Florida Citrus Advanced Technology Program

QUARTERLY & FINAL REPORTS: Control of Citrus Greening, Canker & Emerging Diseases of Citrus

Instructions Complete the fields based on your project specs. When finished, save the form to your local disk using a unique name. Then, go to **http://research.fcprac.com**, and log in with your user name and password using Researcher Login in the lower left. Find this project title and click on **Submit a Report**. Update your profile information if needed, then upload this report as directed.

2009-2010 REPORT	CATEGORY (drop-down)	TODAY'S DATE (m/d/yr)
○ *Quarterly Report* ○ *Annual Report* ◉ *Final*	Management	8/9/10

WHAT IS THE "HEADLINE" FOR THIS REPORT (e.g. a one-sentence "newspaper headline" describing what you accomplished)

Educational programs assist Florida citrus growers and homeowners in greening management

TITLE and CONTACT INFORMATION

Proposal Title Citrus Grower Educational Programs and Technical Field Assistance

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Phone 863-956-1151	*Project Duration (years)* 1 *Year of Project* 1
Organization University of Florida	*Total Direct Funds (current year)* $21,000

REPORT UPDATE (650 words; provide details about your headline)

Citrus extension agents have been actively involved in assisting Florida citrus growers and others in increasing their knowledge to adopt practices for maximizing the control of the Asian citrus psyllid and management of citrus greening or HLB. The citrus extension agents have used a variety of programs to achieve these educational goals. Major programs conducted by citrus agents are as follows: 1) "Low Volume Technology for Citrus Pests" program series was conducted in 6 locations to discuss application methods and pesticides for optimum control of psyllids. This series reached over 300 participants state wide. 2) "Low Volume Sprayer Calibration Rodeo" events were conducted in 3 locations to determine if low volume equipment currently being used meets the 90 micron requirements being required by some pesticide labels. These events evaluated more than 70 different sprayers. This series increased the awareness in the citrus grower community of the need for equipment to spray at the 90 micron particle size. 3) "2010 Florida Citrus Growers' Institute" reached over 370 participants with timely information on greening, psyllid management and citrus genomics. Twenty speakers from local, state, national and international research and businesses made presentations during the 7-hour program.

Archived web presentations of numerous programs conducted by the citrus agents are available on the web at www.citrusagents.ifas.ufl.edu . This site hosts presentations from the Citrus Growers' Institute (2008, 09 and 10) and citrus agents program series related to low volume spray programs. Total web hits using Urchin 5 web statistics exceed 709,900 for the site and included 3,034 for the 2010 Florida Citrus Growers' Institute, 9,254 for the Low Volume Application series and 207,495 for all citrus agents' newsletters. Providing web-based format allows program information to be readily available for those who could not attend programs and serves as a reference source for all to use.

Field visits have always been an important aspect of grower education in Florida by the Extension Service. Annually, more than 500 grower visits are conducted by agents to assist growers in making timely decisions, increase knowledge and choose appropriate production practices to achieve necessary control of specific pests/diseases.

Citrus newsletters are offered by agents and are distributed electronically or in a printed version. These newsletters reached over 2,500 growers, citrus employees or others involved in the Florida citrus industry. Timely and unbiased information is essential to maximize production and enhance pest control strategies.

Polycom broadcasts have been received in selected counties to ensure citrus related seminars and special programs are offered to 'local' growers without having to drive to a single site. These programs save considerable time and money while providing timely information to all growers. Polycom broadcasts included: citrus black spot and seminars broadcast from research and education centers on timely topics focused at effective and timely information dissemination.

Urban audiences and Master Gardener trainings have been conducted to ensure that these groups are aware of the risks of growing citrus as well as disease and insect issues. Over the grant period, more than 500 Master Gardeners and urban clientele have participated in one or more of the citrus agent instructed programs. While many of the programs have been in central and south Florida, programs have also been offered in Okaloosa and Jackson Counties in west Florida.

Presentations have also been provided by citrus agents at regional, national and international meetings to effectively communicate the latest production and field findings to as wide of an audience as possible. When battling greening and psyllids, agents must reach beyond their local regional area to gain and present information.