



# BUGS and SHRUBS BUZZ

## Commercial Landscape Horticulture

### Ornamentals and Turf News

July 2005



See inside for 2005 classes, CEU's & registration info!

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Snowbush spanworm is on the attack; the adult moth is called a white-tipped black.

**Atrazine is not to be used within 200 feet of natural and impounded water (which includes man-made community lakes)!** As most of you are aware, atrazine products have had some dramatic label changes in regard to PPG (personal protective gear) and limitations on where and how much you can use. Applicators using spray equipment on their backs must wear coveralls (extra clothing over your normal long-sleeve shirt and long pants), shoes plus socks and chemical-resistant gloves when using restricted use products (4% active ingredient (a.i.) or greater). PPG requirements vary depending on the formulation and application technique. Read the label **very carefully!** Granular products must be watered in immediately.

Search for in-depth atrazine info at <http://www.epa.gov/ebtpages/pesticides.html>.



**Palm Lethal Yellowing Disease (PLY): This coconut palm killer** is still active in Naples. There are 2 new outbreaks: one is south of Kings Lake in the Lago Verde community and Wisconsin Dr. Thanks to Scott Lowery for reporting the latter. Isles of Capri and Marco Island and the Lakewood area are still active with this disease. Report suspect PLY palms

on Marco Island to the Environmental Specialist, Nancy Richie (389-5003). Please report suspect palms (susceptible species!) that are outside of the city limits, to me. If the palm is inside the city limits, call Joe Boscaglia, 213-7123. Please do not call if it is a queen palm, this is one disease they do not get! And if the coconut hasn't suffered fruit drop, I don't usually consider it as a high probability of being infected. For pictures of LY symptoms see: [http://collier.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/palm\\_yellow\\_wing.htm](http://collier.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/palm_yellow_wing.htm). Attend our inoculation class on August 26! See page 2 for details.

- 9 **Big Wind Hurricane Charley's Anniversary** is August 13, 2004: For excellent info on tree situations that can be addressed to minimize high wind damage. See these 3 web sites: Dr. Ed Gilman's: [http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/ody/maturetree\\_care/stormdamage.htm](http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/ody/maturetree_care/stormdamage.htm)
- 9 **Tree cabling** information can be found at: <http://collier.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/Commercial%20Hort04.htm>.
- 9 See a review of Pamela Crawford's book, **"Stormscaping: Landscaping to Minimize Wind Damage in Florida"** at: <http://okeechobee.ifas.ufl.edu/News%20columns/Stormscaping.htm>

## 2005 Classes at the Extension Office

Pre-registration is required for each class! Make a COPY of this page and the registration page 3 & mail a COPY of both pages to us; you keep originals.

Classes will be held in the Collier County University of Florida Extension Education and Training Center at 14700 Immokalee Road; Naples, Florida. To attend you must register (see registration form on page 3) and have your check in 3 days before the class, *no refunds*. Please call (239) 353-4244, if any questions. FAX (239) 353-7127. A registration form is also on-line at: <http://collier.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/Commercial%20Hort04.htm>.

### A. Pesticide Training:

- \$15 Ornamental & Turf Test Preparation. Thursday August 4** from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. for individuals who apply or supervise the application of restricted use pesticides at county and city parks, golf courses and cemeteries. No CEU's due to specific nature of this training.

Limited Commercial Landscape ("Roundup") Certificate Trainings. Lunch is provided. The test application forms and materials must be reviewed by me the week before the class. Please call to make an appointment to review these papers. Call Bureau of Entomology and Pest Control office to get the test application packets, 850-921-4177 or call us as we have some packets. These packets have insurance & employment verification forms and letters that must be in-hand before taking the test, so take care of all of the little details and get them filled out early, ASAP if you want to take the test. **You cannot take the test unless you have all of the required documents reviewed by me.** The test may be taken later, but it has to be within one year of taking the class. CEU's are pending.

- English session: \$25 Thursday, September 22 (7:30 AM to 6:30 PM). Please call to make an appointment with me to review your application packets (at the Extension office) the **week before** the 8 hour class. The test is offered the same day (after the class).
- Spanish session: \$25 Saturday, October 22 (7:30 AM to 6:30 PM). Please call to make an appointment with me to review your application packets (at the Extension office) the **week before** the 8 hour class. Both the class and optional test are on Oct 22. Cesar Asuaje (U.F. Palm Beach County Extension) instructor: (561)-233-1727.



### B. Landscape Classes: pruning, fertilizing and plant ID: FNGLA and ISA CEUs pending.

- \$10 Friday, Sept 16** (1 to 4 PM). **Palm Lethal Yellowing** history and inoculators class. Learn up-to-date methods and disease impact in Florida over the last 25 years. Richard Maxwell (supplier of OTC, the only labeled antibiotic for suppressing disease) and other experts will be teaching.
- \$10 Thursday October 20** (1 to 4 PM). **Fertilizer Rodeo.** Learn proper BMP fertilizing techniques for trees, shrubs, palms and lawns. Bring your application spreader to calibrate.



- \$10 Thursday November 3** (1 to 4 PM). **Common Plant Identification:** Right tree, right spot, shrubs and other plants that you can use in your landscape. – Bob Cook, Instructor.
- \$25 Friday, November 18, 2005** (9 AM to 4 PM). **Site Design and Maintaining Trees: Selecting, Planting, Pruning.** Internationally recognized expert, the gator-guru, Dr. Ed Gilman will be teaching! Landscape architects and urban foresters, county designers, homeowners are welcome. Cost includes lunch. CEUs (6) for FNGLA and ISA pending.

For an individual participant, check boxes(page 2) for the training session(s) you want to attend and complete the requested information below (PLEASE PRINT).

**REGISTRATION FORM**

For group participation, please submit a **separate registration** form for **each** training session. This will make it easier for us to track who wants which class! Check which training session you want and complete the requested information below . **Please print!**

**PARTICIPANT NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
**COMPANY NAME (if applicable)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**COMPANY ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
**BUSINESS/CELL PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-MAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

Names of additional participants:

\_\_\_\_\_

If taking the Limited Commercial Landscape (“Roundup”) class, will you take test same day?

YES or NO

**TOTAL # of participants:** \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL \$ fee(s) enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_


**Please make check payable to: BCC – Board of County Commissioners** and mail to:


Commercial Landscape Training  
Collier County Extension  
14700 Immokalee Road  
Naples, FL 34120-1468




Looking for  
CEUs or training hours?

Earn CEU's online or order do-it-at-home  
diskettes for O&T CEU's:

 For 2 CEU's general standards (core) <http://kgioeli.ifas.ufl.edu/environment.htm>

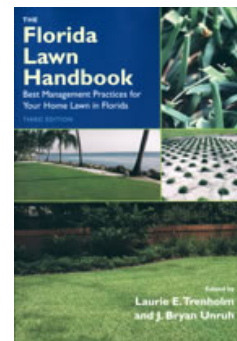
 lots of categories and CEU's here: <http://pests.ifas.ufl.edu/software/FL-ceu.htm>

 **Also see this veritable bonanza!** Get 4 core CEUs and all 3 of the Limited categories (L&O, Structural, and CLM) training hours and 4 commercial L & O CEUs **and the 8 hour class equivalent** for the Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance Pesticide Certificate. Available from the U.F. Pinellas County Extension office. See [www.pinellascounty.org/extension](http://www.pinellascounty.org/extension). Call Paula Jensen at 727-582-2456 for details. Cost is \$20 for full 8 hours and \$10 per credit-class hour for all others.

 Find out who has their pesticide certificates and where classes are being offered around the state: <http://www.flaes.org/complimonitoring/pesticidecertification.html>

## Updated Lawn Maintenance Manual:

**Florida Lawn Handbook-Best Management Practices for Your Home Lawn in Florida, Third Edition**, 224 pages, including 32 pages of color plates; price: \$19.95. Edited by Laurie E. Trenholm and J. Bryan Unruh.



**Written** in practical language by turfgrass experts, this new edition is completely up-to-date. Color plates identify various grass types, weeds, diseases, and insects, including those that are good for your lawn! Chapters cover: selection, adaptability, establishment, and maintenance for each type of lawn; soil analysis and fertilization; yearly calendars for lawn care and culture; mowing, watering, and calibrating sprinkler systems and fertilizer spreaders; preparing a lawn

for drought and low temperatures; weed and thatch control; safe pesticide application and use; the latest integrated pest management strategies; and complete, illustrated diagnostic information for weeds, diseases, insect problems, nematodes, and other pests. Available as catalogue # SP 45 from the IFAS Extension Bookstore at: [www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu](http://www.ifasbooks.ufl.edu) or call 800-226-1764.



## BMPs (Best Management Practices) for Nurseries

On March 29, University of Florida's Dr. Tom Yeager conducted a workshop for nurserymen in Collier County for the Royal Palm Chapter of the FNGLA. Six nurseries sent representatives to participate. Much thanks to Mike Soucek at Pelican Nursery for allowing us to conduct the outdoor portion of the workshop at his facility. This session informed growers about potential water quality concerns associated with nursery production, outlined irrigation and fertilization testing procedures, discussed the draft BMP manual, and took growers through a step by step BMP



*Bougainvillea at Topiary Creations.*

assessment at a local nursery. This program is administered through the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) at the state level and offers many unique benefits to growers; not the least of which is **full fledged grower input into the development of BMPs** contained in the BMP manual. The current BMP draft manual has taken nearly two years of meetings and workshops with growers from Palm Beach, Broward and Dade counties, as well as participation from FNGLA, the South Florida Water Management District, county governments and local environmental groups. The advantages of this new program are explained at the FNGLA website:

“Once adopted, growers who choose to enroll in the BMP program will receive numerous benefits including: Waiver of Liability from clean-up costs; Presumption of Compliance with State water quality standards; and eligibility to receive cost-share assistance for the implementation of some of the capital intensive practices, which under normal conditions, would be cost prohibitive.”

Please be aware, the current manual will only be available for growers within the South Florida Water Management District; however following the adoption of this South Florida manual, the department will use the South Florida BMP's as the basis for a statewide container plant manual.

Again, please take the time to review the draft BMP manual and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jim Spratt @ (1-800-375-3642) or [jspratt@fn gla.org](mailto:jspratt@fn gla.org) .The manual is on-line at: <http://www.fn gla.org/articles/viewArticle.asp?articleID=475>. Have your printer loaded, as it is 75 pages long!

## New Disease is Killing Queen Palms (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*)

Doug Caldwell, Commercial Landscape Horticulture, Collier County, University of Florida Extension



**Left:** Late symptoms

of mystery disease, note how the fronds do not break, nor do they hang parallel to the trunk. Several landscape managers reported that the palms were green one week and then it was as if they had been freeze-dried overnight. Photo by Scott Lowery. **Above:** Brown-red stripe on outside and discoloration of inside area is indicative of this new disease. Photo by Dr. Monica Elliott, U.F., Ft. Lauderdale.



Several communities in Collier and Lee counties have lost 10 to 15 queen palms in the last 8 months. These include: Calusa Bay, Pelican Landing and Colonade. Only queen palms have been affected. Since December 2004, Dr. Monica Elliott, plant pathologist with the University of Florida in Ft. Lauderdale, has examined queen palms from Tampa, Orlando, West Palm Beach and Naples. All sites have had a similar sequence of palm decline. Symptoms were first observed a year or two ago on established palms, but less than 1% of the palms were affected, so not too much was thought about it. Some communities have now lost up to 10% of their queen palms. Dr. Elliott released a May 5 update at: [http://frec.ifas.ufl.edu/Hort/Plant\\_pathology/plant.htm](http://frec.ifas.ufl.edu/Hort/Plant_pathology/plant.htm). Dr. Elliott states: "The symptoms are as follows. The lowest (oldest) 2-3 leaves turn brown but do not break or hang down. The next 2-3 youngest leaves in the canopy will turn varying shades of yellow. The yellowing leaf symptoms alone are not indicative of the disease as these symptoms would be similar for natural senescence, especially when potassium deficiency is present. What makes the disease different from natural senescence is that usually **within two months of initial symptoms, the entire canopy has turned brown, as if freeze-dried in place.** The leaves do not break nor do they hang limply parallel to the trunk, they simply turn brown in place within the canopy. Closer examination of the yellowing leaves and the next green leaf in the canopy should reveal what we believe is the initial target of the pathogen, the leaf petiole at the point where it is bending out of the canopy. We have observed initial **areas of discoloration (a brownish-red 'streak')** at this point that.....(progresses in

both directions) on the petiole. The petiole is not rotted, but simply discolored. Cross-sections through the petiole reveal internal discoloration. Cross-sections must be done with a sharp saw and not with a crushing tool such as a clipper, as the crushing motion will discolor tissue also. Leaflet tips, even on lower green leaves, exhibit drought symptoms.

The bud of the palm is not killed until sometime (probably a week or so) after the canopy turns brown. When cross-sections are made through the crown of a dead queen palm, the bud is still clean and white, but older leaf and inflorescence bases are discolored and usually rotted. The symptoms and their development suggest a pathogen, probably fungal, that is **producing a toxin**. The pathogen is unknown at this time. We have isolated "potential" pathogens and will shortly be conducting pathogenicity tests."

Since we do not know which pathogen(s) may be causing the disease, cultural or chemical management recommendations cannot be made. Unfortunately, quite a few communities have a monoculture of queen palms. These palms require frequent pruning with their constant fruit and clinging dead fronds. Other problems that frequently kill the palms include: ganoderma butt rot disease, potassium deficiency, frizzletop (a manganese deficiency) and boron deficiency. Do not replant with queen palms until more is known about this disease. Remember to diversify your landscape with several species of featured trees and palms so that if an epidemic hits, your landscape won't be devastated. See: <http://collier.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/queenpalm.htm>

**TIME SENSITIVE**

**Collier County University  
Extension**

14700 Immokalee Road  
Naples, FL 34120-1468



Snowbush spanworms (*Melanchroia chephise*)  
are abundant now. See fact sheet at:  
<http://collier.ifas.ufl.edu/Horticulture/insect.htm>

If you would like to receive future 'Bugs & Shrubs Buzz' by e-mail,  
send me an e-mail request! [dlcaldwell@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:dlcaldwell@ifas.ufl.edu)

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**Support your professional organizations for fun and knowledge!**

**Alliance of Horticulture Professionals**, A group that is composed of Limited Commercial Landscape pesticide certificate holders. 877-826-9818 [maureenh@allhortpros.com](mailto:maureenh@allhortpros.com) or [bobk@allhortpros.com](mailto:bobk@allhortpros.com)

**EGCSA: Everglades Golf Course Superintendents Association**, 239-649-6941, [cmcdonough@kensingtoncc.com](mailto:cmcdonough@kensingtoncc.com);  
<http://www.evergladesqcsa.com/home/home.htm>

**FNGLA: Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association**, become a Florida Certified Horticultural Professional or Landscape Contractor or Technician or Designer, contact: in Orlando, 800-375-3642 or [mmott@fn gla.org](mailto:mmott@fn gla.org). The local Royal Palm Chapter, 863-675-3006 (Debbie Perkins), [info@fn gla.org](mailto:info@fn gla.org); <http://www.fn gla.org>

**FTGA: Florida Turfgrass Association**, 407-291-9415 or 800-882-6721; [info@ftga.org](mailto:info@ftga.org); <http://www.ftga.org>

**ISA: Become a certified arborist: Florida Chapter ISA** at 941 342-0153, [floridaisa@aol.com](mailto:floridaisa@aol.com), <http://www.floridaisa.org>.

**LMA: Landscape Maintenance Association**, call 941-714-0459; Covey Wise III is the President, 407-518-WISE. You can also send e-mail to Tom Burish, Executive Director, at: [maflorida@aol.com](mailto:maflorida@aol.com); [www.floridalma.org](http://www.floridalma.org)

**PLANET: Professional Landcare Network**, a new association formed by the merger of PLCAA, the Professional Lawn Care Association of America and ALCA, the Associated Landscape Contractors of America; 800-395-2522; [www.landcarenetwork.org](http://www.landcarenetwork.org)

**2005 REMINDER: Southwest Florida Home and Garden Show** on October 29 & 30, at the Collier County Extension Horticulture Learning Center Gardens, 14700 Immokalee Rd., Naples.