



# Commercial Clippings

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

June/ July 2010

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## Limited Commercial Fertilizer Applicators Certification (LCFAC)

By Erin E. Harlow

**The application for the new fertilizer license for commercial applicators is now available.**

### Who has to have the certification?

- Anyone who applies fertilizer for hire including pest control operators, technicians, and lawn and landscape professionals.
- Institutional employees, golf courses, and people working on private property are not required to obtain the certification.

### When do you have to have the LCFAC?

- January 1, 2014

### How do you get the certification?

- Successfully complete the Green Industries Best Management Practices or the FNGLA Certified Horticulture Program.
- Apply for the state certification using this form <http://www.doacs.state.fl.us/onestop/forms/13677.pdf>

### How long is the certification good for?

- 4 years

### How do I renew my fertilizer certification?

- Complete 4 CEUs of which at least 2 must be in fertilizer best management practices and pay the recertification fee.

### How much does it cost to obtain the LCFAC?

- The cost of the GI-BMP class will depend on the class location. Most locations charge no more than \$25.00 per person.
- The fee for the LCFAC is \$25.00.



**All Classes Require Pre-Registration** unless stated otherwise.

Call Becky Davidson at 904-387-8850 to register.

Or visit us at <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu> and click Commercial Horticulture.**Florida Green  
Industries  
BMP Training and  
Certification****July 20, 2010**8:30 am to 3:30 pm  
\$25.00

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

**Limited Commercial  
Landscape  
Maintenance  
Workshop****June 15, 2010 – Nassau County****August 17, 2010****October 26, 2010**

9:00 am to 4:00 pm - Full Day

9:00 am to 2:00 pm - 1/2 Day – Recertification Only

Full Day Cost is \$50.00 –

Includes 2 textbooks, handouts, refreshments and lunch

1/2 Day Cost is \$25.00 –

Includes handouts, refreshments, and lunch

6 CEUs Total:

3 O&amp;T, 3 L&amp;O, 3 LCLM, 3 LL&amp;O, 3 CORE

**Right-of-Way  
Herbicide Applicator  
Training and Exam****June 30, 2010 – JEA Service Center, 6727 Broadway Ave.**

8:00 am – 3:00 pm, optional ROW exam at 3:15 pm

\$40.00 with ROW manual

\$25.00 without ROW manual

6 CEUs Total: 1 CORE, 6 ROW

**Natural Areas  
Herbicide Applicator  
Training and Exam****July 27, 2010**

8:00 am – 3:00 pm, optional Natl Areas exam at 3:15 pm

\$40.00 with Natl Areas manual

\$25.00 without Natl Areas manual

CEUs have been applied for

## Weed of the Month - *Daucus carota*



### *Daucus carota*, Queen's Anne Lace, Wild Carrot

*Daucus carota* has begun to appear in ditches, lawns, and along roadsides for the last few weeks. It is considered a biennial plant which means it needs two growing seasons to fully complete its life cycle. It is also considered native to the lower 48 states.

If it is becoming a nuisance in lawns, most broadleaf herbicides should be effective. If it is not bothersome, you can leave it alone and it will provide a nice bloom for your clients.



## STILL NEED CEUs?

If you still need CEUs for your license renewal and can't find a class, check out the UF website at [www.onlinepesticideCEUs.com](http://www.onlinepesticideCEUs.com) or Univar's site at [www.pestweb.com](http://www.pestweb.com). Both websites have most categories available and cost less than \$20.00 or are free.

## PEST OF THE MONTH – Mole Crickets, Larra Wasps, and Shrubby False Buttonweed

by Raymond Zerba, Clay County Extension

It used to be that I had lots of problems with mole crickets. Ten years ago I couldn't fill my gas tank at night or go to a Little League game without being pelted by these insects during their spring mating flights. Now I rarely see them, so what happened? Actually, this is one of the success stories in Integrated Pest Management (IPM). In the last 10+ years, through the release of several predators that attack mole crickets, they have now become virtually a non-issue in Northeast Florida.

The first predator released was a nematode that attacked only mole crickets, entering their bodies to parasitize them. Infected crickets carried these throughout neighborhoods as they flew to their mates. The infected crickets died shortly after reaching full size. The cycle was completed when that nematode then gave birth to more of its kind which also lay in the soil and waited for more mole crickets. For more information on this nematode go to

[http://entomology.ifas.ufl.edu/creatures/nematode/mole\\_cricket\\_nematode.htm](http://entomology.ifas.ufl.edu/creatures/nematode/mole_cricket_nematode.htm).



In addition, another predator released was a blue-blackish wasp with a red abdomen in the mud-dauber family. The female Larra wasp (*Larra bicolor*) stings the cricket (even if it is in its tunnel) to paralyze it and then lays her eggs on the body. After a few minutes, the mole cricket recovers and begins moving about, but this time with a “hitchhiker”! When the egg hatches, the wasp larva begins feeding on its host. Once fully developed, that larva drops off (but, not before the mole cricket dies) and spins a cocoon. Inside this cocoon, the grub turns to an adult wasp and the cycle begins again.

Of the two predators this is the one that probably is doing the most to eliminate the mole cricket threat in our area of the state. Last month in the “What is this” column I showed a picture of a plant and suggested you should be pushing your clients to plant it. You may have wondered why, but the answer is clear when you consider that this is the flowering plant (some would call a weed) that feeds the adult Larra wasps and attracts them to a yard. They do not feed on mole crickets but they do want to lay their eggs on them. Bottom line – if you could encourage your clients to plant Shrubby False Buttonweed (*Spermacoce verticillata*) in their landscape, it would be an invitation to the Larra Wasp to come to that yard to feed and while there, check it out for mole crickets – not only a win-win for your client, but the whole neighborhood. Want some extra “brownie points?” Why not consider getting some of these plants and supplying them to your clients? They grow easily from cuttings and many Extension Centers have a plant or two where you can get cuttings. It is an effective and marketable IPM tool that you should consider being a source for your clients. To read more about the Larra Wasp, go to

[http://entomology.ifas.ufl.edu/creatures/beneficial/Larra\\_wasps.htm](http://entomology.ifas.ufl.edu/creatures/beneficial/Larra_wasps.htm).



## Do you know what this is?



This St. Augustinegrass has a fungal disease we see a lot of toward the end of summer and the beginning of fall – so what is it? If you guessed Brown Patch fungus – you were wrong! So how can you begin to address its control if you don't know what it is?

Next month we'll discuss this serious and frequently seen fungal problem in St. Augustinegrass. Until then, to avoid seeing much of it – mow high, sharpen the mower blade frequently, cut your accounts weekly, and use only

slow release nitrogen fertilizers that are balanced with potassium as we go toward the fall. Note that herbicides also encourage this disease – avoid them when practical. **RZ**

## Q & A

Have a question you need answered?

Send it to [rjordi@ufl.edu](mailto:rjordi@ufl.edu)

**Q:** My company stores cleaning material along with some of the pesticides we use. You mentioned the importance of keeping pesticides away from bleach products. Why? CK

**A:** Your reference book, “Applying Pesticides Correctly” has a warning note regarding the cleaning product calcium hypochlorite. This chemical is used for bleaching and disinfecting. A common product found in many of our homes in the form of bleach. For commercial use, it is often found in granular formulations, which is generally added to water to produce chlorine and oxygen. Combined with ammonia it can produce a deadly gas. In granular form, it is not considered flammable, but in combination with other chemicals, a reaction may occur.

Another concern is the possibility for pesticides to become volatile, which means they are escaping in gas form. Combine this gas with the calcium hypochlorite and an explosion or fire could occur. Smelling pesticides or chemicals is an indication some of it has escaped into gas form and caution should be taken. However, odor may not provide an adequate warning of hazardous concentrations. Therefore, it is best to separate pesticides from other products used for cleaning. - Becky Jordi

## New and Updated UF Publications

**ENY155/IN847 Florida Master Beekeeper Program Requirements**

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in847>

**ENY156/IN848 Florida Beekeeping Management Calendar**

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in848>

**HS1170 Nonchemical Weed Control for Home Landscapes and Gardens**

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/hs1170>

**EENY008/IN124 Nematode Management for Golf Courses**

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in124>

**ENH1080/EP347 Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Guidelines Community Associations Can Use to Select a Landscaper and Write an Effective Landscaping Contract**

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ep347>

**SL 318/SS530 Identifying Nutrient Deficiencies in Ornamental Plants**

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ss530>

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## COOL PICTURE!

Thanks Bug Pro Florida for sharing this picture of a cockroach molting.

If you have an interesting photo you would like to share, please email it to [erine@coj.net](mailto:erine@coj.net).



## TERMITE UPDATES

### FORMOSAN TERMITES

It is that time of year again for termite activity and if you haven't seen them already, the Formosan termites have begun to swarm. In addition to the Northside of Jacksonville, the Extension Office has now identified a house on the Westside that is infested. Formosans are considered more destructive than the native subterranean termite because of the number of termites and the amount of damage they can cause to structures. To learn more about identification and control check out the newly revised publication, [Formosan Subterranean Termite](#) at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in278>.



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### BITING TERMITES?

If you have been watching the news the last few weeks, you may have seen a news story about biting termites in Jacksonville as reported by Fox 30 Jacksonville News. The story reported that termites were biting children on the Southside. Dr. Faith Oi, Entomologist at the University of Florida says that there is no documentation that native subterranean termites bite or cause welts. The welts could be a result of other insects or environmental factors. Please take care to answer any questions your clients may have regarding this and other questions. To read the story or watch the video please follow the link.

<http://www.fox30jax.com/content/actionlocal/story/Terrorized-by-termites/UaplstmT0EWH-2zeQyl7vA.csp>

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

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Jacksonville, Fl  
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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  
904-548-1116  
<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/>



Erin Harlow | Duval County | 904.387.8850 | [erine@coj.net](mailto:erine@coj.net)  
Ray Zerba | Clay County | 904. 284.6355 | [rzerba@ufl.edu](mailto:rzerba@ufl.edu)  
Rebecca Jordi | Nassau County | 904.548.1116 | [rjordi@ufl.edu](mailto:rjordi@ufl.edu)

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.

This newsletter, past newsletters, links and registration forms for Commercial Horticulture activities can be found at the Duval County Extension website: <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu>

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