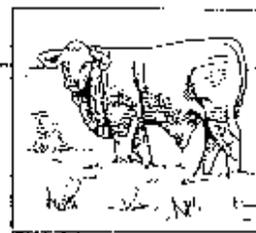
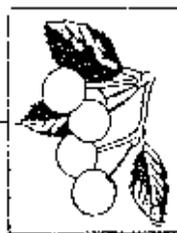
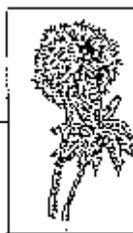
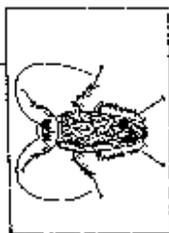


SARASOTA COUNTY AG COMMUNICATOR

Volume 10 Number 1 January - March 1999



Providing educational information to help Extension customers in Sarasota County

- Contact Information -

Sarasota County Cooperative Extension Service
2900 Ringling Blvd.
Sarasota, FL 34237
Phone: (941) 316-1000
Fax: (941) 316-1005
Homepage: <http://www.ifas.ufl.edu/~sarasota/sara.html>
Jennifer Myers, E-mail: jsmy@ifas.ufl.edu

- ANNOUNCEMENTS -

IMPACT - TV Program Schedule

This is an update on the forthcoming IMPACT television programs. The satellite broadcasting information is as follows:



Satellite GE3, 87 degrees West, Frequency 11748 Horizontal Down, decoder system Digicypher 2. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Because this is a PBS feed, the receiving earth station **MUST** have a digitized signal system Digicypher 2 decoder! Without it, the receiving station will not be able to receive satellite feed. All IMPACT programs are closed-captioned.



The IMPACT shows below are being downlinked on the indicated dates as follows:

DATE	EPISODE # & TITLE
January 12	#251 This Land Is Your Land
January 19	#252 Reach Out, We'll Be There
January 26	#253 Building Blocks Of The Sea
February 2	#254 Build It And They Will Come
February 9	#255 Fighting Florida's Exotics
February 16	#256 Silencing The Buzz
February 23	#257 If You Can Read This...
March 2	#258 Garden Magic
March 9	#259 Enviro-Ranching
March 16	#260 Improving Human Health

D. W. Poucher, Director, IFAS Educational Media and Services

New LMA Website

The Landscape Maintenance Association has a new web-address: www.lmastate.com. The web-address is now the same as the e-mail address for your convenience. Please check it out when you have a free moment.

Kathy Barulic, LMA Director of Operations

Sarasota County Fair Schedule of 4-H & FFA Agricultural Events

Saturday, March 13	
9 AM	Livestock Judging Contest
12:30 PM	** Dairy Goat Show, Showmanship Contest
	** Pygmy Goat Show, Showmanship Contest
Sunday, March 14	
2 PM	Rabbit & Cavy Judging Contest

6 PM	4-H & FFA Beef Breeding Show, Showmanship Contest
Monday, March 15	
6 PM	Swine Show, Showmanship Contest
Tuesday, March 16	
7 PM	Steer Show, Showmanship Contest
Wednesday, March 17	
7 PM	Dairy Cattle Show, Showmanship Contest
Thursday, March 18	
4:30 PM	4-H Horticulture Judging Contest
7 PM	Dress Up Parade
Friday, March 19	
7:30 PM	Livestock Sale
Saturday, March 20	
10 AM	Dairy Judging Contest
12:30 PM	Small Animal Auction
2:30 PM	Plant Sale

Mailing List Purge

Federal law requires us to purge our mailing list annually. If you wish to continue to receive the Ag Communicator, fill out the form inserted in this issue and return it to our office, otherwise, your name and address will be deleted. Don't chance missing future issues...

DO NOT DELAY, FILL IT OUT TODAY!

New 4-H Staff in Extension Office

NSarasota County Extension Service welcomes two more new people to our staff. Both of these are additions to the 4-H program, and have been long awaited. They are truly welcomed with glad anticipation.

Linda Guess is the new 4-H Secretary. She has extensive administrative experience at a variety of levels, and has excellent computer skills. In order to provide more administrative assistance to the 4-H program we are providing Linda to 4-H full time.

Karen Oliver is the new 4-H Program Assistant. Her background includes work in the State Park System and law enforcement where she frequently worked with youth. She also has experience in writing newsletters and possesses good computer skills.

Sarasota County Public Hearings

The public hearings before the Board of County Commissioners have been scheduled for March 30, 1999:

- (1) Proposed Ordinance No. 98-075, Rezone Petition No. 98-05, to rezone approximately 39.40 acres located east of I-75 and approximately 1,100 feet north of Bee Ridge Road from Open Use Estate, 1 unit/5 acres to Residential, Multiple Family, 9 units/acres and;
- (2) Proposed Ordinance No. 98-076, Rezone Petition No. 98-11, to rezone approximately 19.33 acres located approximately 4,400 feet north of Bee Ridge Road and approximately 750 feet west of Sarasota Golf Club Blvd. from open use Estate, 1 unit/5 acres to Residential, Multiple Family, 9 unites/acre

The planning Commission recommends denial on both rezonings.

Trolling Deer Fly Trap

Mosquitos are bad enough, but when the deer flies bite then things really get bad.

Fortunately, new research at the University of Florida by entomologist Dr. Russ Mizell has discovered a relatively easy way to decimate a local deer fly population for a period of time without the use of pesticides. A file on the Trolling Deer Fly Trap has been posted at the University of Florida's Pest Alert WWW site. Pest Alert is available on WWW at: <http://extlab7.entnem.ufl.edu/PestAlert/>



Tom Fasulo, IFAS Entomology

- AGRICULTURE SECTION -

Sarasota Rancher Wins the 1998 Commissioner's Ag-Environmental Leadership Award

B.T. "Buster" Longino, of Longino Ranch, was honorably awarded this years Ag-Environmental Leadership Award from Florida's Agriculture Commissioner. Every year the Commissioner recognizes Florida growers and ranchers that implement environmentally sustainable agricultural practices. We should be proud that a local rancher received this prestigious award. Congratulations Mr. Longino!

Communicating for Agriculture Exchange Program (CAEP)

There are two programs the CAEP offers, one for established farmers and one for youth. Hosts will provide food and accommodations in return for assistance on the farm.

The Established Farmer Program to New Zealand will place one person or a couple with a host family in which you will take part in their business activities and do some sightseeing along the way. Placements are

available in beef, dairy, sheep, crop farming and orcharding.

The youth program is looking for single persons between the ages of 18 and 28 that want to learn more about production agriculture, horticulture, equine or enology and are truly interested in these areas as a profession. The program has many countries to choose from.

If you would like more information on these programs, contact Jennifer Myers at the extension office. This is a great opportunity to learn about international agriculture.

Flammable Hazard from Penetrating Sealed Frames of Ag Equipment

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) received two reports of farm workers who were seriously burned while attempting to drill holes into sealed plow frames in order to mount a hitch or a "slow-moving vehicle" sign. When the drill bits penetrated the frames it released and ignited hydrogen and methane gases. The metal scrap apparently reacts electrochemically with water and emulsion-type cutting oils to liberate the flammable gases. Therefore, do not drill, cut, weld sealed frames of agricultural equipment as it can result in a gas explosion. It is best to attach signs or other objects to frames using clamps or devices that will secure them without penetrating the metal frames.

Florida Agriculture Prices

According to Florida Agricultural Statistics Service as of December 1, 1998 prices received by cattle producers in mid-November were mostly higher compared with the entire month of October. The prices of cows at \$29.00 per cwt was 70 cents more than October but \$2.00 per cwt below the prior year. Steers and heifers were up \$1.80 from October but \$9.00 lower than last year. Calves were up \$2.80 per cwt from October but \$11.60 less than a year earlier. Hogs, however, were down \$4.20 per cwt from October and \$19.40 less than the year before.

For monthly price updates, you can contact the National Ag Statistics Hotline at 800-727-9540.

1998 Florida Cattlemen's Institute

You are invited to attend the 16th annual Florida Cattlemen's Institute and Allied Trade Show held at Kissimmee Valley Agricultural Center, Highway 192 East of Kissimmee on January 21, 1998. The event is sponsored by the University of Florida/IFAS, Cooperative Extension Service and Allied Trade Industries. The topic this year focuses on controlling the costs of production through better management.

There will be a full day of professional speakers that will be discussing emerging trends in the animal industry, how to lower production costs and herd health to help you improve your production and its bottom line. There will also be a wide variety of industry exhibitors.

If you would like to attend the Institute, please RSVP to Jennifer Myers at the extension office. If you would

like to exhibit products at the trade show contact Dr. Mike Fanning at 941-658-3400. If you would like to exhibit your cattle at the show, contact Doug Mayo at 941-533-0765.

You can make hotel reservations at the Holiday Inn Express located on Highway 192 east near the Ag Center by calling 407-846-4646. To get a special rate of \$39 a night tell them you will be attending the Cattlemen's Institute and Allied Trade Show.

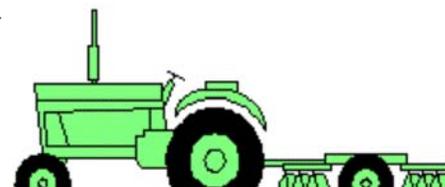
Emergency Farm Aid

On December 14, 1998, President Clinton announced that U.S. farmers who suffered crop losses from natural disasters and disease will be able to apply for \$2.4 billion in federal emergency disaster assistance under an aid package.

Farmers who experienced losses on 1998 crops and those who had losses in at least three of the past five years may begin applying for assistance February 1, 1999.

Pasture Renovation

Pasture renovation has been defined as "The improvement of a pasture by partial or complete destruction of the sod, plus liming, fertilizing, weed control, and seeding as may be required to establish desirable forage plants." In Florida, our pasture renovation programs usually start in the fall with the plowing and planting of a cool season annual such as



ryegrass, small grain, clover, or a combination of these. The permanent pasture grass is then planted the next year at the beginning of or during the summer rainy season. The plowing or primary tillage done in the fall allows the cool season forage crop to be planted on a clean, tilled seed bed which usually means more and earlier production as compare to over seeding on a sod. Tillage in the fall and again after the cool season forage has stopped growing (May) provides for more complete destruction of any weeds and remnants of the old pasture sod. This type of strategy should result in a clean, smooth, well-prepared site for planting of the new pasture.

A similar strategy has incorporated the use of a herbicide in an attempt to insure complete kill of certain weedy grasses. The herbicide Roundup has been used in late summer to kill the old pasture sod and weedy plants such as smutgrass and common bermudagrass. To be effective, the herbicide must be applied before plant growth slows. In the fall, a no-till drill (pasture drill) is then used to plant the cool season forage into the killed sod. This practice would conserve soil moisture as compared to tillage, which could be an advantage in getting the cool season crop started. Producers should weight the costs and advantages before choosing one system over the other.

Agronomy Notes, November, 1998

New Genetic Research to Improve Beef Tenderness

A research project initiated early this Summer is looking for the answers that can guarantee a juicy, tender steak ever time. That's no small potatoes given that one of four steaks is too tough to chew, according to the

1995 National Beef Quality Audit. Numbers like that make finding a way to put a more consistent, quality, tender product on the dinner table a high priority for the beef industry, which is working to increase market share.

The first phase of the 42-month, Checkoff-funded study will establish concrete evidence and standardize genetic characteristics for tenderness, marbling, ribeye size, carcass weight, and yield composition. Understanding and being able to selectively breed for any of these traits will help guarantee a quality eating experience for consumers.

(Animal Science Newsletter, October, 1998)

New DACS Hotline & Website

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has established a new 24-hour market information line for data on Fruits, Vegetables, Livestock and weather. The number is: (407) 897-4374. Their web site is: <http://doacs.state.fl.us>

The DACS Bureau of Entomology and Pest Control also has a new web site at <http://doacs.state.fl.us/~aes-ent> for the pest control industry. This site provides a Bureau staff directory, e-mail addresses for Bureau personnel, information on certification, exam schedules, forms and applications and rules/regulations. For consumers it provides tips, publications, field inspector information, how to file a complaint and general information on the pest control program and certification.

DACS Correspondence

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)

EQIP is a new program by the USDA which combines the Agricultural Conservation Program and the Water Quality Incentive Program's activities. This program offers financial, educational, and technical help to install or implement certain management practices in 5-10 year contracts.

Cost sharing may pay up to 75% of costs of specific conservation practices. There are numerous practices which are eligible but some are:

- Livestock producers - Brush management, pest management, fence, well, pipeline and trough, pasture & hayland planting.
- Citrus, vegetable production and nurseries - Chemical mixing center, cover & green manure, filter strip, irrigation system (micro), irrigation system (tailwater recover), irrigation water management, nutrient management, pest management.



To sign up or for more information, contact Farm Service Agency at 941-773-4764 or NRCS at 941-907-0011.

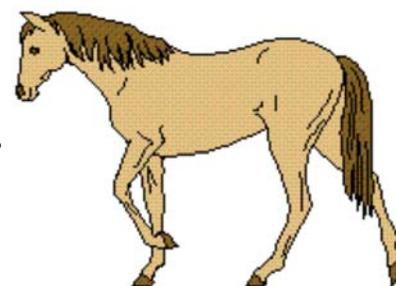
Artificial Insemination Course

An artificial insemination course is being offered on January 26-28 by Accelerated Genetics. This course includes hands-on training and in-class instruction on bull selection, semen handling, heat detection and synchronization. For more info call Bernon Rowe at 941-984-1323.

New Coggins Requirements

As of January 1, 1999, there are new Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA), also known as Coggins test, requirements. All horses moving WITHIN the State must be accompanied by a negative Coggins test report (VSForm 10-11) or a valid Official Certificate of Veterinary Inspection health certificate reflecting the negative status of the test. The negative test must have been performed within the previous 12 months.

Movement of a horse within the State to the following destinations, but not limited to these destinations, will require papers reflecting a negative Coggins test taken within the past 12 months: Boarding stables, horse shows, fairs, racetracks, breeding stables, boarding pastures, exhibitions, rodeos, trail rides, a public or private assembly, change of ownership by public or private sale, trail usage, gift, rental or lease.



The exceptions to the rule are: (1) A foal under six months of age accompanying its dam who has had a negative Coggins in the last 12 months; (2) Horses sold for and being transported to slaughter.

If you move a horse and do not have the required documents you will be forced to return your horse to the place of descent and may be fined for each violation up to \$10,000.

For more information and a complete copy of the rule contact the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry, at 850-488-6874 or at <http://doacs.state.fl.us/~ai/5C18.htm>.

Ag Mediation Service

The University of Florida has organized the Florida Agricultural Mediation Service (FAMS) to help Florida's growers and producers. Although FAMS is located on the University of Florida Campus, mediations are scheduled throughout the state at locations that are convenient to the parties.

FAMS is funded in part by a grant from USDA to mediate disputes between producers and USDA. Mediation is a voluntary, confidential process in which a neutral mediator guides parties who are involved in a dispute by discussing the issues and helping them identify and consider possible solutions. Mediators do not make any decisions about who is right or wrong, and they have no authority to require anyone to do anything. The parties themselves are responsible for devising a resolution to their dispute and for following through with it.

The producer has the option to resolve conflicts with USDA through FAMS as an alternative to appealing adverse decisions through the formal USDA administrative hearing process. Mediation provides an informal process in which the parties involved meet with an impartial mediator and try to work out their own settlements to the dispute. If the dispute is not resolved through mediation, the parties still have the right to proceed to a hearing.

Mediators trained in agricultural topics will mediate issues involving loan and loan servicing, wet lands determinations, conservation dilemmas crop insurance, program issues, and other agricultural issues all at no cost to the farmer. The telephone number of the Mediation office is 1-888-712-9421

FL Ag Mediation Service

Finding Ag Info on the Internet

A new publication entitled "How to Find Agricultural Information on the Internet" is now available from the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program at the University of California, Davis. It includes basics on using the Internet, mail lists and servers and reference services on the World Wide Web.

To order the 92-page book (Publication 3387), contact UC's DANR Communications Services, 6701 San Pablo Avenue, Oakland, CA 94608-1239, phone 800-944-8849, or fax 510-643-5470. The cost \$12 plus \$3 shipping and handling.

Bayer Company Newsletter, August 1998

Livestock Assistance Program

Betty Crews, Chairman of the Hardee-DeSoto-Manatee-Sarasota area Farm Service Agency Committee, has announced approval of a Livestock Assistance Program to help compensate agricultural producers who suffered more than a 40% loss of grazing in January, February, March and April, 1998 because of the flooding experienced in all four of the area counties.

Producers who had more than a 40% loss for 90 consecutive days will be eligible to make application for payment. Livestock included in the program must be production animals only: cattle, sheep, goats, swine and equine. Livestock must have been owned by the producer for at least three months before January 1, 1998.

This program covers only grazing losses not hay loss.

PRODUCERS HAVE UNTIL FEBRUARY 5, 1999 TO MAKE AN APPLICATION. If you believe you are eligible for assistance under this program, call the Farm Service Agency at 941-773-4764.

Wildlife Events for January

Here are some interesting wildlife events happening in January:

- Nesting activity begins for ospreys, sandhill cranes, some herons and egrets, and Black Vultures
 - Deer reach the peak of the rutting season in north Florida.
- Gray foxes, bobcats, and raccoons begin courtship and breeding this month.
 - Male cardinals begin territorial singing later in the month.
 - Look for red-tailed hawks perched in trees along interstates.
- Huge clouds of tree swallows should be visible around sunset roosting over large marsh areas.
- Put your old Christmas tree to good use - use it to start a brush pile near your bird feeder. Not only will it provide good year-round cover for birds, but it will also take up a lot less space in your county landfill.

Joe Schaefer, Dept. Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

Economic and Ecological Values of Grazing Lands in Manatee and Sarasota Counties

On February 3, 1999 from 9:30-4:00 the Sarasota Soil and Water Conservation District, along with other organizations, is sponsoring the Economic and Ecological Values of Grazing Lands in Manatee and Sarasota Counties seminar. It takes place at the Sudakoff Center at USF Sarasota Campus and there is a \$10 registration that includes lunch. Call 941-907-0011.

Scheduled topics: Status of Grazing Lands in Manatee and Sarasota; Economic Values of Agricultural Lands; Ecological Values of Grazing Lands; Conservation Easements and Leases; Panel: Grazing on Public lands: Pros and Cons; Where do we go from here?

The Beef Checkoff: Is it Working for You?

By **Pat Hogue**, Highlands County livestock Extension Agent

Since 1987 cattle producers across the nation have participated in the \$1 per head Beef Promotion Checkoff as a means to promote their product and fund research projects beneficial to the beef cattle industry. As most of you may know, the Livestock Marketing Association is now asking for a new referendum to decide whether to continue the Beef Checkoff. Petitions are going to have to get signed by enough producers across the US, including Florida, in order for another referendum to be considered. As one who believes strongly that the Beef Checkoff is one of the best things the collective beef industry has done for itself, I would urge you to look at the issue carefully before considering signing a petition to put this to another vote. Consider whether the \$1 per head has had a beneficial effect, or whether you believe it is just one more dollar out of your pocket. It may be time to consider alternatives to the collection methods currently in place, but I submit that if \$1 per head contributes to unprofitability, it may be time to consider doing something else other than beef cattle production.

Several analyses of the Beef Checkoff have been done and have reached the conclusion that it is working for numerous reasons. A recent research project conducted by Dr. Ron Ward, University of Florida Professor of Food and Resource Economics, actually was able to reach monetary conclusions as to whether the checkoff

was working for the beef industry or not. The public relations and advertising campaigns funded by the checkoff have improved the image of the beef industry as a whole, and has increased the demand for beef by consumers when other influences on the market are eliminated. We have lost market share and consumers to chicken and pork, but without the checkoff and the ad campaign it funds, we would have lost more. The servings of beef per household member consumed has dropped by one serving since 1984. However, due to the increase in average carcass size, portion sizes have increased, so each consumer is actually consuming ½ a pound more beef per year than in 1984. The bottom line is that the checkoff has not increased consumer demand, but it has prevented further decline.

Research and public relations efforts funded by the checkoff have dispelled the negative image portrayed about health problems created by consuming beef, and have dispelled myths about other health related issues and beef such as *E. coli* and BSE. Foreign marketing efforts funded by the Beef Checkoff have resulted in increased sales and demand for US beef and beef products in numerous foreign countries.

In the final analysis, Dr. Ward's research shows that additional demand for beef produced in the US both at home and abroad resulting from efforts funded by the Beef Checkoff have ultimately resulted in higher prices for both live and fed cattle than would have been received without the checkoff efforts. The fed cattle prices have had a slightly greater benefit from the checkoff than the live markets based on the economical analysis done by Dr. Ward. However, the Checkoff has resulted in about \$6 per head additional income from 500 pound calves. Although \$6 doesn't seem like much, consider that it only took a \$1 investment to get the additional income. Is the \$1 investment worth getting \$6 back? You will each have to be the judge of that, but also consider all the advertisement you see about beef today compared to before the Checkoff and all the positive impact it has made for the industry and your way of life. I can only believe that there has been nothing but positive effects for the beef industry, and if we do away with the Checkoff where will the money come from to continue to compete with pork and chicken and the public relations efforts they have ongoing. We can't afford to lose more market share to them. We're the only ones who will tell the beef story but the funding has to be available to do it.

One final point. USDA estimates that if enough signatures are gathered to force a referendum, it would cost somewhere between \$3 and \$4 million in physical costs of registration, communication with producers, and voting to conduct the referendum. This does not include the cost of staff and volunteer time that will need to be spent dealing with the referendum, and the total cost will have to be paid by Checkoff dollars. The nearly \$4 million estimate is as much or more than was spent developing foreign markets in 1997.

(Dr. Ward's, as well as the other articles evaluating the checkoff, are available for viewing on the National Cattlemen's Beef Association home page at <http://www.beef.org>.)

Beef Cattle Management Calendar

JANUARY

- Apply lime for summer crops.
- Check for lice and treat if necessary.
- Control weeds in cool season pastures.

- Begin grazing winter clover pastures when 6 inches high and rye should be 12-18 inches high.
 - Check mineral feeders.
 - Put bulls out for October calving season.
 - Make breeding herd lists if using single sire herds.
 - Watch for calf scours.
 - Give bulls extra feed and care so they will be in condition for breeding season.
 - Make sure cow herd has adequate fresh water.
 - Buy only performance tested bulls with superior records.
 - Get taxes filed.
- Discuss herd health with your veterinarian and outline a program for the year. Review herd health program with your veterinarian regularly.
- Carry a pocket notebook to record breeding abnormalities, discharges, abortions, retained placentas, difficult calvings and other data.
 - Observe cow herd for calving difficulties.
 - Watch for grass tetany on winter pastures.
- Increase magnesium levels in mineral mixes if grass tetany has been previous problem (if you are not already using a high magnesium mineral).
 - Examine bulls for breeding soundness and semen quality prior to the breeding season.
 - Vaccinate cows and heifers against vibriosis and leptospirosis prior to the breeding season.

FEBRUARY

- Top dress winter forages, if needed.
 - Check and fill mineral feeders.
 - Put bulls out with breeding herd.
- Work calves (identify, implant with growth stimulant, vaccinate, etc.).
- Make sure lactating cows are receiving an adequate level of energy.
 - Watch calves for signs of respiratory diseases.
 - Cull cows that failed to calve while prices are seasonally up.
 - Check for lice and treat if needed.

MARCH

- Prepare land for summer crops
- Begin grazing warm season permanent pastures.
 - Check and fill mineral feeders.
- Observe bulls for condition and success. Rotate and rest if needed.
 - Deworm cows as needed.
 - Make sure calves are healthy and making good weight gains.
- Hang forced-used dust bags by April 1st for external parasite control or use insecticide impregnated ear tags.
 - Identify, vaccinate, implant and work late calves.
 - Put bulls out March 1st for calving season to start December 9.
 - Remove bulls March 22nd to end calving season January 1.

Calendar

January

21	16th Annual Florida Cattlemen's Institute and Allied Trade Show, Kissimmee, FL
21 - 23	Tropical Plant Industry Exhibition, Ft. Lauderdale
23	Winter '99 Turf & Ornamental Pest Control Workshop, 7:30-noon, Orange Co. Ext. Office. Free. Call (407) 836-7573.
29 - 31	Fruitville Heritage Festival

February

3	Economic and Ecological Values of Grazing Lands in Manatee and Sarasota Counties, call 907-0011.
4 - 5	Agri-tourism: How to Turn Natural Resources on Your Property into Profit, a two-day workshop in Ft. Pierce, \$25 registration. Contact Craig Evans, (561) 995-1474.
4 - 15	Florida State Fair, Tampa
5	Cattlemen's Livestock Market All Breed Bull Sale, Lakeland
10	1999 Dr. Doolittle Farm Tour (nontraditional crops & animals), 8:30-4:30, it starts at the Farm Bureau, 7289-A Palmer Blvd. \$35 registration by 2/2/99. Martha Hilton at 907-0011.
11	"The Legends of Lawns & Ornamentals", Pinellas Co. Extension Service. Call 727-786-8128.
11	Quarterly Pesticide Training, 3-5 pm, Ken Clark Aud., Sarasota. Call Mark at 316-1000.
15	President's Day -- Extension Office closed.
17	Condowalk for landscape contractors, Manatee County. Call Peggy Dessaint at 722-4524.
23 & 25	11th Annual Methods for Identifying Soils & Determining Seasonal High Ground Water Table Depth (two separate 1-day workshops), Palmetto, \$35. SWFWMD at 800-231-6103.
24 - 25	Florida Weed Science Soc. Meeting, Elks Lodge, Eustis. Call Ken Muzyk at 813-681-3461.
2/25 - 3/7	Florida Strawberry Festival, Plant City
26 - 27	Florida Landscape Designer's Assoc. Conference and Certification Exam, Seffner, 850-681-0778.

March

5 - 6

Tree and Landscape Short Course and Tampa Spring Expo and Trade Show; call Dave Palmer at (813) 744-5519.

6

Limited Landscape Maintenance Seminar, 8 am to 5 pm, Palmetto. Mark Shelby at 316-1000.

8 - 10

International Conference on Emerging Technologies for Ingrated Pest Management, Raliegh, NC. Contact NC State University, Ag College.

8 - 12

Florida Post Harvest Horticulture Institute and Industry Tour, Gainesville. Call (352) 392-1928 ext. 235.

12 -
20

Sarasota County Fair

27

Tree Fair '99, Phillippi Estate, Sarasota. Call Mark at 316-1000.

April

20 -
21

Whole Farm Planning for New and Experienced Farmers, Daytona, Fla. Call Tim Crocker at (352) 392-4711, ext. 310.

The "Sarasota County Ag Communicator" is published quarterly by the Sarasota County Cooperative Extension Service of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. It provides educational information on land and resource management; fertilization; production and landscape horticulture; livestock production and management; integrated pest management; agronomic crops; commercial vegetables; citrus; and other related areas. This information is furnished to all without regard to race, color, sex, or national origin. Mention of product names does not constitute endorsement.

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[Back](#) _Back to the South Florida Beef-Forage Program HomePage

