

# RIVER RAMBLINGS



The newsletter of the  
**Indian River Citrus League**  
SEPTEMBER 2018

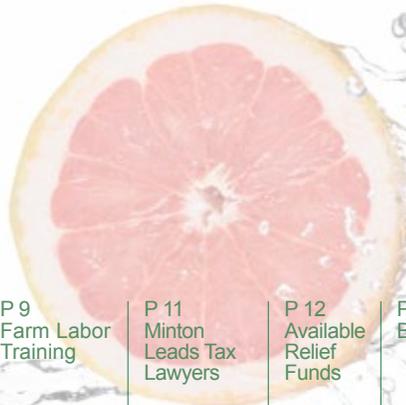


## Ron DeSantis to Speak at Annual Meeting

The 88th Annual Meeting of the Indian River Citrus League will be held at the **Pointe West Country Club**, 7500 14<sup>th</sup> Lane, Vero Beach, FL on **Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 11 a.m.** The meeting will feature Republican Gubernatorial Candidate Ron DeSantis as guest speaker. A native Floridian with blue collar roots, Ron DeSantis worked his way through Yale University, where he graduated with honors and was the captain of the varsity baseball team. He also graduated with honors from Harvard Law School. While at Harvard, he earned a commission in the

US Navy as a JAG officer. During his active duty service he supported operations at the terrorist detention center at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and deployed to Iraq as an adviser to a US Navy SEAL commander in support of the SEAL mission in Fallujah, Ramadi and the rest of Al Anbar province. As a former Congressman elected in 2013, he represented Florida's 6<sup>th</sup> congressional district until resigning in 2018 to run for Governor of Florida.

Complimentary lunch sponsored by National Bank of Commerce. You are cordially invited to attend and request your **RSVP to the League office by October 16, 2018. (772/595-5026) or email ([info@ircitrusleague.org](mailto:info@ircitrusleague.org))**



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# Florida Bactericide Trials

## *Three-Year Bactericide and Adjuvant Trials in Florida Citrus Shows Reductions in HLB Symptoms and Increases in Yield*

Robert G. Shatters, Jr.<sup>1</sup>, J. Kent Morgan<sup>2</sup>, Ed Stover<sup>1</sup>,  
JeongSoon Kim<sup>2</sup>, Mark Trimmer<sup>2</sup>, Taw Richardson<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>USDA, ARS, U. S. Horticultural Research Laboratory, Fort Pierce, FL.

<sup>2</sup>AgroSource, Inc., Tequesta, FL

### **Evaluating Available Agricultural Bactericide Treatments as Near-Term Solution.**

Following the introduction into Florida of the Asian citrus psyllid and the huanglongbing (HLB, aka citrus greening) causing bacterium ('*Candidatus*' *Liberibacter asiaticus*) that is transmitted by the psyllid, the Florida citrus industry has seen a continuous reduction in statewide citrus production. During this time, applied research has provided new management practices including regionally coordinated psyllid control and altered nutritional practices that have attempted to slow disease spread and tree decline but crop yields have continued their downward trend. There has also been a strong research effort to understand basic biology associated with bacterial acquisition/transmission by the psyllid and disease development in citrus. Considerable progress has been made in the breeding and evaluation effort to deliver HLB-tolerant/resistant scions and rootstocks. Because only limited research could be conducted on this disease prior to its appearance in Florida, researchers have had to play "catch-up" spending time to research and understand the science behind the interaction of these three organisms (the citrus tree, the disease-causing bacterium, and the psyllid insect) as well as developing and evaluating HLB-tolerant genotypes.

In 2013, the USDA-ARS USHRL and AgroSource, Inc. developed a collaboration to determine if crop bactericides could provide a near/mid-term solution to the Florida HLB crisis. With an objective of bringing a solution to growers as quickly as possible, we evaluated bactericides containing active ingredients used for decades in fruit crop production to evaluate their efficacy against citrus HLB. Typically, these bactericides are used to treat surface bacterial diseases like fire blight in trees of pome fruit (apples and pears) and bacterial spot in stone fruit trees (peaches and nectarines). HLB is caused by a bacterial infection that is not on the surface of the plant, but within the vascular tissue of leaves, stems, and roots. To be effective, the active ingredient must cross chemical barriers (i.e. waxy leaf cuticles) and many cell layers to reach the vascular tissue. To achieve systemic movement, we focused on screening commercially available adjuvants to enhance uptake.

### **Adjuvants Aid Bactericide Systemic Movement in Citrus.**

Late in 2013, Drs. Robert Shatters and Ed Stover from the Subtropical Insects and Horticulture Unit at the USDA, ARS, U. S. Horticultural Research Laboratory and Dr. J. Kent Morgan, Dr. Mark Trimmer and Taw Richardson from AgroSource, Inc. initiated research on commercially available bactericides oxytetracycline-HCl and streptomycin sulfate. The goals of this work were: 1) to determine if bactericides would effectively penetrate the plant and if this penetration could be enhanced by commercially available adjuvants; 2) to determine if bactericides could move systemically through the plant vascular tissue; and 3) to determine if bactericide treatments improve tree health and increase citrus yield.

Initial greenhouse research was conducted on potted citrus plants, where various bactericide-adjuvant combinations were applied to a portion of the plant, and bactericide presence in untreated leaves was monitored as an indication of systemic movement. Some adjuvants were more effective at aiding the movement of these bactericide, and adjuvants that worked best for oxytetracycline-HCL (FireLine™ 17WP) were often not the same as those that were best for streptomycin sulfate (FireWall™ 50WP). Currently, of the ones recommended for use, Nutrisync Micro-Pak (13-0-1) (Loveland Products, Inc. Loveland, CO) and N-Sure (TKI, Inc., Phoenix, AZ) work the best for the streptomycin sulfate formulation used and LI-700 (Loveland Products, Inc. Loveland, CO) work the best for the

**BACTERICIDE con't. from page 2**

oxytetracycline-HCL formulation. The best bactericide/adjuvant combinations were shown to reduce the bacterial population within treated HLB-symptomatic trees in the greenhouse. Currently we have preliminary evidence that a nutritional mixture (containing a combination of potassium nitrate (3 g/L), MnSO<sub>4</sub> (Tecmangam, 6g/L), MgSO<sub>4</sub> (Epsom Salts, 6 g/L) and ZnSO<sub>4</sub> (6 g/L) may function to mobilize streptomycin (from the FireWall™ 50WP formulation) more efficiently than other tested penetrants, and that some pesticides (tested a combination of Kocide 3000 (2.4 g/L) (Kocide LLC, Houston, TX), Headlines SC (90.78 mL/L), Envirdor 2SC (1.6mL/L), 435 Horticultural Oil (10 mL/L), Lorsban Advanced (6.2 mL/L) and Epi-Mek (0,8 mL/L) (Syngenta, Wilmington, DE). may inhibit streptomycin systemic movement even in the presence of penetrants. These combinations were done as a first round screen and do not represent typical tank mixes. We are currently conducting experiments to validate these preliminary findings and identifying the best trial penetrants and potential penetrant inhibitors.

**Greenhouse Successes Demonstrated in Commercial Groves.**

As a result of these greenhouse findings, the Florida Citrus Research and Development Foundation (CRDF) awarded a research grant to our collaborative research group to conduct a three-year field trial studying the effect of bactericide/adjuvant combinations on HLB symptomatic trees in commercial Florida groves in the Indian River, Ridge and Peace River areas, Figure 1. Trees in these trials included Hamlin and Valencia oranges and grapefruit, with ages varying from 3 to 15-years. Treatment structure over the three years (2014-2017) is presented in Table 1, and treatment rates used in the



**Figure 1.** Distribution of the HLB CRADA research trials in commercial Florida citrus groves testing the efficacy of oxytetracycline-HCL and streptomycin sulfate formulations.

final year of our work are shown in Table 2. Evaluations of trees included monitoring: 1) bacterial population in leaves, 2) tree health, 3) fruit drop and 4) yield. Tree health evaluations included canopy density, abundance of leaf mottling, and presence of shoot dieback. Field research started in August of 2014 and for that year was limited to late summer through fall applications with a maximum of three applications. The second (2015-2016) and third (2016-2017) citrus season treatments were done over the entire growing season. Prior to the second and third years the treatment profile was adjusted (Table 1) to incorporate improvements discovered in

**Table 1: Summary of HLB Trial Treatments by year, type and number Seasons 1-3 (2014-2017)**

Florida Citrus Trial Season	Treatment Type	Variety, Application Type & Timing	Number of Applications
<b>Year-1</b> 2014-2015 (Late summer fall treatment only)	1. FL17 (only) 2. FW50 (only) 3. TM (only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Varieties: Hamlin, Valencia, Ray Ruby</li> <li>▪ Application Type: <u>Grouped</u> (all trees)</li> <li>▪ Timing: ~21-28 days application interval (Applications made Fall 2014 only)</li> </ul>	1, 2 or 3
<b>Year-2</b> 2015-2016	1. FL17 (only) 2. FW50 (only) 3. TM (only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Varieties: Hamlin, Valencia, Ray Ruby</li> <li>▪ Application Type: <u>Spread</u> (all trees)</li> <li>▪ Timing: Even distribution through the year (Applications made Spring through Winter)</li> </ul>	2 or 3
<b>Year-3</b> 2016-17	1. Rotation (R) of FW50 then FL17 2. or TM (only)	Valencia: <u>Grouped</u> (R) vs <u>Spread</u> (R) Hamlin: <u>Grouped</u> (R) vs <u>Spread</u> (R) vs <u>TM</u> Grapefruit: <u>Spread</u> (R) vs <u>TM</u>	3 each (6 total)

FL17 (only) = Treated with FireLine™ 17 WP; FW50 (only) = Treated only with FireWall™ 50 WP; TM (only) = Treated with tank mix (FireLine™ 17 WP + FireWall™ 50 WP); Grouped = Applications ~21-28 days apart; Spread = Applications ~evenly through growing season; R = Rotation of FireWall™ 50 WP then FireLine™ 17 WP for 3-applications of each (3+3)



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### FEATURES

Rapid absorption by roots and leaves

Highly systemic with upward and downward product translocation

Multiple modes of action inhibit spore germination, germ tube formation, hyphal growth and sporulation

### KEY BENEFITS

Healthier roots – Promotion of healthier root systems for greater nutrient uptake and better yields.

Exceptional disease control – Multiple modes of action control Phytophthora.

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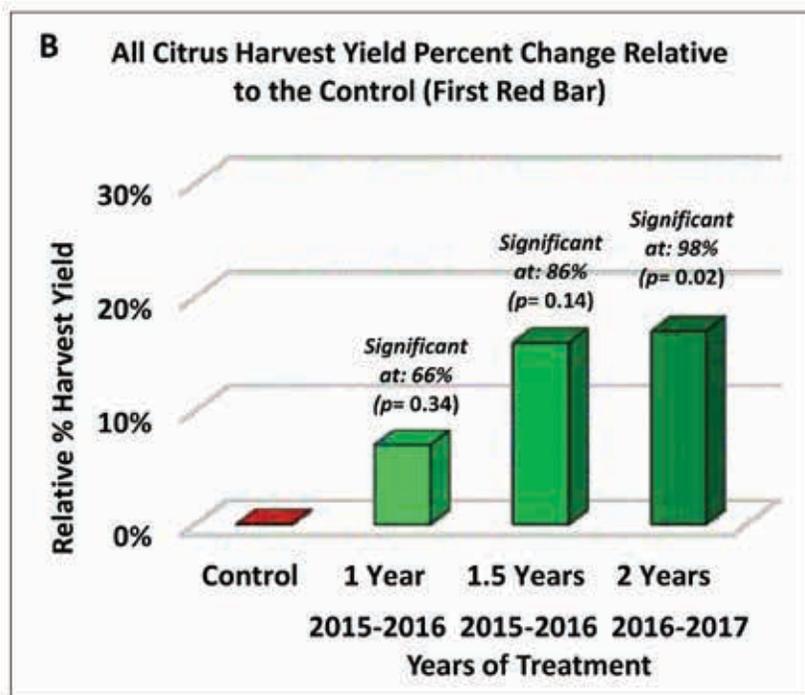
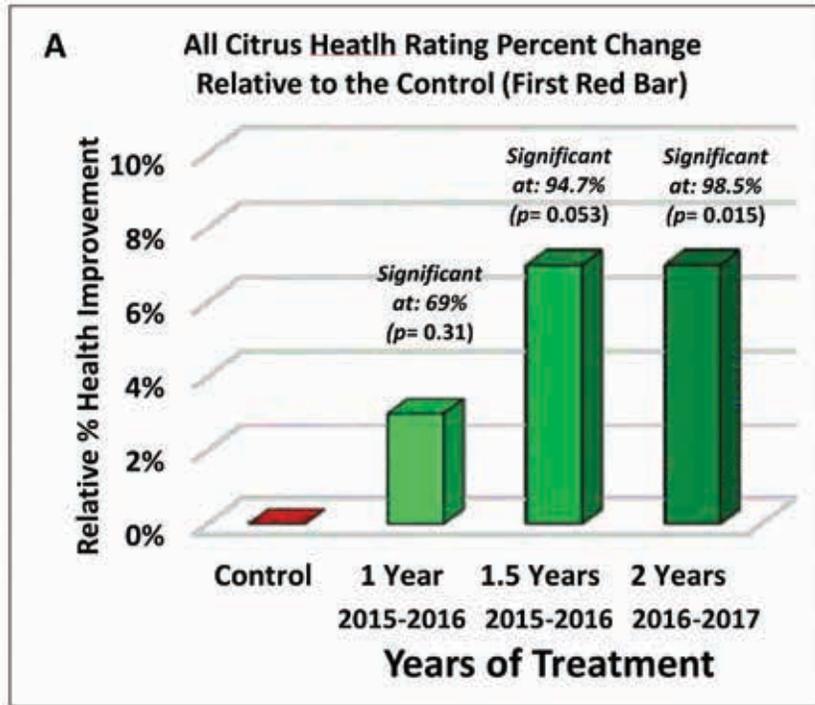
Unique protection – Inhibits spore production, thereby preventing transmission of disease to neighboring plants.



**Table 2: Treatment rates**

Product	Year-1
FireWall™ 50 WP	11 oz/acre
FireLine™ 17 WP	24 oz/acre
'FW50 + FL17' Mix	11 oz [FW50] + 24 oz [FL17]/acre

year 2 treatment (2015-2016), health improvements were greater for trees continued from the first year than the newly added trees which had been treated for only one year, Figure 2A. Trees treated for 1½-years also showed an increase in yield, Figure 2B. Trees treated for a minimum of 2-years



the previous year. By the third year, we identified an effective treatment profile that alternated oxytetracycline-HCL and streptomycin sulfate for a maximum of six treatments (three each) per year. After the first year (½-year treatment, 2014) we noted modest improvements in tree health (data not shown). Following

**Figure 2. Health and Yield Improvements** *Effect of bactericides on citrus tree health was evaluated using a 1-5 rating that took into account leaf drop, die back, HLB symptoms, canopy density, leaf shape and size, and presence of insect injury. In order to minimize variability, health rating was performed by the same three individuals for all sites and assessment times. For ease of presentation health rating for the control trees was set as zero and improved health is represented as a positive value and declined health is a negative in treatments (no negative treatments were recorded). This value is given as a percent difference from the control.*

See BACTERICIDE page 6



(from 2016-2017) showed similar increases in health and yields but with stronger statistical support than observed for 1½-years of treatment (Figure 2 A and B). These results demonstrated a cumulative beneficial result from use of bactericides in successive growing seasons.

Oxytetracycline-HCL and streptomycin sulfate reduced HLB-causing bacterial abundance in the trees, but these reductions were transient as not all bacteria in the trees were killed (data not shown). However, we demonstrated that the treatments did improve tree health and yield (Figure 2 A and B). We hypothesize that both bactericides negated '*Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus*' sufficiently to reduce HLB symptom severity. For this reason, we decided that maximum EPA permissible treatments may be most effective (three treatments for each) and that these should be rotated during the growing season as was done for the third year (2016-2017, see Table 1, year 3). Such a strategy is theorized to have the biggest impact against the HLB-causing bacterium and, by alternating treatments of active ingredients, it should reduce the selection pressure for development of bacteria resistant to either bactericide. After the third year of trials (2016-2017), statistically significant improvements in tree health and yield were realized with an average yield improvement of ~17%, Figure 2B.

Furthermore, pre-hurricane estimates of Florida citrus harvest were suggesting a 10% yield improvement from the previous year. There are many factors that could contribute to this yield increase (including reduced post-bloom fruit drop, improved nutritional practices, and improved local weather conditions), but it is reasonable to conclude from the bactericide studies that when the bactericides are used with appropriate adjuvants along with good citriculture practices, improvements in tree health and yield can be realized.

**Summary and Future Research Direction.** Although combined results for all treatments consistently showed yield and tree health improvements, statistically significant improvements were not observed in every grove treated. This likely indicates other interacting variables that influence the effect of bactericides. Examples of such factors could include rootstock genotype, weather conditions at and after application, Phytophthora, tree age/health, and stresses associated with compromised water or soil. Our recent preliminary finding of how nutritionals and pesticides can influence penetration may explain some of the observed variation among grower applications. Future work should be conducted to identify interacting factors to develop protocols that provide consistent improvements.

Furthermore, our three-year study identified an optimal treatment protocol (see Year 3 in Table 1) which was only applied during the final 3<sup>rd</sup> year (2016-2017). Therefore, our results were the result of only a single year of rotational treatment or from two years of treatments with sub-optimal treatment regimes. Continued monitoring will be important to determine if tree health and yield incrementally improve with sustained treatment. Also, as management strategies emerge that give grower's confidence to replant, understanding the effectiveness of bactericides in protecting newly planted trees will be needed. In conclusion, these results show that bactericides, as demonstrated here using oxytetracycline-HCL and streptomycin sulfate formulations, are an effective tool for citrus growers to use to keep citrus trees healthier and more productive in the presence of HLB.

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*Disclaimer: Mention of trade names or commercial products in this publication is solely for the purpose of providing specific information and does not imply recommendation or endorsement by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.*



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Bournique Receives Florida Citrus Packers' Highest Honor**

MAITLAND, Fla. (August 27, 2018) Florida Citrus Packers honored Douglas C. Bournique with its John T. Lesley Award for Excellence at Packinghouse Day on August 23, 2018. The John T. Lesley Award is the organization's highest recognition, reserved for individuals making sustained and outstanding contributions to Florida's fresh citrus industry. The list of recipients reads like a "who's who" of the Florida citrus industry.

Mr. Bournique brought his talents and infectious passion to the Indian River Citrus League in 1979. For the past 39 years, He has been the face and voice of the Indian River District. He has led the charge on water, legislative, marketing and regulatory issues facing fresh Florida citrus. Proving that his impact reached beyond the Indian River District, Mr. Bournique received strong statewide recognition for his many contributions and the importance of his role in the resurrection and sustainability of fresh Florida citrus in the face of its current trials.

Florida Citrus Packers congratulates Mr. Douglas C. Bournique - Recipient of the 2018 John T. Lesley Award.

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**FARM LABOR SUPERVISOR TRAINING  
SCHEDULE FOR FALL, 2018**

DAY 1		DAY 2	
DAY 1—TIME	Classes	DAY 2—TIME	Classes
8:00 am - 8:30 am	Registration	8:00 am - 8:30 am	Registration
8:30 am - 10:15 am	Farm Labor Contractor Basics & Navigating H-2A	8:30 am - 10:00 am	Safe Driving
10:30 am - 12:15 pm	Wage/Hour Regulations & Managing H-2A Workers	10:15 am—11:30 am	Pesticide Safety
12:15 pm—1:00 pm	Lunch	11:30 am - 12:15 pm	Lunch
1:00 pm—2:30 pm	EEOC Compliance—Harassment and Discrimination	12:15 pm—1:30 pm	Heat Stress Prevention
2:45 pm - 4:30 pm	Management Communications	1:45 pm - 3:30 pm	Hand Labor Equipment Safety

**Oct. 9 -10, 2018**  
**SEBRING**

UF/IFAS Highlands County Extension Office  
4509 George Blvd.  
Sebring, FL 33875  
Ph: 863-402-6540  
Register:  
<https://fls2018sebring.eventbrite.com>

**Oct. 23 -24, 2018**  
**WIMAUMA**

UF/IFAS Gulf Coast Research & Education Center  
14625 CR 672  
Wimauma, FL 33598  
Ph: 813-419-6670  
Register:  
<https://fls2018wimauma.eventbrite.com>

**Who should take these classes?** Labor Supervisors, Contractors, Crew Leaders, Foremen, Bus & Van Drivers, Human Resources, Payroll, Compliance, Labor Managers, and Farm Managers.

**Language:** English or Spanish

**Class information:** A Certificate of Farm Labor Management is earned by attendees who pass tests in all classes.

**FEE: \$50 per class, \$350 for the Complete Certificate Program (one student must attend all 8 classes)**

**Minimum Class Size:** 10 participants

**To register visit:** <http://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/programs/economics/fls> or go directly to the Eventbrite page shown for each location.

**For More Information, contact:** Barbara Hyman (239) 658-3461 ([hymanb@ufl.edu](mailto:hymanb@ufl.edu)) or Fritz Roka (239) 658-3428 ([fmroka@ufl.edu](mailto:fmroka@ufl.edu))

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# MICHAEL MINTON TO LEAD TAX LAWYERS GROUP



Fort Pierce, Florida – Michael D. Minton, past President of Dean, Mead, Egerton, Bloodworth, Capouano & Bozarth, P.A., doing business on the Treasure Coast as Dean, Mead, Minton & Zwemer since 1987, began his term as Chair of The Florida Bar Tax Section on July 1, 2018. The Tax Section is the state’s largest organization of tax lawyers with more than 2,000 members.

Minton’s first order of business was leading the Tax Section at its 67th Organizational Meeting on July 4 – 7, 2018 in Amelia Island. He will serve a one-year term, to be succeeded by Janette Marie McCurley of the St. Petersburg office of B Gray Gibbs, PA, who was chosen to serve as Chair-Elect.

The 2018 Fall Meeting will be held in Washington, D.C. in September when the Tax Section travels to the source of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Tax Section leaders will meet with U.S. Senators, U.S. Congressmen and fellow tax attorneys working for the IRS, U.S. Department of the Treasury, U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means, and

U.S. Senate Committee on Finance, to name a few.

Minton has more than 36 years of experience as a tax and estate planning lawyer in Florida with an emphasis on generationally-owned agricultural businesses. He assists clients with their organizational structure, federal income, estate and gift tax planning and business succession planning. He has extensive experience focusing on tax issues related to agri-business, as well as water resource issues and new innovative uses of land for value added propositions.

Minton previously served in several leadership positions within The Florida Bar Tax Section, including as its resident historian for the past 30 years, Chair of the Long Range Planning Committee, Director of Section Administration, and Chair of the Specialty Tax Areas Committee (formerly known as the Agricultural Tax Law Committee). He is a member of the American Bar Association Section of Taxation, a Fellow of The Florida Bar Foundation, and serves on the Boards of Directors of both the Florida Chamber of Commerce and Florida Tax Watch.

Minton has been recognized as an outstanding tax lawyer in The Best Lawyers in America® every year for the past 11 years and in Chambers USA for the past 12 years. He has been ranked among the top tax attorneys in Florida Super Lawyers since 2007, and named to the prestigious list of Florida Legal Elite by Florida Trend magazine for eight years. Minton received the Special Merit Award from The Florida Bar Tax Section in 2009.

“There has never been a more dynamic time to be a tax attorney and I am honored to have been selected by my peers to serve as Chair of the most distinguished group of tax lawyers in Florida during these turbulent times. The Tax Section just adopted a new Long Range Plan which helps us focus our attention toward serving the ever-changing needs of our membership, and I look forward to implementing the Plan to lead the growth and development of the organization,” Minton said.

The purpose of the Tax Section of The Florida Bar is to further the tax knowledge and practice of interested members in federal and state tax law; develop standards for ethical and competent practice of tax law by lawyers; develop and maintain proper professional relationships between tax lawyers, non-lawyer groups and lawyer groups; and, improve the operation of federal and state tax laws, rules and regulations, to accomplish legitimate legislative objectives and improve the administration of tax law. To learn more, please visit the website at [Florida Bar Tax Section](#).

# Nearly \$2 Billion Available for 2017 Hurricane and Wildfire Damage

Agricultural producers affected by hurricanes and wildfires in 2017 now may apply for assistance to help recover and rebuild their farming operations. Signup begins July 16, 2018, and continues through Nov. 16, 2018.

Hurricanes and wildfires caused billions of dollars in losses to America's farmers last year. Our objective is to get relief funds into the hands of eligible producers as quickly as possible. We are making immediate, initial payments of up to 50 percent of the calculated assistance so producers can pay their bills.

Additional payments will be issued, if funds remain available, later in the year.

The program, known as the 2017 Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program (2017 WHIP) was authorized by Congress earlier this year by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018.

Eligible crops, trees, bushes, or vines, located in a county declared in a Presidential Emergency Disaster Declaration or Secretarial Disaster Designation as a primary county are eligible for assistance if the producer suffered a loss as a result of a 2017 hurricane. Also, losses located in a county not designated as a primary county may be eligible if the producer provides documentation showing that the loss was due to a hurricane or wildfire in 2017. A list of counties that received qualifying hurricane declarations and designations is available at <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/programs-and-services/disaster-assistance-program/wildfires-and-hurricanes-indemnity-program/index>. Eligibility is determined by Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees.

Agricultural production losses due to conditions caused by last year's wildfires and hurricanes, including excessive rain, high winds, flooding, mudslides, fire, and heavy smoke, could qualify for assistance through the program. Typically, 2017 WHIP is only designed to provide assistance for production losses, however, if quality was taken into consideration under the insurance or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policy, where production was further adjusted, the adjusted production will be used in calculating assistance under this program.

Eligible crops include those for which federal crop insurance or NAP coverage is available, excluding crops intended for grazing. A list of crops covered by crop insurance is available through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Actuarial Information Browser at <https://webapp.rma.usda.gov/apps/actuarialinformationbrowser>.

Eligibility will be determined for each producer based on the size of the loss and the level of insurance coverage elected by the producer. A WHIP factor will be determined for each crop based on the producer's coverage level. Producers who elected higher coverage levels will receive a higher WHIP factor.

The 2017 WHIP payment factor ranges from 65 percent to 95 percent, depending upon the level of crop insurance coverage or NAP coverage that a producer obtained for the crop. Producers who did not insure their crops in 2017 will receive 65 percent of the expected value of the crop. Insured producers will receive between 70 percent and 95 percent of expected value; those who purchased the highest levels of coverage will receive 95-percent coverage.

Each eligible producer requesting 2017 WHIP benefits will be subject to a payment limitation of either \$125,000 or \$900,000, depending upon their average adjusted gross income, which will be

**ASSISTANCE con't. from page 12**

verified. The payment limit is \$125,000 if less than 75 percent of the person or legal entity's average adjusted gross income is average adjusted gross farm income. The payment limit is \$900,000, if 75 percent or more of the average adjusted gross income of the person or legal entity is average adjusted gross farm income.

Both insured and uninsured producers are eligible to apply for 2017 WHIP. However, all producers receiving 2017 WHIP payments will be required to purchase crop insurance and/or NAP, at the 60 percent coverage level or higher, for the next two available crop years to meet statutory requirements. Producers who fail to purchase crop insurance for the next two applicable years will be required to pay back the 2017 WHIP payment.

To help expedite payments, a producer who does not have records established at the [local USDA service center](#) are encouraged to do so early in the process. To establish a record for a farm, a producer needs:

- Proof of identity: driver's license and Social Security number/card;
- Copy of recorder deed, survey plat, rental, or lease agreement of the land. A producer does not have to own property to participate in FSA programs;
- Corporation, estate, or trust documents, if applicable

Once signup begins, a producer will be asked to provide verifiable and reliable production records. If a producer is unable to provide production records, USDA will calculate the yield based on the county average yield. A producer with this information on file does not need to provide the information again.

For more information on FSA disaster assistance programs, please contact your local USDA service center or visit <https://www.farmers.gov/recover/whip>.



# FLORIDA CITRUS RECOVERY BLOCK GRANT

Florida's Citrus Recovery Block Grant Program ("CRBG") is available to citrus producers who maintain an active citrus farming operation and who suffered citrus crop damage as a result of Hurricane Irma. In order to qualify for CRBG, producers must first apply for the Federal 2017 USDA Wildfires and Hurricanes Indemnity Program (WHIP). Producers receiving assistance under either CRBG or WHIP must obtain federal tree and crop insurance for crop years 2020 and 2021. Total payments from insurance, WHIP, and the CRBG shall not exceed 85% of total losses identified by WHIP for insured applicants or 65% of total losses identified by WHIP for uninsured applicants. Payments will be delivered through the State of Florida's My Florida Marketplace (MFMP) vendor payment system via direct deposit or hard-copy check.

## THREE PART PROGRAM

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency ("FSA"), Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Florida Division of Emergency Management ("DEM") developed the CRBG. The amount of available grant funding is capped at \$340,000,000. DEM will administer the funds, which are available for the following purposes:

### **PART 1: TREE RESETS, GROVE REHABILITATION, AND IRRIGATION SYSTEM REPAIR/REPLACEMENT (ESTIMATED \$129 M) –**

- Funding is available for eligible producers with crop production loss of at least 20% due to Hurricane Irma
- Up to \$385.00/acre for tree resets, rehabilitation or replacement; irrigation and drainage system repair, etc.
- Available Fall 2018
- Complete grant application with supporting documentation is required (see below).

### **PART 2: FUTURE ECONOMIC LOSSES (ESTIMATED \$182 M) –**

- Funding is available for eligible producers with crop production loss of at least 40% due to Hurricane Irma
- Application with supporting documentation for Part 1 required
- Up to \$745.50/acre for expected citrus losses for crop years in 2019 and 2020
- Up to 3 payments total to be disbursed upon completion of:
  - Fall 2018 Site Inspection – up to \$372.75/acre
  - Proof of purchase for 2020 tree and crop insurance – up to \$186.38/acre
  - Proof of purchase for 2021 tree and crop insurance – up to \$186.38/acre

### **PART 3: CROP INSURANCE PURCHASE REQUIREMENTS (SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND ESTIMATED \$29 M) –**

- Funding may be available to purchase Federal crop insurance for years 2022 and 2023
- Up to 2 payments may be disbursed following crop insurance premiums for crop years 2022 and 2023:
  - Proof of purchase for 2022 crop year insurance – award amount TBD
  - Proof of purchase for 2023 crop year insurance – award amount TBD

## APPLICATION PROCESS

The application cycle is scheduled to open on September 18, 2018. Producers may download applications on-line at [www.floridadisaster.org](http://www.floridadisaster.org) or by making an appointment with DEM at the FSA locations listed below:

- Bartow
- Kissimmee
- Wauchula
- Okeechobee
- Moore Haven
- Fort Myers
- Fort Pierce

## **REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR PAYMENT**

In order to comply with Federal and State requirements, DEM will require the following documentation prior to payment:

	<b>REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION FOR PAYMENT</b>
<b>ALL PARTS</b>	Completed WHIP application; Proof of tree and crop insurance for 2020 and 2021 crop years; and, Certifications of continuing citrus operations.
<b>PART 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Proof of expenditures such as receipts, invoices, or credit card statements – up to \$385/acre</li></ul>
<b>PART 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Part 1 application</li><li>• Fall 2018 site inspection – up to \$372.75/acre</li><li>• Proof of purchase for 2020 tree and crop insurance – up to \$186.38/acre</li><li>• Proof of purchase for 2021 tree and crop insurance – up to \$186.38/acre</li></ul>
<b>PART 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Proof of purchase for 2022 crop year insurance – TBD</li><li>• Proof of purchase for 2023 crop year insurance – TBD.</li></ul>

## **APPLICATION WORKSHOP SCHEDULE**

To learn more about the program, four application workshops will be held throughout the State. See below for details.

### **WORKSHOP #1 – FORT PIERCE**

Monday – September 24<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-12:00

USDA Horticultural Lab - 2001 S Rock Rd, Fort Pierce, FL 34945

### **WORKSHOP #2 – LAKE ALFRED**

Thursday – September 27<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 – 12:00

Citrus Research and Education Center - 700 Experiment Station Road Lake Alfred, FL 33850

### **WORKSHOP #3 – SEBRING**

Thursday – September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2:00-5:00

Bert Harris Ag Center 4509 George Blvd. Sebring, FL 33875

### **WORKSHOP #4 - LABELLE**

Friday – September 28<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 – 12:00

Dallas Townsend, FL 1085 Pratt Blvd. LaBelle, FL 33935

For more inquiries concerning Florida’s Citrus Recovery Grant Program, contact DEM Senior Management Analyst Joseph Oglesby at (850) 815-4450.

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# Indian River Citrus League

## 2018

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# Upcoming Events



**January 22, 2019 – Indian River Citrus League Banquet**

Vero Beach, FL (The Club at Pointe West)

**January 23-24, 2019 – 2019 Florida Citrus Show**

Ft. Pierce, FL (Fenn Center)

**March 29, 2019 – IRCL River Fun Shoot**

Okeechobee (Quail Creek Plantation)

**Newsletter Advertising** – Publication schedule is September through June.

For more information on these opportunities, please contact the League office.

772-595-5026 or [info@ircitrusleague.org](mailto:info@ircitrusleague.org)



## associate members



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## Getting Involved.

### membership opportunities

Our Associate Membership provides opportunities to network with existing customers and potential customers by providing opportunities to sponsor events scheduled throughout the year. Their partnership with our organization is important to us. If interested in joining our organization, please contact the League office for further details.