



January 25, 2019

Welcome to SWFREC Update E-news! This newsletter is distributed biweekly and contains news about the center and its faculty and staff, program research updates, and upcoming events.

**Web site:** <https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/>

**Social media:**  

**Florida Citrus Show:** Three SWFREC faculty members presented at the Florida Citrus Show in Fort Pierce this week: plant physiologist Dr. Ute Albrecht (“Can Beneficial Microbes Improve Root Health and Performance of Citrus Trees in an HLB-endemic Environment?”), soil microbiologist Dr. Sarah Strauss (“Digging into the Interaction of Soil Amendments, Soil Microbes, and Citrus Growth”), citrus horticulturist Dr. Fernando Alferez (“SWFREC Mini-CUPS Project Update”), and Dr. Albrecht (“USDA Rootstocks to Include in Your Planting Plan for 2019-2020”—co-presenter).

**Food Safety Poster:** Food science state specialized extension agent Matt Krug presented a poster at the Southeast Regional Fruit and Vegetable Conference in Savannah, Georgia, earlier this month. His poster was titled “A Southern Training, Education, Extension, Outreach, and Technical Assistance Center to Enhance Produce Safety.”



Krug

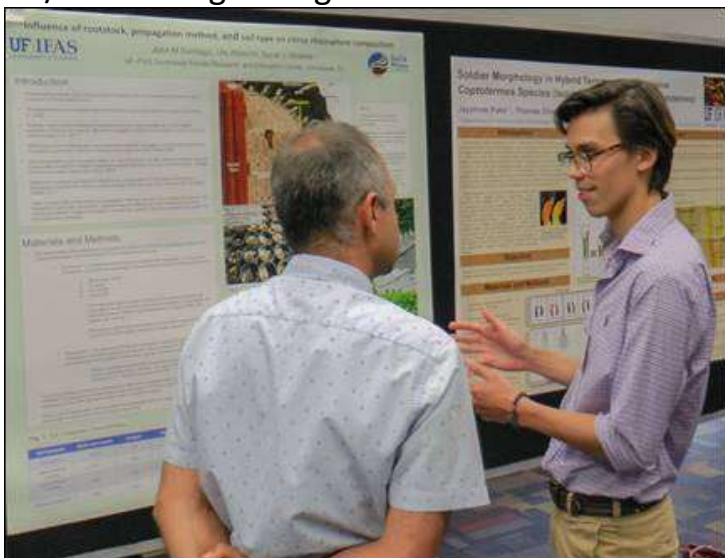
**Soil Microbiology Talks and Posters:** Soil microbiologist Dr. Sarah Strauss and graduate assistant John Santiago participated in the Soil Science Society of America International Soils Meeting in San Diego earlier this month. Dr. Strauss presented two talks:

1. “Benefits of Biochar on HLB-affected Citrus in Sandy Soils”— Andrea Nuzzo<sup>1</sup>, Arnold Schumann<sup>2</sup>, Davie Kadyampakeni<sup>3</sup> and Sarah L Strauss<sup>1</sup>, (1)Southwest Florida Research and Education Center, University of Florida/IFAS, Immokalee, FL, (2)Citrus Research and Education Center, University of Florida, Lake Alfred, FL, (3)Soil and Water Science Department, University of Florida, Immokalee, FL.
2. “Influence of Genotype and Propagation Method on Citrus Rhizosphere Microbiome”— Sarah L Strauss<sup>1</sup>, John M Santiago<sup>2</sup>, Kim D Bowman<sup>3</sup> and Ute Albrecht<sup>1</sup>, (1)Southwest Florida Research and Education Center, University of Florida/IFAS, Immokalee, FL, (2)Southwest Florida Research and Education Center, University of Florida, Immokalee, FL, (3)U.S. Horticultural Research Laboratory, USDA-ARS, Fort Pierce, FL.

Dr. Strauss and Santiago also each presented a poster, respectively:

1. “Impact of Commercial Management Practices on Soil Microbiomes of HLB-affected Citrus”—Andrea Nuzzo, Bryce Meyering, Ute Albrecht and Sarah L Strauss, Southwest Florida Research and Education Center, University of Florida/IFAS, Immokalee, FL.
2. “Influence of Soil Type on Citrus Rhizosphere Composition”—John M Santiago<sup>1</sup>, Ute Albrecht<sup>2</sup> and Sarah L Strauss<sup>2</sup>, (1)Southwest Florida Research and Education Center, University of Florida, Immokalee, FL, (2)Southwest Florida Research and Education Center, University of Florida/IFAS, Immokalee, FL.

The meeting was Santiago’s first national conference, and he received a travel grant from the UF/IFAS College of Agricultural and Life Sciences to attend.



**Santiago (right)**

## Peer-reviewed Publications:

1. “Herbicide Bioavailability Determinant Processes in the Soil.” Three authors from SWFREC include weed scientist Dr. Ramdas Kanissery, graduate assistant Biwek Gairhe, and ag assistant Camille McAvoy. Journal of Bioremediation and Biodegradation. To view the article, click here: [https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/weed-science/2018-Kanissery-J-Bioremediat-Biodegrad\\_2018-V10-I1.pdf](https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/weed-science/2018-Kanissery-J-Bioremediat-Biodegrad_2018-V10-I1.pdf).
2. “Development and Evaluation of a Low-cost and Smart Technology for Precision Weed Management Utilizing Artificial Intelligence.” Engineers Victor Partel and Sri Kakarla and precision ag engineer Dr. Yiannis Ampatzidis authored the article. Computers and Electronics in Agriculture. To view the article, click here: [https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/precision-ag-eng/publications/Partel\\_Ampatzidis-et-al\\_20181223\\_Elsevier.pdf](https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/precision-ag-eng/publications/Partel_Ampatzidis-et-al_20181223_Elsevier.pdf). In addition, this article was selected by UF’s University Relations program as a Research Promotion Initiative paper award winner. This initiative strives to promote academic research papers to national and international press and on social media platforms. The honor includes a \$1,000 award made to Dr. Ampatzidis’ research account.
3. “Development of Grapevine Yellowing Symptoms in *Vitis vinifera* L. with Artificial Intelligence.” Dr. Ampatzidis is one of the authors. Computers and Electronics in Agriculture. To view the article, click here: [https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/precision-ag-eng/publications/Cruz\\_Ampatzidis-et-al\\_20181213\\_Elsevier.pdf](https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/precision-ag-eng/publications/Cruz_Ampatzidis-et-al_20181213_Elsevier.pdf).

**Citrus Squeezer:** Nearly 70 growers and other industry representatives attended a recent citrus seminar at the center. Citrus plant pathologist Dr. Ozgur Batuman presented “Citrus Greening (HLB)—Scouting, Symptoms, Life Cycle, Epidemiology, Damage, and Management.”



## Upcoming Events:

### **Discussion of Local Agricultural Issues with Legislators**

February 1, 2019, 10:00am-1:00pm

Primary topics will include the effects of NAFTA, the Farm Bill, water quality, and algae on agricultural interests. The program will include a discussion led by legislators and a grower panel discussion. To see the agenda and speaker bios and for registration information, click here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1D8HVmtk4A5j-RLAm3nSn849e1Sy3qqh5/view>.

### **Florida Certified Pile Burner Program**

February 6, 2019, 8:30am-4:30pm

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Seating is limited. For agenda and to register, click

here: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NBFMdZDfbsC81kGb2kofqU2szIFAGeBi/view>.

### **Citrus Squeezer: “All You Need to Know about Scouting and Management of Citrus Insect Pests”**

February 14, 2019, 10:00am-1:00pm

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SWFREC entomologist Dr. Jawwad Qureshi will present “Scouting and Managing Citrus Pests and Beneficials” and senior biological scientist Barry Kostyk will present “Scouting and Managing Citrus Rust Mites.” For complete agenda and to register, click

here: [https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/events-agendas/2019-02-14\\_Scouting\\_Management\\_Citrus\\_Insect\\_Pests.pdf](https://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu/docs/pdf/events-agendas/2019-02-14_Scouting_Management_Citrus_Insect_Pests.pdf).

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