




**Summer / Fall, 2005**

The following events are scheduled in Jefferson County or at near-by sites. Contact us for details, flyers describing the programs, and registration forms if necessary. **CEU** indicates events that offer Pesticide Recertification credits. Visit the state-wide extension calendar <http://calendar.ifas.ufl.edu>.

	<b>C E U</b>	August 24, 2005 - <b>Peanut Field Day</b> , NFREC-Marianna. For more information contact Mary Chambliss at 850-482-9904 or e-mail <a href="mailto:MChambliss@mail.ifas.ufl.edu">MChambliss@mail.ifas.ufl.edu</a> .
<b>Right-of-Way Weed Control</b>	<b>C E U</b>	<b>Right-of-Way and Invasive Weed Control</b> training, Ag Center, Marianna, August 30 with focus on public and private Right-of-Way Managers / Contractors. 5.5 CEUs in the R-O-W category. For more information, contact Clyde Smith, Jackson County Extension, 850-482-9620.
	<b>C E U</b>	The annual <b>Pecan Field Day and Florida Pecan Growers Association Meeting</b> will be held Thursday, September 1 at the Jefferson Country Club, beginning with registration at 8:30. Tour of Pete Rossi's New Leaf Pecan operation will follow the program and a sponsored lunch. An Agenda is attached. 1 CORE and 3 Category (Tree Crop, Private Ag Pest or Research/Demo) CEUs available.
<b>Grape Harvest</b>		September 1, 2005 - <b>Grape Harvest Festival</b> , FAMU Center for Viticulture & Small Fruit Research, Mahan Drive west of I-10. For more information call (850) 599-8685. 8 am - 2 pm.
	<b>C E U</b>	<b>Sunbelt Ag Expo</b> , Moultrie GA will run October 18-20. Deadline for submitting samples for the <b>Tri-State Hay Contest</b> in conjunction with Expo is September 20. Contest description is included with this newsletter. Contact me <b>BEFORE</b> Sept 9 if you wish to enter the contest. Visit the Expo website <a href="http://www.sunbeltexpo.com">http://www.sunbeltexpo.com</a>

The North Florida Fair in Tallahassee is scheduled for November 3-13, 2005

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Calendar items are updated frequently at our website  
<http://jefferson.ifas.ufl.edu>



Hurricane Season is active until November 30. During the 2004 season, I compiled a number of preparation and recovery "briefs" which are posted on the internet. Review those now and be ready for the rest of the 2005 season. Links to the Hurricane Center, Florida Emergency Management, weather pages and an extensive list of pages related to agriculture and livestock are on the county site.



<http://fawn.ifas.ufl.edu>

The UF/IFAS FAWN (Florida Automated Weather Network) tower is back in service.

The weather station is located at Green Industries Institute, the former site of the UF/IFAS North Florida Research & Education Center, US 90, 3 miles west of Monticello,

It reports rainfall, wind speed, temperature, humidity and other data at 15 minute intervals. Historic data is available. Click on **Weather** at the county extension website. Georgia has a similar network. Their closest station is Boston, GA, with a link from the weather web page.

**Soybean Rust** Asian Soybean Rust (SBR) was confirmed on Kudzu in Jefferson County in mid-June. On August 9, rust was identified at the NFREC-Quincy Plant Disease Clinic from the two sentinel plots in the County. Here is a quick recommendation from Dr. David Wright, Extension Agronomist at NFREC-Quincy. I sent the 2005 Plant Protection Pointer to soybean growers earlier in the season. If you want a copy of that, or any of our Plant Disease Control Guides, call and we'll get one out quickly.

"Soybean growers...should consider spraying with something like Folicur which has some curative action or a combination of the triazole and strobilurin (Quilt or Headline SBR, or Stratego). They may want to consider an application now and 2-3 weeks later. Materials like Folicur and Tilt are curative/protectants and have systemic activity. The strobilurins are protectants and are either systemic or locally systemic. They don't have curative activity. Stratego may be one of the cheapest along with Folicur." (April 10, 2005)

## **A Walk on the Wild Side: Cool-Season Forages for Wildlife Food Plots in North Florida**

*Ann Blount, Don Francis, Steve Olson, Jeff Jones, Carol Chambliss, Ken Quesenberry, and Ron Barnett  
North Florida Research and Education Center, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission- Joe Budd  
Wildlife Field Office, and Agronomy Department-University of Florida (NFREC Extension Report 2004-9)*

There is tremendous interest in wildlife forages nationally, but Florida lends itself to a different set of challenges for successful food plot plantings. Our light, sandy soils, hot and humid summers, and distinct seasonal droughts make our selections of forages for wildlife unique and challenging to suit our climate. It is important to **soil test** your food plot site. We recommend using **adapted varieties** developed for our particular growing conditions. We also suggest the use of **forage blends** to increase the longevity and stability of the plot, as well as forage variety for wildlife.

**Cool Season Legumes:** Winter legumes are more dependable on the heavier clay soils of northwest Florida, or on sandy soils that are underlain by a clay layer. Inoculation of any legumes used is very important since it eliminates the need to supply nitrogen. Many clovers and alfalfas come pre-inoculated. If the legumes that you intend to use are not pre-inoculated, there are commercially available inoculants that are specific to each legume variety.

**Alfalfa** – This high quality legume is usually grown as a winter annual in Florida. New varieties have been selected under grazing by cattle and are low-dormancy types that will sprout and grow in our mild winter climate. Alfalfa requires a soil pH of 6.5-7.0, high soil fertility and good management. Recommended varieties are Florida 99 and Amerigraze 702.

**Arrowleaf Clover** – This is an annual clover that is similar to crimson clover in soil adaptation, management and fertility requirements. It is mainly grown on heavier soils in Northwest Florida. It makes more growth in late spring than crimson. The recommended varieties are Apache and Yuchi.

**Red Clover** – This clover behaves as a winter annual under most north Florida conditions and some reseeding may occur. Non-dormant (or low dormancy)

varieties are recommended. Red clover does not generally tolerate flooding. Florida varieties Cherokee and Southern Belle appear to be very well adapted to north Florida. Recommended varieties are Cherokee, Southern Belle, Redland III, and Kenland. (Cherokee and Southern Belle were developed in Florida and are earlier, non-dormant, and higher yielding cultivars.)

**Crimson Clover** – This is a well-adapted legume for north Florida. It is an annual clover that is adapted to fertile, well-drained soil. Of the clovers, it appears to be the least sensitive to soil pH. It has a short growing season, and may be grown in combination with ryegrass, clovers or a small grain crop to extend the period of forage availability. Recommended varieties are Flame, Dixie, Chief, Tibbee, and AU-Robin.

**Vetch** – Vetch grows best on well-drained, fertile, loamy soils. It has a spreading, viney growth habit and is an annual plant. The plant does reseed itself fairly well. Seed and foliage are consumed by many wildlife species. Recommended varieties are Cahaba White, Hairy, and AU-Early Cover.

**White Clover** – White clover in Florida is usually a winter annual, but may act as a short-term perennial under optimum growing conditions. It is adapted to moist soils throughout Florida and is a good reseeder. Nematodes and other pests can limit production. Recommended varieties are Osceola (developed in Florida), Durana, Patriot, Louisiana S-1, and Regal Ladino.

**Berseem and other miscellaneous clovers** – There are many other small seeded clovers, including Rose, Berseem, Hop, Bur, Subterranean and Ball clover, which will work fairly well for wildlife food plots. Little local seed availability or high seed costs may be limiting factors. Generally these clovers produce less forage than crimson, white, arrowleaf and red clover and have a short duration growing season. Ball and hop clovers do reseed well. Bigbee berseem and Overton Rose clovers are well adapted.

**Winter Peas** - This annual legume is best suited to well-drained soils with high clay content. They typically are not very cold hardy. Austrian is the recommended variety

**Cool Season Grasses:** Cool season grasses generally include ryegrass and the small grains: wheat, oats, rye, and triticale (a man-made cross of wheat and rye). These grasses provide excellent winter forage and a spring seed crop which wildlife readily utilize.

**Oats** - May be planted and grazed by wildlife earlier than rye, but are not as cold hardy as rye or wheat, and may be susceptible to freeze injury. It is important to choose recommended oat varieties. Recommended varieties are Florida 502, Florida 501, and Coker 820 for early season grazing. Horizon 474, Horizon 314, Horizon 321, Chapman, Harrison, Terral Secretariat LA495, Coker 227, Ozark, AR-County Seeds 833, 811, Plot Spike LA9339, and LA604 for winter and spring grazing. Horizon 474 and Horizon 321 are relatively new, well-adapted varieties for north Florida.

**Rye** - Rye is widely used for winter grazing for cattle, but may be grazed by deer as well. Rye is more cold tolerant than oats, produces more forage than either oats or wheat, but should not be planted as early as oats. Recommended varieties are Florida 401 and Florida Black for late fall and early winter grazing. Wrens 96, Wrens Abruzzi, Bates, Elbon, Bonel, Oklon, Maton, Pennington Wintergraze 70, Gurley Grazer 2000 Grazemaster, and AGS 104 are recommended for winter and spring grazing.

**Wheat and Triticale** – Wheat and triticale makes excellent forage and seed production for wildlife. Recommended wheat varieties for grazing are AgriPro Crawford, AGS 2000, Pioneer 26R61, Pioneer 2684, Coker 9835, Roberts, GA-Gore, GA-Dozier. Triticale is a very high quality, robust small grain. It has good disease and insect resistance, and grows well even when late planted in December and January. Seed availability may be limited because seed production is

scarce. Recommended varieties include Sunland, Florico and Monarch.

**Ryegrass** - Ryegrass is a valuable and hardy forage crop for use on flatwoods soils or the heavier sandy loam soils in northwest Florida. Seeding ryegrass with small grains and clover lengthens the seasonal forage availability. Recommended varieties are Jumbo, Florlina, Surrey, Jackson, Magnolia, Rio, Gulf, Southern Star, Big Daddy, TAM 90, Passeral Plus, Ed, Brigadier, Surrey II, Stampede, Fantastic, Graze-N-Gro, King, Beefbuilder III, and Prine. (Other new varieties may be suitable but have not been adequately tested in Florida.)

**Brassica and Forage Chicory Crops: At this time not a lot is known about adaptability of forage brassicas and chicory to Florida or the acceptability by wildlife as a food source.**

Brassicas are annual crops, which are highly productive and digestible and can provide forage in as short as 40 days after seeding. Forage brassica crops such as turnip, swede, rape, and kale can be both fall and spring-seeded. Kale is very winter hardy. Varieties include Premier, Vates and Siberian. Rape would also be considered to be very winter hardy. Varieties include Rangi, Rangiora, Barnapoli, Dwarf Essex, Emerald and Winfred. Turnip or Turnip Hybrids grow very fast, reaching near maximum production levels in 80 to 90 days. Varieties include Purple Top, White Globe and Barkant. Swedes produce a large edible root. Swede yields are higher than those of turnip, but they grow slower and require 150 to 180 days to reach maximum production. Chicory is a perennial plant (forb) that is suited to well or moderately drained soils with medium to high fertility levels and a pH of 5.5 or greater. Varieties available at this time are 'Puna' and 'Forage Feast'.

**Recommended Cool Season Forage Blends:** (Use recommended varieties listed above and inoculate clovers with proper Rhizobium bacteria. Crimson clover is better adapted to upland sites, red clover to medium-lowland sites, and white and arrowleaf clover to lowland sites.)

<p><b>Best Buy for your Buck-#1</b> 50 lbs (2 bu) oats 16 lbs ryegrass 6 lbs red clover 14 lbs crimson clover</p>	<p><b>Best Buy for your Buck-#2</b> 50 lbs (2 bu) oats 50 lbs (1 bu) wheat 6 lbs red clover 14 lbs crimson clover</p>	
<p><b>Double Treat (for upland sites)</b> 10 lbs red clover 15 lbs crimson clover</p>	<p><b>Triple Treat (for lowland sites)</b> 4 lbs white clover 12 lbs red clover 4 lbs arrowleaf clover</p>	<p><b>Tetra Treat (for medium to poorly drained sites)</b> 6 lbs red clover 4 lbs arrowleaf clover 2 lbs white clover 14 lbs crimson clover</p>

## Planting dates, seeding rates, and planting depths for certain cool-season forage crops.

Seed-Propagated Crops <sup>1</sup>	Planting Dates <sup>2</sup>	Seeding Rates (lb/A Broadcast)	Seeding Depth (inch)
Alfalfa	Oct. 1 - Nov. 15	12 - 20	1/4 – 1/2
Chicory	Oct. 1 - Nov. 15	3-5	0 - 1/4
Clover, Arrowleaf	Oct. 1 - Nov. 15	8 - 10	0 – 1/2
Clover, Berseem	Oct. 1 - Nov. 15	16 - 20	1/4 – 1/2
Clover, Crimson	Oct. 1 - Nov. 15	20 - 26	1/4 – 1/2
Clover, Red	Oct. 1 - Nov. 15	6 - 12	1/4 – 1/2
Clover, White	Oct. 1 - Nov. 15	3 - 4	0 - 1/4
Oats for forage	Sept. 15 - Nov. 15	96 - 128 (3-4 bu)	1 - 2
Pea, Austrian Winter	Oct. 1 - Nov. 15	45 - 60	1/2 - 1
Rye for forage	Oct. 15 - Nov. 15	84 - 112 (1.5 - 2 bu)	1 - 2
Ryegrass, Italian (annual)	Oct. 1 - Nov. 15	20 - 30	0 – 1/2
Triticale for forage	Oct. 15 - Nov. 15	112	1 - 2
Turnip and Brassica	Oct. 1 - Nov. 15	5 - 6	1/4 – 1/2
Vetch, hairy	Oct. 1 - Nov. 15	20 - 30	1 - 2
Wheat for forage	Oct. 15 - Nov. 15	90 - 120 (1.5 - 2 bu)	1 - 2

<sup>1</sup> Always check seed quality. Seed germination should be 80% or higher for best results.

<sup>2</sup> In general, cool-season forage crops in northern Florida can be planted in the early part of the planting date range

## 2005 Tri-State Hay Show in conjunction with Sunbelt Ag Expo

County Extension Agents and Forage Specialists from the Land Grant Universities in Alabama, Florida and Georgia in conjunction with the Sunbelt Agricultural Exposition have organized the **2005 Tri-State Hay Show**.

For a fee of \$10, hay producers have an opportunity to gain information about the quality of the hay they produce and to compete for recognition as the top hay producer in three states. The first part of this show will be the forage quality competition. The second part will be educational seminars held during the Sunbelt Ag. Expo in Moultrie, GA on hay and forage quality. Hay entries will be on display at the Sunbelt Ag. Expo October 18-20, 2005.

The forage quality contest will have eight categories (ex. Bermudagrass, Alfalfa, Perennial Peanut, or Grass legume mix) that should cover most of the forages grown in the southeast United States. *Only dry hay samples will be accepted.* Haylage entries will not be accepted due to storage difficulties. Hay will be judged based on a Relative Forage Quality (RFQ) index, which takes into account protein, energy and fiber digestibility.

The contest is open to any hay producer in Alabama, Florida or Georgia that would like to enter, but the producer who actually grew the hay must submit the entry. Hay samples, entry fees (\$10 per sample), and an entry form must be submitted no later than September 20<sup>th</sup> 2004. For more information, including **a full description of the Contest and the Entry Form, contact me.**

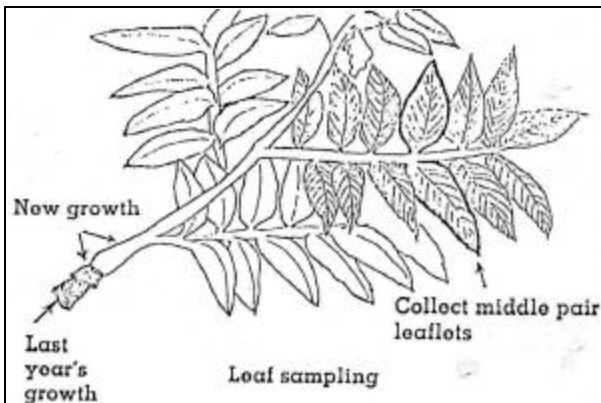
**Call me (342-0187) soon to take your quality and “grab” samples BEFORE SEPTEMBER 9.  
Call me to sample hay for analysis (\$10, UGa Labs) even if you don’t care to enter the contest.**

## Pecan Leaf Samples

UF/IFAS Extension Soil Testing Laboratory runs a Leaf Sample Analysis for Pecans. The sample fee is \$10.00 per sample. Plant tissue analysis includes: N, P, K, Ca and Mg (in percent) and B, Cu, FE, Mn and Zn (in parts per million). Pecan samples may be submitted by growers. I suggest you use both leaf tissue and soil samples to guide decisions about fertilization of managed orchards.

### Procedures for Collecting and Handling Pecan Leaf Samples

Collect samples between mid July and late August. **Collect 100 middle pairs of leaflets from the**



**middle leaf** of this year's growth. Use terminal shoots exposed to the sun. Avoid leaflets from twigs from the interior of the tree's canopy. Collect leaflets from all sides of the tree. Do not sample leaflets contaminated with soil or sprays. Do not sample leaflets damaged by disease and insects and mechanically damaged leaflets. Take leaflets around the tree up to heights that can be reached conveniently. Sample trees of different varieties, different ages and different management history separately. Collect from a number of representative trees. Abnormal trees or trees that are not representative of the area should be sampled separately.

Allow samples to air dry for 3-4 days, then place in a paper bag or manilla envelope. Contact the Extension Office for the Plant Tissue Test Information Sheet and for shipping instructions.

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## Small Farm Alternatives Website (news article from NFREC-Live Oak)

Small farmers in Florida face a variety of issues and challenges and with fewer resources available to them than larger farms, they can be at a competitive disadvantage. With small farmers representing over 90% of farms in Florida, ensuring their success is vital to the agriculture industry in the state. That's why UF/IFAS and FAMU have created a website (<http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu>) that specifically addresses the needs of small farmers.

"The website was developed to make small farm information accessible in one location," said Bob Hochmuth, the Multi-County Agent at the UF/IFAS North Florida Research and Education Center in Suwannee Valley. "Small farmers may be seeking information on getting started in farming or considering one of many alternative enterprises and it is all pulled together in one site to make the search easy."

The website provides links and other resources for small farmers including, how to get started, enterprising budgeting, business planning, financing grants, and much more. Farmers using the site can select topics on enterprises of special interest to them, including aquaculture, cut flowers, livestock, and organic farming. Each topic includes information on production, marketing, and economics as well as other appropriate links.

Input from small farmers and allied organizations, identifying issues critical to small farmers, such as access to profitable markets, business skills development, accessible technical information, and alternative crops and enterprises, was used to help design the site. Input from counties throughout Florida identified the need for small farm educational programs to be developed. The small farms website provides information that farmers can employ to address these issues and become more efficient in their business. (Yasmin Wallas, NFREC-Quincy)

(Larry's note: I am a contributor to the small farm site.)



# Florida Pecan Field Day Annual Meeting of the Florida Pecan Growers' Association



September 1, 2005  
Jefferson Country Club, Monticello - Jefferson County

Time	Topic	Speaker
8:30	Registration, with Coffee, OJ, doughnuts and other refreshments	
9:00 - 9:10	Introduction & Welcome; Introduction of Speakers UF/IFAS Welcome by Associate Dean for Extension Joan Dusky	Pete Rossi, President New Leaf Nursery & Pecans
9:10 - 9:35	Storm Recovery – Horticultural Practices, including pest management during recovery	Pete Andersen UF/IFAS NFREC Quincy
9:35 – 9:55	Tree Appraisal – Economic Evaluation	Tim Hewitt UF/IFAS NFREC Marianna
9:55 – 10:10	USDA Farm Service Agency: Documentation & Qualifying for Disaster Assistance, TAP Programs	Dianne Allagood, USDA FSA - Florida
10:10 - 10:35	Surveying & Sampling – IPM for Pecan Insect and Other Pests	Russ Mizell UF/IFAS NFREC Quincy
10:35 - 10:50	Break – refreshments provided by Farm Credit of North West Florida	
10:50 - 11:15	Weed Control Update	Greg McDonald UF/IFAS Gainesville
11:15 - 11:40	Pecan Variety Update, with Emphasis on Scab Resistance	Pat Conner UGA Tifton
11:40 - 12:05	Pecan Disease Management, including Fungicide Resistance	Katherine Stevenson UGA Tifton
12:05 - 12:20	Business Meeting - Florida Pecan Grower Association	Pete Rossi, President
12:30 - 1:15	Lunch – Sponsors: DuPont, NIPAN< Simpson Nursery and Boston Tractor Co.  Farm Tour – Rossi's New Leaf Pecans & Nursery (drive to WPA Road, South on US 19)	
1:45	* Nickel Application: Control of Mouse Ear – discussion in the field (40 Acres treated, spring, '05)	Mark Crawford / Hilt Sigler NIPAN, Valdosta GA
	* Observe Restoration of Storm-Damaged Trees * Pesticide Licensure and Compliance	P. Rossi & P. Andersen L. Halsey & K. Campbell

CORE and Category (Private Applicator Ag, Research/Demo or Tree Crop) CEUs will be awarded (ID # 2974).  
The FDACS website <http://www.flaes.org> (CEU Class Search) lists CEU-granting events.



**Lunch provided by:**  
**DuPont**  
**NIPAN**  
**Simpson Nursery**  
**Boston Tractor Co**



The Jefferson Country Club is on Highway 149 (Boston Highway), northeast of Monticello.  
Registration begins at 8:30 with refreshments. The program begins at 9:00.  
For additional information, contact Larry Halsey at the Jefferson County Extension Office,  
850-342-0187 or [lah@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:lah@ifas.ufl.edu)