

# Madison County Agriculture News



Madison County Extension  
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<http://madison.ifas.ufl.edu>

## A note from your Agent . . .

June 21st is the first day of summer. Gardeners are enjoying the fruits of their labors with produce and beautiful flowers. Remove all unwanted, dying or diseased plant materials as these will harbor various plant pests. Pastures and hay fields should be monitored for weeds and insects as well for maximum production.

### Birds

It's breeding season for Laughing Gulls, Least Terns, Oystercatchers, and Black Skimmers. They nest on spoil islands, undisturbed beaches, and even rooftops when their preferred habitat is unavailable.

Mocking Birds may attack pedestrians who wander too close to nesting sites

### Mammals

The Southern Flying Squirrel is starting its breeding season

Red Bats and Seminole Bats give birth

### Reptiles

It's the height of Gopher Tortoise breeding season

### Fish

Snook begin moving into inlets and passes

Redbreast Sunfish and Spotted Sunfish begin spawning in rivers

### Insects

Cicadas emerge from their underground growth period to begin making their classis summer sound

Sincerely,

## Events To Remember...More Detail Inside About Events

### June 2009:

**Saturday 6th** - Perennial Peanut Producers Field Day

**Tuesday 16th** - Invasive Species Conference

**Tuesday 23rd** - Palm Production Seminar

**Thursday 25th** - CARES Dinner

**Tuesday 30th** - Hay Field Day

### August 2009:

**Saturday 1st-Sunday 2nd** - Small Farms Alternative Enterprises Conference

## June 2009

### Inside This Issue:

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Small Farms Alternative  
Enterprises Conference

For meetings sponsored by Madison County Extension Office: Individuals with disabilities requiring special accommodations, please call 850-973-4138 at least five (5) working days before the meeting, so proper consideration can be given the request.

Products or plant varieties mentioned in this newsletter are for informational purposes only, and should not be construed as an endorsement, or guarantee, or to exclude similarly labeled, or appropriate products, or adapted plant varieties.

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## Beef Management Tips

- Make first cutting of hay.
- With adequate rainfall, hay should be cut every 4-5 weeks.
- Store hay in a barn or in a well drained area off of the ground and covered. Storage losses can be as high as 50% from hay stored uncovered and on the ground.
- One ton of hybrid bermudagrass removes approximately 50 lbs of N, 14 lbs of P and 43 lbs of K from the land.
- Check pastures and hay fields for spittlebugs, mole crickets, and army worms. Treat if necessary.
- Check dust bags.
- Check mineral feeders.
- Watch for evidence of pinkeye and treat.
- Get heifers vaccinated for brucellosis if not already done.
- Update market information and plans.



## Cow/Calf Best Management Practices

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has introduced the new Cow/Calf Best Management Practices Manual. This manual is designed to help ranchers identify possible water quality issues in their operations. This manual was developed by FDACS in cooperation with the Florida Cattleman's Association and the University of Florida. The industry has adopted these rules to meet the EPA's Clean Water Act. Ranchers who adopt the recommendations of this manual can submit a Notice of Intent with the State. This agreement implies that the rancher will follow the BMP guidelines. By doing this you are doing your part to maintain water quality for years to come. Simple things can be helpful in reducing runoff issues such as cross fencing, move feeding areas and soil testing. For more information regarding this manual please call your local Agricultural Agent, Dan Fenneman at 850-973-4138.



## Lawn and Garden Tips

Annuals that can take full sun during the increasingly hot summer months include:

- Celosia
- Portulacas
- Vinca
- Coleus

Vegetables to plant this month:

- Lima Beans
- Okra
- Southern Peas

- Sweet Potatoes

Herbs that love the heat include:

- Basil
- Mexican Tarragon
- Rosemary

Monitor the garden weekly for harmful insects. Knowing which insects attack a plant can aid in identification and treatment.

Lawn insects are very active during the

warm months. Check frequently for damaged areas and keep insects in check with early treatment.

Now is a good time to produce more plants by air layering, grafting, division, or cuttings.



## Perennial Peanut Producers Field Day - Saturday, June 6, 2009

The 9th Annual Perennial Peanut Producers Field Day will be held at the Sunbelt Expo in Moultrie, Georgia.

### Agenda

8:30-9:00am—Registration

9:00am—Welcome - Plan for the day introductions - *Mr. Steve Basford, President, PPPA*

9:10am—Research Update - *Dr. Ann Blount, Associate Professor, UF Agronomy Dept, Dr. Cheryl Mackoviak, Assistant Professor, UF Soil and Water Science Dept.*

10:00-10:50am—**Room A:**

Establishment Considerations for Perennial Peanut - *Doug Mayo, Extension Agent III, CED Jackson County*

**Room B:** Using Ornamental Peanut in the landscape and production techniques - *Mr. Mike Semillion, Speeding Corp*

10:50-11:40am—**Room A:** Marketing Quality Hay, Storage, and Marketing Factors - *Mr. Richard Cone, Cone Farms, Greenville, Florida*

**Room B:** Weed Control Strategies in Perennial Peanut - *Clay Olson,*

*Extension Agent IV, Taylor County*

11:40-12:30pm—Sprayer Calibration/ Handling and Storage, Understanding the Label - *Clyde Smith, Extension Agent II, Jackson County*

12:30pm—Lunch - *courtesy PPPA*

1:30pm—Field Tour and Demonstration of Equipment

\*Florida and Georgia pesticide license holders may apply for **Continuing Education Units (CEU's)** when attending this event.



## Think Locally, Act Neighborly to Combat Invasive Species - Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Invasive species know NO boundaries. The Florida Invasive Species Partnership (FISP) is a collaboration of federal, state and local agencies along with nongovernment organizations in Florida, formed to link efforts at preventing and controlling infestations of invasive exotic species across agency and property boundaries. FISP has created a Web site, at [www.floridainvasives.org](http://www.floridainvasives.org), to help connect Florida's land owners and land managers with available technical and/or financial assistance programs to prevent or control invasive exotic species problems. Join us to learn how

to access and use these valuable resources.

Please call the Madison County Extension Office at 973-4138 to attend by June 4th to ensure getting materials.

### Tentative Agenda

1:00—Sign In

1:15—Program Introduction, *Chris Demers, UF-IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation (SFRC)*

1:30—What is FISP?, *Greg Jubinski, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation*

2:00—Think Locally - how is this

going to help me or my clients?, *Chris Demers and Anandi Banerjee, SFRC*

2:45—Break

3:00—Act Neighborly - cooperative efforts in your region, *Erin Myers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

3:45—Conclusion, Evaluation, Adjourn



## Palm Production Seminar - Tuesday, June 23, 2009 - 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM

The Hamilton County Extension office is offering this FREE Program, but seating is limited. Please RSVP by June 19, 2009. To register call Allen Tyree at 386-792-1276, email [atyree@ufl.edu](mailto:atyree@ufl.edu) or Linda Landrum at 386-362-1725 x105, email [llandrum@ufl.edu](mailto:llandrum@ufl.edu)

County Extension

9:15—Best Management Practices for Palm Production - *Dr. Gary Knox, UF/IFAS NFREC-Quincy*

10:10—Break

10:30—Basic Palm Nutrition and Fertilization - *Dr. Tim Broschat, UF/IFAS Ft. Lauderdale REC*

11:15—Palm Diseases in Production Systems - *Dr. Monica Elliott, UF/IFAS Ft. Lauderdale REC*

12:00—Surviving the Economic Storm - *Linda Landrum, UF/IFAS NFREC-Suwannee Valley*

12:30—Adjourn



### AGENDA

8:30—Registration

9:00—Welcome and Introductions - *Allen Tyree, UF/IFAS Hamilton*

## 2009 Hay Field Day - Tuesday, June 30, 2009, Wellborn, Florida at 9:00AM

On June 30th at Mark Randell Farms in Wellborn, Florida the Northeast Florida Beef and Forage Group will be having their 2009 Hay Field Day.

Registration Fee is \$5.00 per person. To register contact your local County Agent, Dan Fenneman at 973-4138 or the Suwannee County Extension Office

at 386-362-2771 before June 26, 2009.

### Session Topics:

- Efficient Use of Fertilizers
- Weed Control Update
- Marketing Hay
- Summer Legumes: Production and Weed Control
- Weather Forecasts

- Calculating Dry Matter Forage in your Pasture

\*CEU's and CCA's will be available



## Small Farms Alternative Enterprises Conference - August 1st and 2nd

“Sustaining Small Farms; Strengthening Florida's Communities”, Osceola Heritage Park, Kissimmee, Florida

### Workshop Topics:

- Business/Marketing
- Policy/Regulations
- Small Ruminants/Livestock
- Alternative Energy

- Organic and Sustainable Production
- Horticulture
- National Keynote Speaker - John Ikerd
- Featured Speaker - Charles Bronson
- Air Conditioned Livestock Arena

- Network with other Small Farmers
- Local Foods Featured
- Space for Over 100 Exhibitors

**For more information visit:**  
<http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu>

