



Commercial Clippings

FOR THE NORTHEAST FLORIDA GREEN INDUSTRY
Serving Clay, Duval, and Nassau County

April/May 2014

Issue 31, Page 1

UF IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

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Proposed Worker Protection Standard (WPS) Changes

By Erin Harlow

Worker Protection Standards Training (WPS) is an important part of running a safe production facility and is required for farms, forests, nurseries, or greenhouses that use products with an Ag use label. The main goal of WPS is to provide information to employees about their risks associated with working around or with pesticides. New changes are being proposed to the current requirements. Some of the new changes include:



- WPS training must be provided yearly instead of every 5 years.
- Initial training must be completed in two days instead of five days.
- Records would have to be kept for two years.
- Handlers have to be a minimum of 16 years old unless family.
- A buffer areas of 25-100 feet around the field during applications in farms, forests, nurseries, and greenhouses instead of just nurseries and greenhouses.
- Definition of immediate family would increase to include other family members such as in-laws, grandparents, and grandchildren.
- Records must be kept for two years – application information, labeling, and safety data sheets and be available to representatives ,as well as, workers and handlers.
- Applications would no longer be required to be posted at a central location for 30 days after the application.
- For more information, to access the full list of proposed changes or to provide comments about the changes to WPS requirements please visit the EPA’s website at <http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/safety/workers/proposed/index.html>.

All classes require pre-registration and will be held at the Duval County Extension Office, 1010 N McDuff Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32254 unless otherwise stated. To register visit us at <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu> and click Commercial Horticulture/Calendar or call Becky Davidson at 904-255-7450. You can now pay online with a credit card.

April 10, 2014
Thursday
(Duval)

Right-of-Way Pesticide Exam Review

8:30 am - 11:30 am, optional right-of-way and CORE exam to follow
\$5.00

To register to take the exams after the class please visit <https://pesticideexam.ifas.ufl.edu/> and register for a voucher. You must bring a voucher number with you to take your exams.

April 15, 2014
Tuesday
(Duval)

Pest Control Operator CEU Day

Technician Training Hours Provided as well.

8:00 am - 9:40 am Lawn & Ornamental (\$5.00) (2 L&O, 2 LUF, 2 LL&O, 2 LCLM, 2 O&T, 2 Pvt)

10:00 am - 11:40 am CORE (\$5.00) (2 CORE 482, 2 CORE 487)

11:40 am - 12:30 pm Lunch from Clara's Tidbits (\$15.00)

12:30 pm - 2:10 pm - General Household Pests (\$5.00) (2GHP, 2 LS)

2:30 pm - 4:10 pm - Wood Destroying Organisms/Termite (\$5.00) (2 WDO)

Pre-register for lunch by emailing Erin Harlow at erine@coj.net or paying online at http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu/PCO_CEU_Day.shtml.

April 25, 2014
Friday
(Duval)

Branching Out Professional Landscape Series: Large Tree Pruning

8:30 am - 9:30 am
FREE

1 ISA, 1 FNGLA, 1 L&O, 1 LCLM, 1 LL&O, 1 O&T, 1 PVT, 1 ROW, 1 Natl Areas, 1 Forestry, 1 Tree Crop has been applied for

May 7, 2014
Wednesday
(Duval)

Pesticide Testing

9:15 am

Please pre-register by either calling Becky Davidson at 904-255-7450 or if you are taking a restricted-use pesticide test then you can register to take the test via a computer at our office. You have to sign-up for a voucher and test date at <https://pesticideexam.ifas.ufl.edu/>.

May 15, 2014
Thursday
(Yulee)

Advanced Landscape Training: Invasive Plants and Removal

8:00 am - 12:00 pm
\$20.00

4 CEUs will be provided. L&O, LCLM, LL&O, O&T, ROW, Natl Areas CEUs have been applied for.

Topics will include Invasive plant identification and removal techniques. To register visit <http://nassau.ifas.ufl.edu/commercialhorticulture/commhorticulture.html> or call Becky Jordi at 904-491-7340.

All classes require pre-registration and will be held at the Duval County Extension Office, 1010 N McDuff Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32254 unless otherwise stated. To register visit us at <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu> and click Commercial Horticulture/Calendar or call Becky Davidson at 904-255-7450. You can now pay online with a credit card.

May 23, 2014
Friday
(Duval)

Branching Out Professional Landscape Series: Leaf Spots and Stem Cankers

8:30 am - 9:30 am
 FREE

1 ISA, 1 FNGLA, 1 L&O, 1 LCLM, 1 LL&O, 1 O&T, 1 PVT, 1 ROW, 1 Natl Areas applied for

May 21, 2014
Wednesday
(Clay)

**Limited Commercial Landscape
 Maintenance Workshop**

8:15 am - 3:00 pm - Full Day; 8:15 am – 12:00 pm - Half Day
 \$30.00 for either full or half day

May 29, 2014
Thursday
(Yulee)

6 CEUs Total: 3 CORE & 3 LCLM, 3 LL&O, or 3 L&O
 Lunch included, textbooks not included
 Optional LCLM or LL&O Exam at 3:00 pm
 You must have all required paperwork to take the exam.

August 19, 2014
Tuesday
(Duval)

To register, download the brochure, or for more information about the exam or books, please visit: <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu/LCLM2012.shtml>.

This class is designed for people who do not have their license yet. If you are re-certifying your LCLM or LL&O you should consider attending a different class that offers those CEUs. There are many to choose from throughout the year.

June 4, 2014
Wednesday
(Duval)

Pesticide Testing

9:15 am
 Please pre-register by either calling Becky Davidson at 904-255-7450 or if you are taking a restricted-use pesticide test then you can register to take the test via a computer at our office. You have to sign-up for a voucher and test date at <https://pesticideexam.ifas.ufl.edu/>.

June 6, 2014
Friday
(Duval)

**Best Management Practices for the Protection of Water Resources
 by the Green Industries (GI-BMPs)**

8:30 am – 3:30 pm
 \$25.00

4 CEUS: 2 CORE & 2 L&O, 2 LCLM, 2 LL&O, 2 O&T or 2 Pvt, 4 LA CEUs, Technician Training hours also available.

To register, download the brochure, or for more information about the workshop, please visit: <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu/GI-BMPs.shtml>.

This is the pre-requisite class for the Urban Fertilizer License. Everyone who works with fertilizers for-hire is required to have this license by Jan 1, 2014, even if you are licensed in another category including pest control operators. You will complete your GI-BMP test the day of the class, if you pass, you can then apply to get your Limited Urban Fertilizer License through the State of Florida.

Scrambled Eggs? By Amy Morie



No, that's not your breakfast on the ground there. This landscape sighting may have you scratching your head, but you can rest easy knowing it's no real threat in the garden. You may spot it during warm, wet weather on lawns and small plants, as well as, on decaying wood and mulch. It comes in a range of colors: brown, tan, white, yellow, orange, and pink. It may start tiny, but can move as it feeds and may grow to a mass up to two feet across. On turf it can show up as white or grey streaking on blades. It may look icky, sticky and gooey and it can be a little alarming, but this blob isn't out to get you! This curious glob is only out to get bacteria it feeds on from dead and decaying plant matter. Can you guess the goo? Scout ahead for the answer – then scout in the field for signs of spring beneficial and pest insects emerging.

University of Florida's

Southeast Pest Management Conference Bug Thugs - 2014

May 5th - 7th, Gainesville, FL

- May 5th - General Household Pests
- May 6th - Termites (WDO)
- May 6th - Fumigation
- May 7th - Lawn and Ornamental
- May 7th - Canine Detection Team Workshop
- May 7th - ACE Training and Review (Associate Certified Entomologist)
- May 8th - ACE Exam

For more information and the schedule or to register please visit:
http://entnemdept.ifas.ufl.edu/sepmc/Main_Page.html



Preserving Trees During Construction

By Larry Figart

As landscape professionals we have lots of opportunities to make a difference. I was recently visiting a site of a new development where the preserved trees were severely declining. We have all seen examples of tree preservation during construction that had unsuccessful results. It happens more than we like to see. It is obvious that the builder fully intended on preserving the trees in the construction site. The only problem is that good intentions are not enough to save trees. When we have the chance we need to step in and educate our clients

So, what does it take to preserve a tree in a construction site? One of the first things that needs to be done is to **plan** for tree conservation. Tree condition, size, and species are important factors determining which candidate trees to save. Exact location and elevation are also needed to pinpoint tree locations on construction plans. Make sure that the tree is worth preserving. One thing that frequently occurs is that larger trees are given priority in preservation plans at the expense of smaller more vigorous trees. Many times the larger trees are over mature and less resistant to the changes that will occur in construction. Don't overlook smaller trees that are more vigorous and will withstand the construction stress a lot better.



Good Tree Protection.
Photo Credit: Ed Gilman

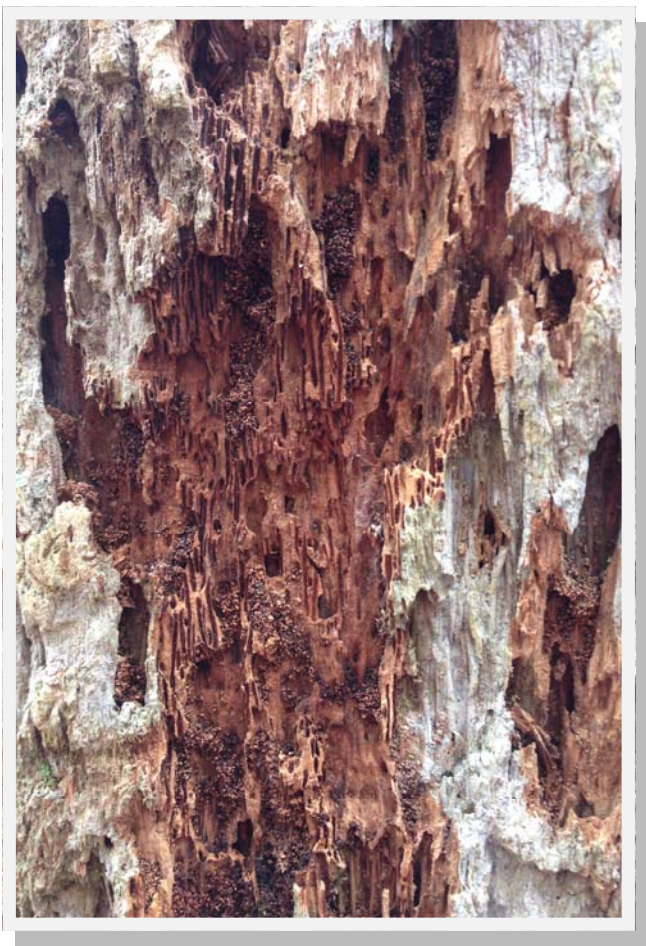
Once trees are identified to be preserved then the real work starts. The hardest part is **conserving** the roots under the tree from construction damage. We often see what I call a “fence post mentality” when it comes to trees. “As long as the trunk is not damaged, the tree will be fine”. The key to preserving trees is managing the root zone under the ground. The greater percentage of roots that remain intact, the better the chances that the tree will survive the construction. So, how much of the root zone should be preserved? The answer is: as much as possible, but the minimum should be at least one foot of radius for every inch of tree diameter. This goes up to one and a half feet of radius for every inch of tree diameter in the case of older, larger trees. For example, a ten inch diameter tree would have a root protection zone radius of 10 feet. The square foot area would be 311 sq ft.. Durable barricades should be erected at the edge of the root protection zone. The sturdiness of the barricade depends upon the commitment of the contractor.

Commitment is also important when preserving trees. Once a tree or group of trees is slated for preservation, everyone needs to be committed to the endeavor. All it takes is for one person to move a barricade, or clean equipment under the shade of a tree and the effort is compromised.

Communication of the plan helps to build commitment. I was once asked to look at the plans for building a boardwalk around the Treaty Oak in Jacksonville. The boardwalk was to be constructed with very little impact to the tree. The next page in the stack of blueprints had all sorts of lines running under the tree. When I asked what the lines were, I was told that it was the locations for the trenches to put in the lighting to illuminate the tree. That was an example of poor communication that thankfully was corrected prior to the construction of the boardwalk..

It takes a lot more than good intentions to preserve trees in construction sites and it is not difficult. All it takes is a little **planning, conservation, commitment and communication.**

Termites in Live Palms? By Erin Harlow



Termite damage in live sabal palm.

Photo credit: Erin Harlow

I recently visited a property in the Ponte Vedra Beach area to look at a report of drywood termite damage in live sabal palms. I have heard of termites in live trees, but not drywood termites and not this far north, so I had my suspicions and was eager to take a look. Sure enough, it was termite damage (pictured left). No live termites were found though, but after speaking with Dr. Phil Koehler at UF and Paul Mitola from Department of Agriculture who has seen them in Gainesville and Ocala respectively, we believe they were dampwood termites (*Neotermes spp.*) due to the frass shape and location. Dampwood termites are not normally found in North Florida and if you happen to come across a similar situation, but with live insects the Extension Office would love some samples to confirm and document the find. Be sure if you find the damage that you make sure you identify the termite correctly before selling a service to a customer. In this case, there were no live termites in any of the affected trees and treatment was really not necessary. The damage was not structural because many sabal palms naturally shed their outer bark over time and this is where the termites had taken up residence.

Dampwood termites need moisture to live, but don't need soil contact, so you normally won't see tubes because they don't forage in the soil. Dampwoods do need free water so you

may have wood-to-soil contact, wood near a leak, wood exposed to rainfall, or in this case sprinkler irrigation. Dampwoods produce pellets like a drywood termite which is probably why these were confused by the pest management professionals. However, dampwood frass loses its shape after time due to humidity and will clump together depending on the amount of moisture.

For more information on Dampwood Termites, please visit "Featured Creatures: Florida Dampwood Termites" at <http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/urban/termites/neotermes.html>.

Scrambled Eggs – Out of the Frying Pan! By Amy Morie

Is there egg on your face, or did you guess the goo? This issue features one of many types of slime mold found in the landscape. Until fairly recently, slime molds were classified as fungi, but they were recently reclassified (in two to three) other categories depending on the source). Slime molds are curious creatures – they live as single-celled plasmodium, but in the feeding stages they come together in multinucleate bodies called plasmodia. Most people find the rapid development and strange appearance of these organisms disturbing. Similar to fungi reproduction, after feeding slime molds produce fruiting bodies (sporangia) that will release spores for reproduction.



Slime mold spores on St Augustine turf.
Image: UF/IFAS References

Slime molds may seem alarming, but really can only cause minor damage if large congregations cover plants and interfere with photosynthesis. A blast of water from a hose can disrupt them, but in favorable weather the plasmodium is likely to reform. Slime molds are considered a nuisance and not a pest, so there's nothing labeled for use on these strange creatures. Your clients will be relieved when you share the news that a shovel or mowing are all the "Goo-Gone" needed to disperse these harmless masses.

"Plant Pathology Fact Sheet PP 59: Slime Mold" <http://plantpath.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/fact-sheets/pdfs/pp0059.pdf>

"SS-PLP-13. Slime Molds" http://orange.ifas.ufl.edu/mg/mg_compendium/pdffiles/lh/LH05200.pdf

"Slime Molds: Myxomycetes" <http://plantclinic.cornell.edu/factsheets/slimemolds.pdf>

"The Truth about Slime Molds, Spanish Moss, Lichens and Mistletoe" <http://www.caes.uga.edu/publications/>

Congratulations!

**The Florida Nursery, Growers, and Landscape Association (FNGLA)
recognized Erin Harlow as the
2014 Outstanding Educator for Florida!**

**Erin will be recognized for her contributions to horticulture
education at the 2014 FNGLA Annual Convention at Sawgrass
Marriott, Ponte Vedra Beach.**

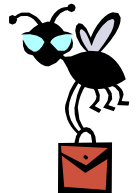
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