



# Commercial Clippings

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

December/January 2010

Issue 11, Page 1

## In this Issue:

Cold Damage	pg 1
Upcoming Classes	pg 2/3
Featured Creature	pg 4
Do You Know?	pg 5
Q & A	pg 5
FPMA Expo	pg 6
FNGLA Trade Show	pg 7
Contact Us	pg 8

## Understanding Cold Damage on Palms

By Erin Harlow

Palms are used extensively in North Florida climates, so it is important for us to understand the different types of freeze damage a palm may experience and how to treat them.

The three different types of freeze damage palms may experience include:

- **Chill Injury:** This damage occurs at a certain temperature and depends on how acclimated a palm may be to the night temperatures. If it has been warm and then all of a sudden becomes cold then the palm is more likely to suffer from chill injury at that temperature. Chill injury is observed as foliar necrosis or leaf tissue death and generally occurs within several days of the cold temperatures. Generally, new leaflets are more cold-hardy, so symptoms are seen on older more mature leaves. The necrosis may show up on the entire leaf or towards the base of the leaf versus potassium deficiency that appears on the tips of older leaves (See picture below).
- **Frost:** Frost is similar to chill injury but occurs on clear, calm nights. Temperatures around the palms may drop to below 32 degrees from heat loss even though the night temperatures may be warmer. Damage can be spotty in the landscape and on the plants.
- **Advective freeze (hard freeze):** During hard freezes heat loss is caused by a uniform wind that cools the plant. While the entire plant may be cooled it may show damage in some areas and not in others. The least cold hardy areas are older leaves while petioles and new leaves are fairly hardy. The base of the spear leaf is fairly cold sensitive and may become damaged. Secondary fungi enter the area and kill the spear leaf. Several weeks after the damage, the spear leaf can be removed and is usually rotten. It is common practice to use a copper fungicide bud drench to stop these fungi from killing the bud.

To learn about treatment practices including the copper fungicide drench for cold damaged palms read more of Dr. Tim Broshcat's article "Cold Damage on Palms" at

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/mg318>.



**All Classes Require Pre-Registration** unless stated otherwise.  
 To register visit us at <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu> and click Commercial Horticulture/Training or Call Becky Davidson at 904-387-8850.

*You can now pay for classes with a credit card on our website!*

**Florida Green Industries BMP Training and Certification**

**December 14, 2010  
 February 17, 2011**

8:30 am to 3:30 pm  
 \$25.00

4 CEUs Total: 2 CORE, 2 O&T, 2 LL&O, 2 L&O, 2 LCLM, 2 PVT

**Tree & Shrub Pruning Workshop**

**December 15, 2010**

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

\$5.00

Larry Figart and Erin Harlow will lead the discussion and outside activities.

3 LCLM, 3 L&O, and 3 LL&O

**Florida Turfgrass Association (FTGA) Jacksonville Seminar**

**January 12, 2011**

Save the Date!

Visit [www.ftga.org](http://www.ftga.org) to register.

**All Classes Require Pre-Registration** unless stated otherwise.  
To register visit us at <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu> and click Commercial Horticulture/Training or Call Becky Davidson at 904-387-8850.

*You can now pay for classes  
with a credit card on our website!*

**Turf Basics Training  
Nassau County**

**January 14, 2011**

8:00-5:00 pm  
\$70.00

7 CEUs Total: 2 CORE & 5 L&O, 5 LCLM, 5 L&O  
Includes lunch and materials.  
Designed to give hands-on experience to lawn technicians.

Nassau County: 86026 Pages Dairy Rd, Yulee, FL 32097

Call Becky Jordi at Nassau County to register. Phone: (904) 491-7340.

**Limited Commercial  
Landscape  
Maintenance  
Workshop**

**January 26, 2011**

8:15 - 3:00 pm - Full Day  
\$30.00

8:15 – 12:00 pm - Half Day  
\$30.00

6 CEUs Total: 3 CORE & 3 LCLM, 3 LL&O, 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.  
For more information about the exam or books or to register, please visit <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu> and click on Commercial Horticulture.

**Public Health  
Workshop**

**February 3, 2011**

Time to be determined  
\$5.00

Lunch will be provided

Information will be posted on our website at <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu> and click on Commercial Horticulture or call 904-387-8850 and speak with Erin or Becky.

## PEST OF THE MONTH – Twig Girdlers (*Oncideres cingulata*)

by Raymond Zerba, Clay County Extension

In the last issue we showed you a picture of a grayish-brown beetle which grows up to 1 inch long, distinguished by body-length antennae. You can see her handiwork all around Northeast Florida for the next couple months. This beetle has one generation per year. In the fall, the female deposited her eggs in slits she made on the twigs of Hickory and Pecan trees and occasionally on Elm, Persimmon, and Dogwood. To keep the sap from pushing those eggs out or to keep it from influencing the larval development in some way (it is thought), she then methodically girdles the branch almost in two so it hangs until the wind dislodges it.



After the twig/branch falls to the ground, the eggs hatch and the larvae begin feeding inside on the dead wood through the winter and into early summer. They change to adult form within the branch, exit to mate, and start the cycle over again. As adults, both sexes feed on the outer bark of the type tree they grew up in. This feeding is minimal and not a problem for the tree. Even the girdling injury the female causes does little real damage to a tree according to the University of Florida and only if we were to have a year when their numbers “exploded,” would a tree be stressed. Young trees could be stunted however, so it is important to watch newly planted Hickories or Pecans to make sure this beetle has not decided to work one of those. At the first hanging branch, check the tree over carefully. Usually the female will attack several branches/twigs before leaving that tree. Because she takes several days to girdle a single branch, you should be able to spot her. She is easily dispatched (if she can be reached) by just hand-pinching her.

If you find “whittled” branches on the ground beneath a client’s tree, cut these branches/twigs into short pieces, place them in a resealable storage bag, and throw them out, or burn them (if ordinances permit). They make great kindling for a barbecue. If you leave them be, you increase the amount of girdlers that populate your client’s neighborhood.



For more information, go on-line and do a search for “Twig Girdlers.” There are many great articles - several with good pictures. An article I found online from Kansas State Extension was the basis for the information provided here.



## Do you know what this is?

If you saw this around one of the communities you work that borders a swamp, would you know what it was? It's not a beaver or a large rat – what's your second guess? Would it help if I told you at night it made a call that has been described as a terrified woman screaming? If not, wait until our February and March 2011 issue of the Commercial Clippings newsletter when I tell you about this relatively new exotic pest that we are beginning to see in our North Florida landscape. It might take offence if you tried to kick at it.

- Ray Zerba



## Q & A

Have a question you need answered?

Send it to [erine@coj.net](mailto:erine@coj.net)

- Q. I know I am supposed to put out a sign after I have applied a pesticide on a client's property, but I cannot remember exactly what should be listed on the sign. JD
- A. The State of Florida requires notices be placed in an obvious or conspicuous place on the client's property, which usually means the front lawn after any pesticide has been applied to the property. This rule does not apply to homeowners who apply their own pesticides or pesticide applications to golf courses, parks, cemeteries or athletic fields. The regulation (Florida Structural Pest Control Law Chapter 482 F.S.) applies to Commercial Pest Control Operators—Lawn and Ornamental (L & O) or General Household Pest Control category, when pesticides are made to a lawn or exterior foliage. The regulation also applies to Limited Certification – L & O, Structural (when applications are on lawns or ornamentals) and Commercial Landscape Maintenance. The notice must be at least 4 X 5 inches and made of waterproof material with contrasting colors of background and lettering. It must have the business name or licensee name.

The notice on the left is printed in the "Ornamental and Turfgrass Pest Management" manual on page 335. If you have access to a computer you can print a publication from the University of Florida which contains all the specific information required. The publication is titled "Posting of Lawn and Ornamental Pesticide Applications" at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/PI005>.  
Becky Jordi



The poster features a green header with the text "FLORIDA PEST & LAWN CARE" in white serif font. Below this, the word "EXPO" is written in large, bold letters filled with a green grass texture, set against a background of dark brown soil. A red ladybug is shown crawling on a green grassy area in the lower right. The "DU PONT" logo is prominently displayed in a red oval on the left. The slogan "STRIVE FOR SUCCESS!" is written in a stylized, italicized font. The event details "Rosen Plaza Hotel, January 18-21, 2011, Orlando, Florida" are listed in the bottom right corner.

FLORIDA PEST & LAWN CARE

EXPO

PRESENTED BY

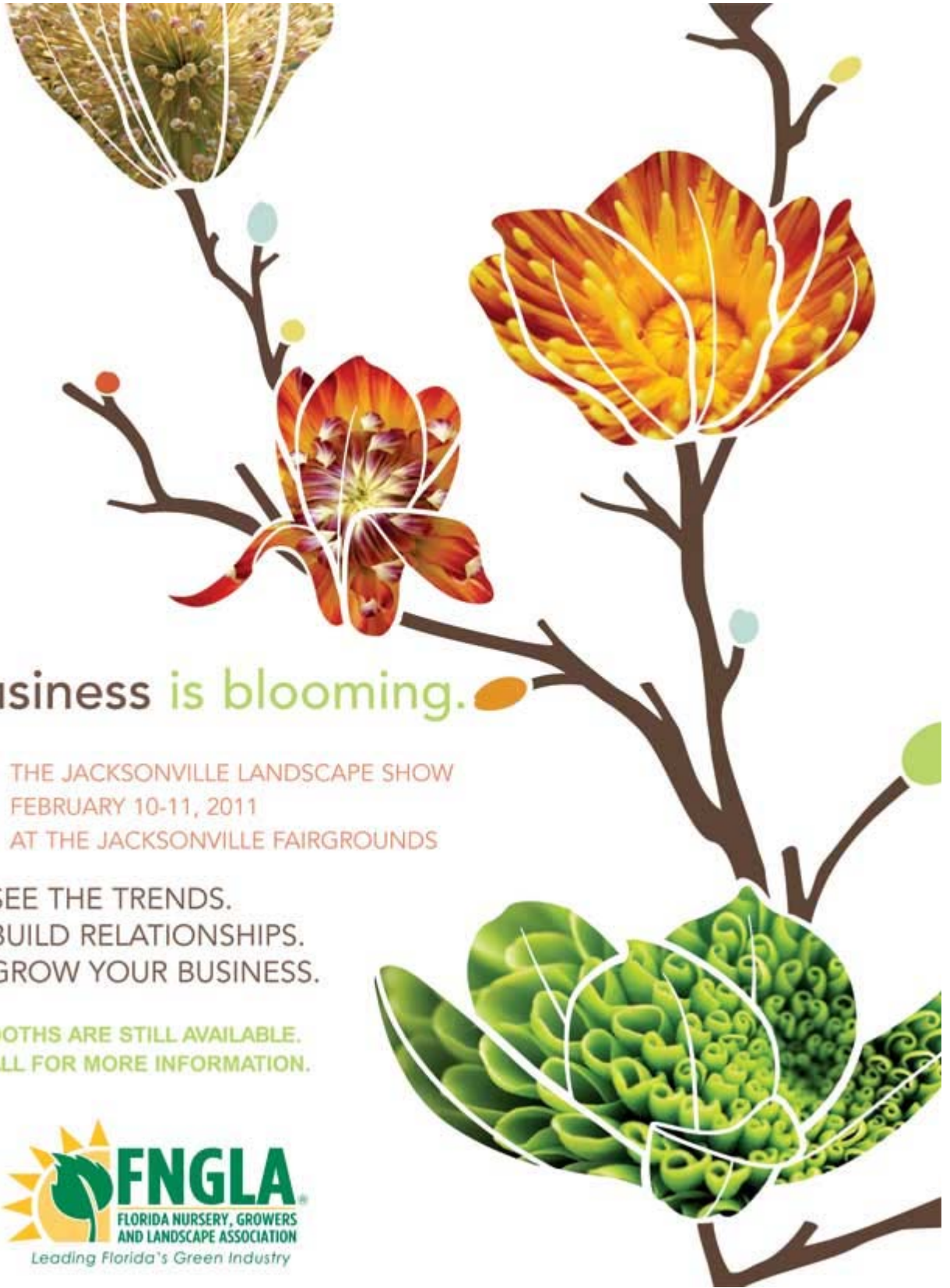
**DU PONT**®

*STRIVE FOR SUCCESS!*

Rosen Plaza Hotel  
January 18-21, 2011  
Orlando, Florida

Visit [www.flpma.org](http://www.flpma.org) for more information.





## Business is blooming.

THE JACKSONVILLE LANDSCAPE SHOW  
FEBRUARY 10-11, 2011  
AT THE JACKSONVILLE FAIRGROUNDS

SEE THE TRENDS.  
BUILD RELATIONSHIPS.  
GROW YOUR BUSINESS.

BOOTHS ARE STILL AVAILABLE.  
CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION.



Visit [www.nefngla.org](http://www.nefngla.org) to register.

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### Local EXTENSION Offices

Clay County  
2463 SR 16 West  
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043  
(904) 284-6355  
<http://clay.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Duval County  
1010 N. McDuff Avenue  
Jacksonville FL 32254  
(904) 387-8850  
FAX 387-8902  
<http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu>

Nassau County  
543350 US Highway 1  
Callahan, FL 32011-6486  
(904) 491-7340  
<http://nassau.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Putnam County  
111 Yelvington Rd., Ste. 1  
East Palatka, FL 32131-2114  
(386) 329-0318  
<http://putnam.ifas.ufl.edu/>



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For individuals requiring special accommodations, please contact our office (904/387-8850) within a minimum of 5 working days of the program. For persons with hearing or speech impairments, when contacting our office, please use the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD). Your comments and input are necessary for this to be a useful tool for all of us.

Extension Programs are open to all regardless of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, religion, national origin, political opinions or affiliations.

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