

RIVER RAMBLINGS



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MAR
2021

WEDGWORTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE TOUR PROMOTES TREASURE COAST AGRICULTURE



Last month, Class XI of the UF/IFAS Wedgworth Leadership Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources was able to tour and learn more about agriculture and water issues impacting the Treasure Coast.

Class members were able to listen to key ag leaders here on the Treasure Coast agricultural region that included **Peter McClure**, Director, agronomy, TerViva, spoke on *Pongamia: An Alternative Crop for Florida*.



Executive Vice President of the Indian River Citrus League

and St. John's River Water Management District board member **Doug Bournique** offered an overview of the *Indian River Lagoon Ecosystem: Challenges and Opportunities*. **Mike Adams**, President of Adams Ranch, spoke on *Adams Ranch: Innovation in Cattle Ranching*.



Turning to citrus, **Dan Richey**, President/CEO of Riverfront Packing along with **Tom Mitchell**, Vice President of Riverfront Packing and alumni of Class X of the Wedgworth Leadership Institute spoke on the citrus industry and provided tours of the packinghouse. Continuing with citrus, the class received an information on *Grassy Island Groves: An Overview of Treasure Coast Citrus* with **Brant Schirard** and **J. Brantley Schirard** both of Schirard Citrus and **Daniel Scott**, Vice President of Scott Citrus Management. **Marygrace Sexton**, Founder, Natalie's Orchid Island Juice Company spoke on *Innovation Perspectives*.

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INSTITUTE, continued from page 1

A survey of the participants, upon completion of the tour, provided some feedback stating, “I think this seminar may have been the best yet. The speakers clearly communicated facts and issues of their subject and all were very encouraging.”; “Phenomenal session, so much to take away” and “I can’t imagine missing this seminar.”

Wedgworth Leadership Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources, an agricultural-based leadership program, was founded in 1989 through the Institute of Food and Agricultural Science (IFAS) that saw the need for an agricultural-based leadership program in Florida. The process began of implementing such a program, the Florida Leadership Program for Agriculture and Natural Resources, then was renamed to the Wedgworth Leadership Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources (WLIANR) in 2003 to provide a living tribute to Mr. George Wedgworth, and to honor his contributions to Florida agriculture.

To learn more about the Wedgworth Leadership Institute, please contact:

Christy Chiarelli, Director, UF/IFAS Wedgworth Leadership Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources. ccw@ufl.edu , Ph: 352.392.1041



USDA ANNOUNCES SUBSTANTIAL GRAPEFRUIT JUICE PURCHASE



On March 1, 2021, USDA announced a Section 32, 7.5 million dollar grapefruit juice purchase.

This purchase will substantially help with the building grapefruit juice inventories that are depressing grower returns. USDA has been extremely helpful by working with our industry when our inventories get critically high.

Then on March 5, USDA announced another 18 million dollar for the purchase of grapefruit juice in response to winter weather in Texas. The solicitation will include Florida processors.

The League will continue to work with USDA to continue future purchases to relieve building inventories of grapefruit juice.

If anyone needs additional information about the purchase, contact the League office.



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FDA SHARES RESOURCES FOR THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SECTOR ABOUT COVID-19 VACCINATION

February 24, 2021

Today the FDA published a new web page, [COVID-19 Vaccination & the Food and Agriculture Sector](#), to share information and resources to help employers in the Food and Agriculture sector communicate about COVID-19 vaccination to their workforce. The resources are from the FDA, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and other trusted partners.

The page includes links to information about:

- the safety and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines authorized for emergency use by the FDA and fact sheets in more than 25 languages
- a [CDC tool kit](#) in different languages with key messages to reach essential workers about COVID-19 vaccination
- information about the availability of vaccines in your community

As the COVID-19 vaccine supply increases, the FDA hopes these resources will help leadership and management of food and agriculture operations support worker vaccination. When an essential worker gets a COVID-19 vaccine, they protect themselves, their families, co-workers, and their communities. Healthy workers help to ensure the availability of a safe and plentiful food supply.

For additional information about FDA resources during COVID-19, including guidance for industry, visit [Food Safety and the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#).

Ingredients

3 large navel oranges
1 medium red grapefruit
1 medium white grapefruit
1 small lemon
1 small lime
1/3 cup sugar
1/8 teaspoon almond extract
2 tablespoons sliced almonds, toasted

ALMOND SUNSHINE CITRUS



Directions

Grate enough peel from the oranges, grapefruit, lemon and lime to measure 1 tablespoon of mixed citrus peel; set peel aside. To section citrus fruit, cut a thin slice off the bottom and top of the oranges, grapefruit, lemon and lime. Place each fruit cut side down on a cutting board. With a sharp knife, remove peel and white pith. Holding fruit over a bowl, slice between the membrane of each section and the fruit until the knife reaches the center; remove sections and place in a glass bowl. Set 1/2 cup juice aside.

In a small saucepan, combine the sugar and reserved peel and juice. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered for 10 minutes. Cool; stir in extract. Pour over fruit. Refrigerate overnight. Just before serving, sprinkle with almonds.

Nutrition Facts

3/4 cup: 197 calories, 2g fat (0 saturated fat), 0 cholesterol, 1mg sodium, 47g carbohydrate (38g sugars, 6g fiber), 3g protein. Diabetic Exchanges: 3 fruit, 1/2 fat.

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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. 772-595-5026 or info@ircitrusleague.org

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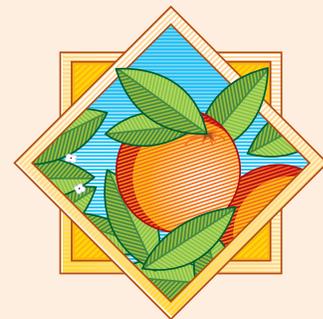
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UPCOMING EVENTS



Fresh Citrus Packers: HACCP Training for FL Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Packinghouses

April 13th - 16th, daily from 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm EST

Limited space available.

Registration is available online only at: <https://haccp041321.eventbrite.com>

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this training is being offered temporarily via remote delivery. In order to participate, individuals must have video and audio capability, and will be required to have both operating during the entire training.

Participants will be monitored to verify attendance and engagement. Participants will only be eligible for the HACCP Certificate of Course Completion if they are present for all modules of the course. The training will take place via Zoom, which does not require special software. Zoom does have system requirements, which can be found here: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-System-Requirements-for-PC-Mac-and-Linux> Please make sure that your system meets the requirements for Zoom meetings.

Florida Citrus Show

May 12-13, 2021

Havert L. Fenn Center

2000 Virginia Avenue, Ft. Pierce

This year's event will be themed, "We Believe in Florida Citrus" in keeping with Florida Grower's larger initiative by the same name. The show has been a longtime and successful partnership among the magazine and UF/IFAS, the Indian River Citrus League, and USDA to provide growers an opportunity to learn about the latest research and market intelligence.

The show will place a priority on safety and following COVID-19 protocols. For instance, the education space and trade show floor will be designed to allow for social distancing, and registration will be limited and focused on serving grower attendees first.

As always, the trade show will feature commercial suppliers of the products and services you need to grow a sustainable crop and to run a successful business.

The agenda, and other show details are available on CitrusShow.com <https://www.citrusshow.com/> and via other channels. Stay tuned for updates on the show, as it is a fluid situation with changing conditions.

Annual Industry Conference

Due to COVID concerns, the Annual Industry Conference, historically held in Bonita Springs, is cancelled for 2021. There will though be an online auction June 7-13th and an online Educational Session (date TBD). The conference is expected to resume in 2022.

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We love supporting our local community. Whether you need a professional facility to handle the processing and packaging of your juice or a donation for your next charity event, remember to think of Indian River Select!

