

Madison County Agriculture News



Madison County Extension
184 NW College Loop * Madison * FL * 32340
850-973-4138

The Foundation for The Gator Nation
An Equal Opportunity Institution

Bronson Announces That 59 Counties Are Eligible For Disaster Assistance From Tropical Storm Fay...

On September 3, Bronson asked Governor Crist to seek federal disaster declarations for the impacted counties that were battered by high winds, excessive rainfall, flooding and tornadoes associated with Tropical Storm Fay as it relentlessly hammered Florida between August 19th and August 24th.

Agricultural producers in the 59 counties are eligible to be considered for Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency loans, and the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE), which was approved as part of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008. Some of the 59 Counties that are receiving the primary disaster declaration were: Hamilton, Jefferson, Madison, Suwannee.

FSA is currently developing regulations and software for the SURE program, so while FSA emergency loans are the only program available immediately, Bronson said he anticipates that additional resources will be available to those producers with losses as soon as the SURE program is implemented.

FSA will consider each application on its own merits, and local FSA offices can provide impacted farmers with further information. Please contact your local office at 850-973-2205.

Sincerely,

Events To Remember...More Detail Inside About Events

NOVEMBER 2008:

Tuesday 4th - Elections

Wednesday 5th - Selling to the Food Service Industry Workshop

Thursday 6th - Farm Bureau Carbon Credits

Thursday 6th - Forest Stewardship Program Property Tour "Ashley Farms"

Thursday 6th - Agricultural Workshops for North Florida

Thursday 6th—Sunday 16th - North Florida Fair, Tallahassee, FL

Saturday 15th - Sixth Annual Southeastern Citrus Exposition 2008, Tifton, GA

Saturday 8th - Perennial Peanut Meeting

Tuesday 11th - Veterans Day - OFFICE CLOSED

Thursday 27th—Friday 28th - Thanks Giving Day - OFFICE CLOSED

November 2008

Inside this issue:

Beef Management Tips 2

Lawn and Garden Tips 2

Ashley Farms 2

Carbon Credits 2

Food Service Industry Workshop 3

Agriculture Workshops 3

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.

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) is an Equal Employment Opportunity - Affirmative Action Employer authorized to provide research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function with non-discrimination with respect to race, creed, color, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Florida IFAS, Florida A&M University Cooperative Extension Program, and Board of County Commissioners.

Beef Management Tips

- Keep a close eye on pasture conditions as the residual summer grass and crop residues are being consumed.
- Before pastures are totally grazed off by the cattle, start feeding them hay.
- Use mineral supplement high in magnesium before
- cattle are turned in on winter grazing.
- Check for external parasites and treat if needed.
- Start summarizing annual production and financial records so you will have time to make adjustments.
- It's not too late to get forage

analyzed to order winter supplements. Also have your soils tested.



Lawn and Garden Tips

Some cool season plants to plant now that will display fall colors include the following:

- ✓ Carnations
- ✓ Pansies
- ✓ Shasta Daisies
- ✓ Snapdragons
- ✓ Flowering Kale

Herbs to plant during this cool season are the following:

- ✓ Basil
- ✓ Dill
- ✓ Fennel
- ✓ Parsley

✓Sage

✓Thyme

For your vegetable garden it is recommended that you plant the following:

- ✓Beets
- ✓Broccoli
- ✓Cabbage
- ✓Carrots
- ✓Collards
- ✓Lettuce
- ✓Onions
- ✓Radishes
- ✓Spinach

Before the coldest weather starts to arrive you should start dividing and replanting your perennials and bulbs.

Watch for Brown Patch Fungus Disease in your lawns. If you have questions or concerns please contact your local Agriculture Agent.



The Property Tour of the Ashley Farms on November 6, 2008 is

FULL

Carbon Credits Meeting - November 6, 2008

Sequestering or holding carbon helps reduce carbon dioxide, one of several greenhouse gases contributing to the warming of the atmosphere. Research shows that trees are very good at taking atmospheric carbon and converting it to a sequestered, stable form of carbon within the tree. Trees can sequester from one to several tons of carbon dioxide per acre during their optimal growth phases. Carbon Credit programs allow companies to purchase credits to offset a portion of their greenhouse gas emissions.

Please **REGISTER** by **October 31, 2008** by calling the Madison County Extension Office at 850-973-4138.

Selling to the Food Service Industry Is It Right For Your Farm?

North Florida Research and Education Center
 Suwannee Valley Farm Conference Room
 8202 County Road 417, Live Oak, FL 32060
 Wednesday, November 5, 2008
 9:15 AM to Noon



Interested in expanding your produce markets? Do you want to help build a more sustainable local food system? Reduce the distance your product has to travel? If so, join us at this informational meeting.

Representatives from Aramark, SYSCO, & FreshPoint will be discussing their companies' buying opportunities and purchasing procedures.

Program is free but seating is limited.

RSVP at 386-362-1725 ext 101 or email KHancock@ufl.edu by November 3, 2008 at 5:00 PM

Agricultural Enterprise Workshops for North Florida - Thursday, November 6th

Workshops Sessions 1 & 2

- A. Pesticide CORE CEU -
Sprayer Calibration Basics and
Pasture Weed Identification
and Control
- B. Value Added Horticultural
Products for High End Markets
and Cut Flower/Cut Foliage
Production
- C. Making the Web Work for
Your Farm
- D. Diversifying with Mushrooms
- Shiitake, Oyster, and Truffles
- E. Farm to Table - Food Safety
and Processing

Workshops Sessions 3 & 4

- F. Managing Nematodes and Soil
Pathogens without Soil
Fumigants
- G. Technologies to Extend Your
Cropping Season
- H. Increasing Public Awareness
of the Benefits of Agricultural
Lands

- I. Exploring Alternative
Livestock - Rabbits, Poultry,
Breed Selection for Grass Fed
Beef
- J. Farming Energy as a Cash
Crop - Renewable Energy for
the Home and Farm

Workshop Session 5 (optional)

- K. Market Research for Beginners

Schedule:

- Registration: 8:00am to 8:30am
- Session 1: 8:30am to 9:45am
- Session 2: 9:50am to 11:05am
- Session 3: 11:10am to 12:25pm
- Lunch: 12:25pm to 1:00pm
- Session 4: 1:00pm to 2:15pm
- Session 5: 2:30pm to 4:00pm

The registration fee is \$25

Registration includes: workshop
materials, lunch, and refreshments.

**The registration deadline in
November 3, 2008 at 5:00 PM.
NO REGISTRATIONS
WILL BE ACCEPTED after
Nov 3, 2008.**

For more information call Karen
Hancock at 386-362-1725 ext 101
or visit the website at
<http://nfrec-sv.ifas.ufl.edu>

Presented by the Suwannee Valley
Extension Team including
Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Clay,
Columbia, Duval, Hamilton,
Jefferson, Lafayette, Madison,
Nassau, Suwannee, Taylor, Union
and NFREC-Suwannee Valley.