

SWFREC News



July 1, 2025

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

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Spotlight On...

SWFREC Represents at Local Conference

SWFREC faculty, staff, and graduate students made great opportunity of the 138th Annual Meeting of the Florida State Horticultural Society (FSHS) taking place in nearby Bonita Springs in June!



In total, SWFREC representatives presented 30-plus talks and/or posters at the conference, hosted by the Hyatt Regency Coconut Point. Included in the poster section was citrus horticulture master's student Murillo Otavio de Sousa, who presented "Optimizing Zinc and Potassium Applications to Enhance Sweet Orange Yield."

Murillo placed second in the session competition and received \$200 for his effort. His poster was coauthored by SWFREC citrus horticulturist Dr. Fernando Alferez, who serves as Murillo's committee chair.

[\(see more\)](#)

SWFREC in the News

The June issue of Specialty Crop Grower magazine includes an article in the Citrus Industry section by editor-in-chief Frank Giles. "Citrus Field Day Shows SWFREC Research in Action" highlights the center's event in April. Giles quoted SWFREC director Dr. Mike Burton: "Ever since COVID, we decreased the number of demonstrations and field days for citrus. The strong turnout suggests there's a demand for these types of events."



Open House: Save the Date!



UF|IFAS
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

**SWFREC
Open House**

Save the Date

**Cultivating Connections:
Farms, Families, and the
Science of Food**

 **Wednesday
Nov 19, 2025**

 **UF/IFAS Southwest Florida
Research and Education Center**
2685 State Road 29 North, Immokalee, FL 34142



Upcoming Events

Independence Day

July 4, 2025

SWFREC will be closed in honor of Independence Day. We will resume normal working hours on Monday, July 7

Citrus & Specialty Crop Expo

August 20-21, 2025

Florida State Fairgrounds, Tampa
Seminar agenda coming soon! For more information and to register:
<https://citrusexpo.net/>.

2025 UF/IFAS Florida Tomato Conference

September 4, 2025

John Boy Auditorium, Clewiston
Program and registration coming soon! For sponsorship opportunities, please contact organizers Craig Frey (craigfrey@ufl.edu) or Meghan Foos (meghanfoos@ufl.edu).

Florida Fruit & Vegetable Association 81st Annual Convention

September 8-10, 2025

The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grand Lakes
For information and to register:
<https://www.ffva.com/>

Contact Us...

Julie A. Carson, Marketing and Communications Specialist
UF/IFAS Southwest Florida Research and Education Center
2685 SR 29 North, Immokalee, FL 34142
P: 239-658-3462 F: 239-658-3469
carsonj@ufl.edu <http://swfrec.ifas.ufl.edu>



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