida Elyana’ fruit are quite susceptible to surface cracking, which is due to exposure to free moisture. Thus we are not recommending this cultivar for open-field culture where there is a high likelihood of multiple rain or dew events during the fruiting season. External fruit color is a bright red, and internal color is carmine pink. The calyx is generally medium in size and attractive. Fruit texture is firm, and the flavor is usually sweet with a pleasant aroma. The soluble solids content of ‘Florida Elyana’ fruit is as high as or higher than that of ‘Strawberry Festival’, and its soluble sugar content/titratable acidity ratio is consistently higher than that of ‘Strawberry Festival’.

To find out more about this University of Florida bred strawberry cultivar and its performance in research trials refer to the entire publication available at the following website link [http://www.hos.ufl.edu/vegetarian/09/June/SB%20Florida%20Elyana%27Vegetarian-June%202009.pdf](http://www.hos.ufl.edu/vegetarian/09/June/SB%20Florida%20Elyana%27Vegetarian-June%202009.pdf)

If you do not have access to the internet or require a paper copy please contact me at the below information.

If you have any questions send an email message to agazula@ufl.edu or call 352-955-2402
Latest University of Florida/IFAS Extension Publications

“Weed Control in Pepper”. This fact sheet guides Florida pepper growers in planning a weed-control program that integrates chemical, mechanical, and cultural methods to fit their weed problems and production practices. [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/WG034](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/WG034)

“Beith Alpha Cucumber: A New Greenhouse Crop for Florida”. This fact sheet describes this cucumber that is similar to Dutch-type cucumbers, with shorter fruit, less susceptibility to damage, and potentially higher yields – production methods, cultivar evaluation, powdery mildew resistance, and snack-size type cultivars. [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/CV277](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/CV277)

“Weed Control in Pepper”. This fact sheet provides information for citrus grove workers about pests, pest control methods, pesticide toxicity, how to transport pesticides, first aid and decontamination, preventing exposure, worker protection standard, storage and disposal, pre-operation checkpoints, mixing and loading, container management, calibration, application best management practices. [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/AE247](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/AE247)

“Blossom-End Rot in Bell Pepper: Causes and Prevention”. This fact sheet describes one of the most commonly observed disorders of pepper, blossom-end rot (BER) — its symptoms, calcium physiology, calcium deficiency, factors predisposing fruits to BER, and prevention. [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/SS497](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/SS497)

“A Web-Based Irrigation Scheduling Model to Improve Water Use Efficiency and Reduce Nutrient Leaching for Florida Citrus”. This fact sheet describes an easy to use web-based water-balance irrigation scheduling tool that assists growers in determining irrigation schedules that can improve water use efficiency and reduce nutrient leaching. [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/SS499](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/SS499)

If you need any of these publications email agazula@ufl.edu or request a copy from your Alachua County Extension Service Office