

RIVER RAMBLINGS



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FEB
2024

FUN SHOOT DRAWS LARGEST PARTICIPATION

The Indian River Citrus League Fun Shoot, held on January 27 at Vero Beach Clay Shooting Sports in Vero Beach, had nearly 100 shooters, which exceeded expectations. The event went off seamlessly and the shooters enjoyed a beautiful morning on the course and the newly construction clubhouse that featured citrus themed décor recognizing the iconic industry here on the River.

The League, in partnership with **Hale Groves** and **Sailfish Brewing Company** were co-title sponsors of this event. We thank **Florida Coast Equipment** for once again participating in the event as the lunch sponsor, which shooters enjoyed a unique lunch prepared by **Countryside Citrus** (A shout out to Chef Timm for a job well done.)

This event would not have been possible without the unbelievable support from Alex Brown and his fantastic staff at Hale Groves.

We are grateful for the generosity of **Everglades Farm Equipment**, who once again sponsored the Shot Gun Raffle. There was also a green bird 50/50 cash pot raffle that is always very popular at this event.

Congratulations to the following winners of the shoot: **First Place: Faulkner Tree Service, Second Place: Hale Groves #2 and Third Place: Hale Groves #1**

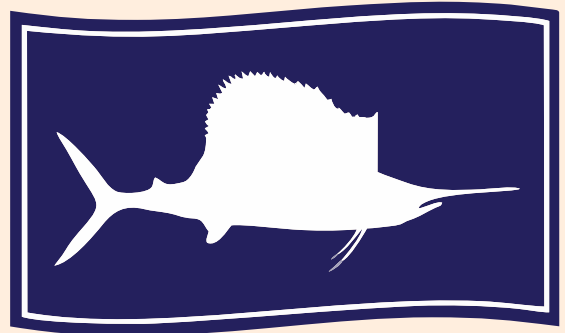
The funds generated from the event will allow the League to continue representing our grower base on issues impacting our industry, along with enhancing and protecting the iconic citrus industry here in the Indian River growing district and desires to continue in that role as this industry rebuilds.

We are already receiving sponsorship commitments for next year's shoot in January, so it's not too early to begin thinking about the 2025 event. Contact the League office for further details.



Thank you to all our Indian River Citrus League Fun Shoot sponsors for your support in making this a successful event!!

Co-Title Sponsors



SAILFISH
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Industry Supporter

CRAFT
Florida Department of Citrus

Grapefruit Station Sponsor

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Orange Station Sponsor

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Presented by Countryside Citrus

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INDIAN RIVER CITRUS LEAGUE

100 TARGET

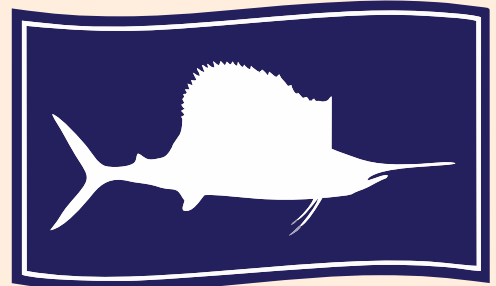
FUN SHOOT





2024





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MISS FLORIDA CITRUS/MISS WINTER HAVEN COMPETITION – 100TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT!

On Friday, March 1, 2024, young women from throughout the state will have a chance to compete for the titles of Miss Florida Citrus and Miss Winter Haven, along with a chance to earn over \$2,000 in scholarship money and the chance to become Miss America! This will mark the 100th Anniversary of when the first Florida Citrus Queen was crowned on the shores of Lake Silver in Winter Haven in 1924! The following night will feature a Golden Gala Celebration honoring all the Florida Citrus Queen/Miss Florida Citrus titleholders over the years and will also be held at Nora Mayo Hall. Tickets to that event are \$125 per person, or a reserved table of 8 for \$1,500.

Candidates compete in Private Interviews, On Stage Conversation, Health & Fitness, Talent/HERStory™ and Evening Gown in this Miss America preliminary, with the winners going to the Miss Florida competition in June. Miss Florida Citrus and Miss Winter Haven will receive a \$1,000 and \$500 scholarship respectively, with the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place candidates receiving \$200, \$150 and \$100, along with numerous other gifts.

The event will be held at Nora Mayo Hall in Winter Haven beginning at 7PM. Tickets to the event are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

To compete or to sponsor, contact Brenda Eubanks Burnette at (561) 351-4314 or MFCitrus81@gmail.com.

Details

Date: March 1, 2024

Time: 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm

Cost: \$20 – \$25

Organizer: Miss Florida Citrus/Miss Winter Haven Scholarship Program; Florida Citrus Hall of Fame

Phone: (561) 351-4314

Email: MFCitrus81@gmail.com

Venue: Nora Mayo Hall
500 Third Street, NW
Winter Haven, FL 33880



FLORIDA CITRUS HALL OF FAME INDUCTION BANQUET

Tickets are still available for purchase to attend the 2024 Florida Citrus Hall of Fame induction banquet on March 1, 2024; 11:30 AM at the George W. Jenkins Fieldhouse, Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL.

The 2024 inductees are Bob Behr, George Streetman and Leland Young.

The event is co-sponsored by Florida Citrus Mutual and the Florida Department of Citrus, with the Florida Citrus Processors Association hosting the OJ Meet & Greet afterwards.

Tickets are \$150 per person or \$1750 for a Sponsor Table of eight and can be purchased online at www.FloridaCitrusHallofFame.com.



WOMAN OF THE YEAR IN AGRICULTURE AWARD

Since 1985, women who have made outstanding contributions to Florida agriculture have been honored with the “Woman of the Year in Agriculture” award.

This award, sponsored by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in conjunction with the Florida State Fair Authority, is presented to the recipient during the Florida State Fair in Tampa.



Recipients of the “Woman of the Year in Agriculture” award have come from all parts of the industry, including cattle, vegetables, timber, citrus, row crops, equine, horticulture, tropical fruits, sugar cane, dairy, agricultural journalism, and agricultural education and outreach.

In 2001, the award program was enhanced to help heighten awareness about the women who have helped make Florida agriculture into the important industry that it is today. Since then, a documentary video about each new recipient has been shown during the award ceremony, and a booklet outlining her contributions to agriculture has been distributed to those in attendance.

Fill out a nomination form (<https://www.fdacs.gov/Agriculture-Industry/Agricultural-Awards-and-Honors/Woman-of-the-Year-in-Agriculture-Award/Online-Application-for-Woman-of-the-Year-in-Agriculture>) for the Woman of the Year in Agriculture Award. Nominations will be accepted **January 1–March 1**.

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- An insect growth regulator (IGR) that affects ant reproduction
- Sterilizes the queen(s)/destroys the colony
- Can be used everywhere fire ants colonize
- Economical usage rates of 1-1.5 lbs. per acre

Extinguish® Plus Fire Ant Bait

- Combination insect growth regulator and adulticide
- Sterilizes the queen(s)/kills worker ants
- Approved for non-bearing citrus trees
- Economical usage rate of 1.5 lbs. per acre



Learn more about Extinguish® fire ant baits at CentralAntControl.com or call 800.347.8272.

Emergency Relief Program 2022 (Track 1) Delivery Snapshot

FLORIDA



In passing the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328), Congress intended the emergency relief for losses resulting from eligible natural disasters occurring in calendar year 2022 to be delivered in the same manner as previous assistance (specifically Emergency Relief Program (ERP) Phase 1 for 2020 and 2021 losses).

To enhance access to critical assistance based on indemnified losses, FSA incorporated key improvements from lessons learned, including:

- Track 1 has been enhanced to support an update/correction process to allow additional Risk Management Agency (RMA) records to be included under ERP 2022 ensuring that participants with eligible records have access to critical assistance.
- To support access to emergency relief in a manner that aligns with the structure of the operation, the Track 1 application process has been enhanced to include all Substantial Beneficial Holders listed on a crop insurance policy.

Progressive Factoring (vs. Flat Rate) is a more advantageous, equitable distribution of limited funds to more producers in need of assistance.

- In early conversations about the need for 2022 emergency relief assistance, USDA informed Congress that the Department estimated disaster-impacted producers incurred at least **\$10 billion in uncovered losses**. Actual numbers are closer to **\$12 billion in uncovered losses**. When the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328) passed, Congress allocated **\$3.2 billion in funding** for uncovered crop losses.
- With a known funding deficit, USDA found an equitable process that would provide the most benefits to the most producers. According to RMA and FSA data, roughly **206,000 crop insurance and 4,500 Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) policies** had an indemnity that would earn a payment through ERP 2022 Track 1.
- If a flat factor was applied, the factor would have been **27%**. For a policy holder (producer/operation) to earn more in ERP 2022 benefits under a flat factor (vs. a progressive factor), it would have required an ERP gross payment of around **\$30,000**.

Designing and Deploying ERP

When designing and deploying a program as complex as ERP, we've made every effort to incorporate lessons learned from our previous disaster programs as well as glean important input from producers, commodity groups, members of Congress and other stakeholder groups before opening the program for applications. The end result is a more advantageous, equitable distribution of limited funds to more producers in need of assistance.

- More than **80%** of the 210,500 indemnified policies have ERP gross payments less than \$30,000 meaning nearly 170,000 producers will receive a higher payment using the progressive factor when compared to the 27% flat factor. It's important to understand that, for these producers, the ERP 2022 payment is in addition to over **\$19 billion** in indemnities already received through their respective RMA or FSA risk coverage options.
- Should Congress authorize additional funding, FSA can timely issue additional assistance by adjusting factors currently in place.

For **FLORIDA**, the ERP 2022 progressive factoring option is more advantageous than the flat factor for **71%** of program participants.

Flat vs. Progressive ¹	Number of Producers with Effective Factor	Share of Producers with Effective Factor
<0.27	1,025	29%
>=0.27	2,543	71%

¹ Producers who received an effective factor greater than 27 percent did better with progressive factoring while those with an effective factor of less than 27 percent would have done better if a flat factor was used.

Much-needed assistance delivered to small and mid-size family farms and underserved producers that historically have not had the same risk protection opportunities that are critical to sustaining operations in times of disaster.

- ♦ Offering a reduction in premiums and fees provides additional assistance to more-often vulnerable and smaller operations who lack financial resources to access higher levels of coverage through crop insurance or FSA’s NAP.
- ♦ Most U.S. farms are small family farms; these farms operate on 46% of U.S. agricultural land and account for 19% of the total value of production.
- ♦ In 2022, approximately 88% of all farms were small family farms and operated 46% of U.S. agricultural land.

According to USDA Economic Research Service Data (see figure 1):

- ♦ Most U.S. farms are small family farms; In 2022, approximately 88% of all farms were small family farms that operated 46% of U.S. agricultural land and accounted for 19% of the total value of production.

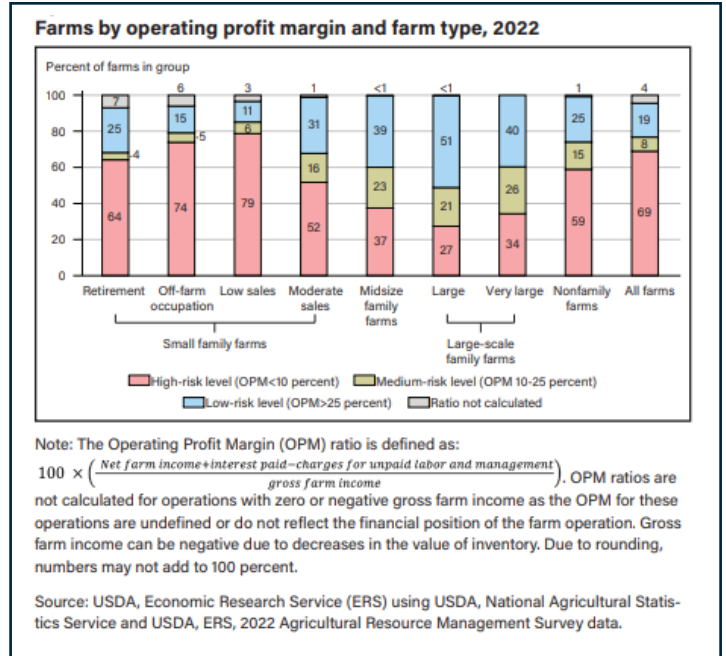


Fig. 1

For **FLORIDA**, ERP 2022 payments complement more than **\$282 MILLION** in disaster recovery benefits delivered to disaster-impacted producers in 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 (as of Dec. 10, 2023).

Program	Program Year/ Fiscal Year 2020	Program Year/ Fiscal Year 2021	Program Year/ Fiscal Year 2022	Program Year/ Fiscal Year 2023	Total
Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)	\$19,290,671	\$10,872,574	\$4,849,632	\$3,595,641	\$38,608,518
Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)	\$99,667	\$2,917,510	\$5,770,994	\$10,198,278	\$18,986,449
Emergency Assistance for Livestock (ELAP)	\$8,901,486	\$11,444,121	\$53,462,348	\$609,819	\$74,417,774
Emergency Relief Program (ERP)	\$27,756,589	\$43,030,855	\$9,109,444		\$79,896,887
Emergency Relief Program (ERP) 2	\$11,950,667	\$24,653,708			\$36,604,375
Emergency Relief Program (ERP) 2022			\$1,541,951		\$1,541,951
Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)	\$54,885			\$11,478,089	\$11,532,974
Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)	\$52,028	\$49,178	\$744,433	\$30,958	\$876,597
Milk Loss Program (MLP)			\$223,853		\$223,853
Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)	\$2,692,873	\$3,007,566	\$6,649,849	\$3,898,539	\$16,248,827
Tree Assistance Program (TAP)	\$1,400,076	\$554,053	\$1,063,004	\$78,053	\$3,095,185

2024 FLORIDA CITRUS SHOW



The 2024 Florida Citrus Show is not your average trade show. The show will be held on April 3, 2024 and hosted at the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) Indian River Research and Education Center and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Horticultural Research Laboratory in Ft. Pierce, FL. Seminars will be packed with the newest information for growers, and more than 50 top agricultural companies will be exhibiting at the tailgate in between seminar sessions. The tailgate hub is located at the center of the show, filled with cold drinks, food and tailgate games.

Come ready to eat! Breakfast will be served at 8:00 a.m. Enjoy breakfast while networking with exhibitors before the general session at 9:00 a.m. After some informative educational sessions, join the tailgate party at 11:10 a.m. A complimentary BBQ lunch will be available for all attendees. There will be plenty of food to fuel up for the day as exhibitors will be sharing their favorite tailgate dishes for sampling! Be sure to stop by every booth so you can choose your favorite tailgate food. Growers will have the opportunity to win a \$500 cash prize by voting for the exhibitor they think should be the tailgate food champion. That's not all! Catch up with fellow growers over a game of corn hole.

Concurrent citrus and vegetable sessions will begin after the tailgate party at 2:00 p.m. Be sure to stay all day for educational sessions featuring experts from UF/IFAS and USDA.

Registration is complimentary for commercial growers, farm owners and managers, professional crop advisers, association executives and board members, and the government, legislative and agricultural research communities. Registration link: <https://agnet.wufoo.com/forms/s4e5f1i1t85my3/>

PINK GRAPEFRUIT BUTTERMILK MUFFINS Serves: 12 muffins

Ingredients

½ cup butter, at room temperature
1 cup sugar
2 large eggs, separated
¾ cup buttermilk
Grated zest of one pink grapefruit (about 1½ tablespoons)
½ cup freshly squeezed pink grapefruit juice

1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 cups all-purpose flour
1½ teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
¼ teaspoon salt
For the grapefruit sugar topping:
2 teaspoons pink grapefruit zest
¼ cup sugar

Instructions

Preheat the oven to 350 F.

Cream the butter and sugar in a large bowl for several minutes until light pale and fluffy. Add the egg yolks and beat until combined. Add the grapefruit juice, zest, and vanilla extract and beat until combined.

In a separate bowl, combine the flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt. A bit at a time, carefully fold the flour mixture into the batter using a rubber spatula. Add the buttermilk between flour additions. Some lumps are fine. Be careful not to over-stir.

Beat the egg whites until soft peaks form. Using a rubber spatula, carefully fold the egg whites into the batter, again being careful not to over-stir. Spoon the batter into the muffin tins about ¾ full.

Using your fingers, combine the grapefruit zest with the sugar in a small bowl. Sprinkle the grapefruit sugar on top of the muffins. Bake for 20-25 minutes or until a toothpick inserted into the center of a muffin comes out clean.



STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Matt Joyner, EVP of Florida Citrus Mutual, provided a briefing at the League's recent board meeting on the following:

STATE ISSUES

State Budget: The budget is currently pending awaiting the Governor's signature. The total appropriations request for the citrus industry was divided into the following:

Senate Proposal

- \$25.5 million for Citrus Research (CRAFT/CRDF)
- \$7.5 million for the Citrus Loan Program
- \$5 million for Florida Department of Citrus Marketing
- \$4.7 million for the Citrus Recovery Program and Pest Management (Florida Department of Citrus)

Joint Senate and House Proposal

- \$7.84 million for the Citrus Health Response Program (CHRP)
- \$4 million for the Citrus Inspection Trust Fund

Bills in the House:

House Bill 1051/Senate Bill 1082 - Housing for Agricultural Workers

Preempts regulations of agricultural worker housing to the state, allowing uniformity for the development of housing infrastructure for our workforce.

House Bill 1075/Senate Bill 1772 – Water and Soil Conservation Districts

Dissolves specified Soil and Water Conservation Districts and transfers district assets and liabilities to FDACS and the specified counties.

House Bill 433/Senate Bill 1492 – Employment Regulations (includes Heat Exposure Requirements)

Reempts regulation of heat exposure requirements in the workplace to the state.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Florida Citrus Show

April 3, 2024

Florida Citrus Industry Conference

June 12 – 14, 2024



Citrus Estimate Forecast Dates 2023-2024 Season

March 8, 2024

April 11, 2024

May 10, 2024

June 12, 2024

July 12, 2024



Advertising Opportunities

With the citrus season wrapped up, we wanted to share information on the new sponsorship opportunities for your budget planning purposes. Contact Karen at 772-595-5026 or karen@ircitrusleague.org for further details on the opportunities mentioned.

INDIAN RIVER CITRUS LEAGUE ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP - \$300

Newsletter Ad Specifications / Rates

- Business Card
2.833 inches across by 2 inches down
\$60/month
\$50/month w/ a monthly commitment through June
- 1/2 Page
8.5 inches across by 5.5 inches down
\$200/month
\$150/month w/ a monthly commitment through June
- Full Page
8.5 inches across by 11 inches down
\$300/month
\$225/month w/ a monthly commitment through June
- Bleed
Please allow at least 1/8" bleed.
Do not include printers marks.
- Please email all advertising materials to graphics@hirize.us
- Design services available for an additional fee

Ad Copy Specifications

Fonts

- Please embed all fonts.
- Do not use artificial font formatting; all formatting (bold, italics, etc.) must be done using stylized fonts.

Logos

- Convert all fonts to outlines.
- Preferred format: vector eps

Color

- We print in 4-color CMYK process.
- All Pantone colors must be converted to CMYK.
- Black type should be made with 100% black.

Resolution

- Resolution should be a minimum of 300 dpi at actual size.
- 72 dpi images pulled from websites are not acceptable.
- Line art should be scanned at a minimum of 600 dpi.

File Format

- PDF files and InDesign files are preferred (collected output to include layout, linked pictures, embedded pictures, color profiles, screen fonts and printer fonts).
- Other file formats accepted: eps (Adobe Illustrator), jpg (Adobe Photoshop)

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 karen@citrusleague.org.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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