

# COLD HARDY CITRUS CONNECTION



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## Welcome to the First Edition!

Welcome to the first edition of the Cold Hardy Citrus Connection newsletter! I was encouraged by the Cold Hardy Citrus Association to start a quarterly newsletter focused on information relevant for citrus growers in the cold hardy citrus growing region (North Florida, South Georgia and South Alabama). Having grown up in the major grapefruit producing region of Florida, the citrus industry is near and dear to my heart. So for me, it is very exciting to see all of the interest in the citrus industry in this part of the world, despite the devastation the industry has faced in South Florida due to citrus greening.

We are currently experiencing a time that we have never experienced in our lifetime before due



**Danielle Sprague**  
UF/IFAS Jefferson County  
2729 W. Washington Hwy.  
Monticello, FL 32344  
Office: 850-342-0187  
Cell: 772-766-6539  
dsprague@ufl.edu



to COVID-19. I hope everyone is doing well and staying safe. In the interest of doing all we can to keep our clients, faculty, and staff as safe as possible, all UF/IFAS Extension Offices and Research Centers across the state are closed to the public and we are under strict travel restrictions. All in-person Extension programs and activities, including pesticide testing, have been postponed or canceled through May 15th. However, this date is subject to change. Despite these changes, we at UF/IFAS want you to know that **WE ARE STILL HERE TO HELP**, only now, from a distance. These changes aren't permanent and as soon as it is safe, we will return to business as usual. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if I can help you in any way.

## 2020 Citrus Health Forum - A Success

*By: Danielle Sprague, UF/IFAS Jefferson County*

This year's Citrus Health Forum took place on Thursday, March 12th, 2020 at the UF/IFAS NFREC in Quincy, Florida. Fortunately, we were able to have the meeting prior to the many cancellations and closures due to COVID-19. With a record crowd of over 90 growers, citrus industry professionals, and Extension faculty from across the region, specialists from the University of Florida provided information about current production practices and management tips.



In addition to the five educational presentations, there were two sprayer demonstrations and a trade show of 13 organizations that provide products and services to the citrus industry in the region. For PDF copies of the presentations, please visit: [UF/IFAS Panhandle Ag E-News](#) or email Danielle at [dsprague@ufl.edu](mailto:dsprague@ufl.edu)





Following the sponsored lunch, demonstrations took place in the grove at the NFREC. The first demonstration was completed by John Farrell of Chemical Containers. John demonstrated a herbicide sprayer mounted to a UTV. The second demonstrated was completed by Codie Frick of Ag Pro and Michael Williams of Vans

Equipment. They demonstrated a new power blast sprayer available.

Following the Citrus Health Forum, the Cold Hardy Citrus Growers Association met for their annual meeting. During the meeting, growers were given a variety update from Dr. Pete Andersen, UF/IFAS NFREC Horticulture Specialist (Professor Emeritus) as well as an update from Callie Walker, FDACS Chief of Pest Eradication and Control on the Citrus Health Response Program.

### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!



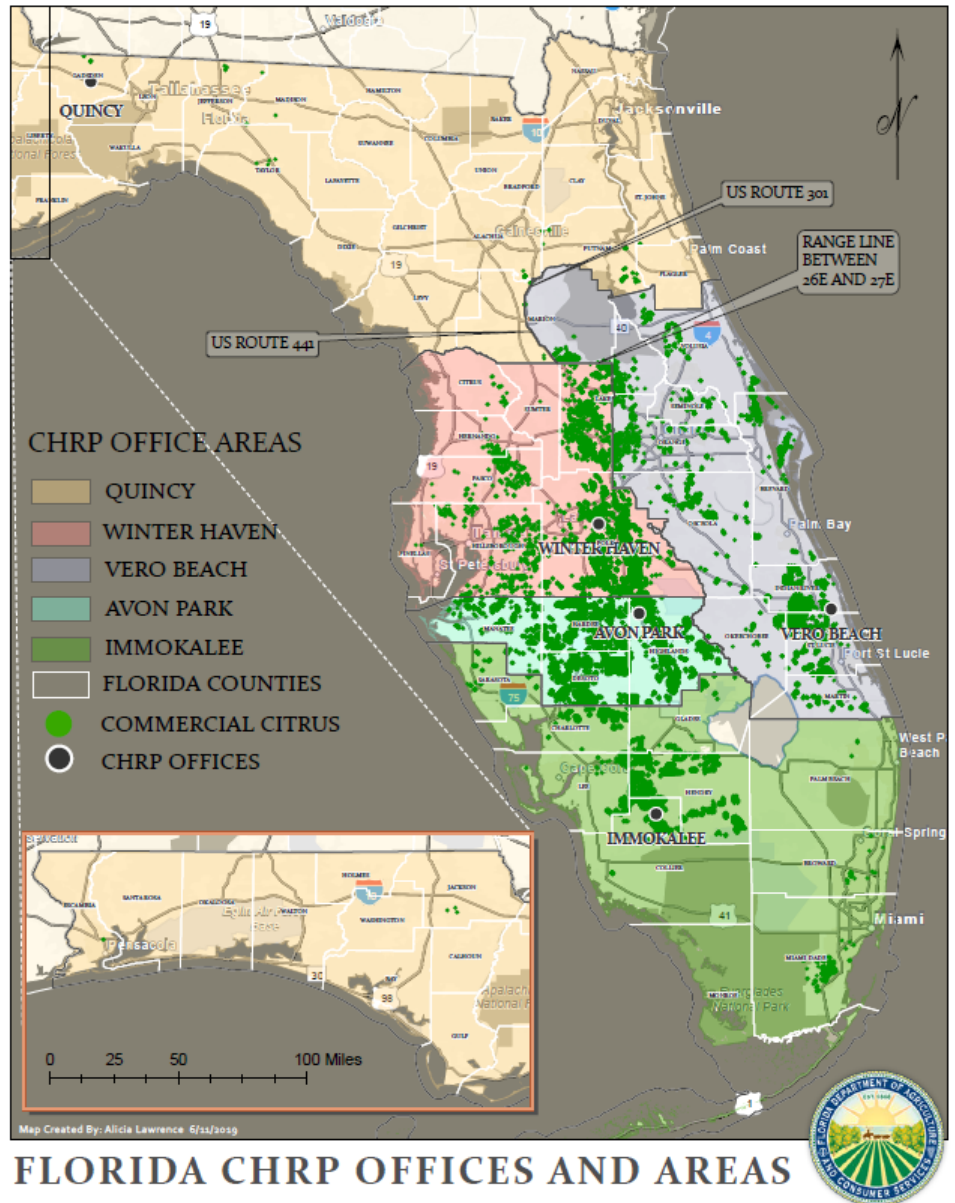
The Cold Hardy Citrus Association is looking to grow their organization and to connect with growers as well as encouraging ideas and innovative ways to market fruit. The goal of the association is to be a voice for cold hardy citrus production. If you are a current or prospective citrus grower in North Florida, South Georgia or South Alabama and are interested in becoming a member of the Cold Hardy Citrus Association, please complete a membership application (last page of the newsletter) and return to: Cold Hardy Citrus Association, 1313 S. Jefferson St, Perry, FL 32348. For more information contact, contact [coldhardycitrus@gmail.com](mailto:coldhardycitrus@gmail.com)

# Citrus Health Response Program Opens Office for North Florida

By: Callie Walker, FDACS Chief Bureau of Pest Eradication and Control

The Citrus Health Response Program, “CHRP,” is pleased to open an office at the UF/IFAS North Florida Research and Education Center in Quincy to provide services to the expanding citrus industry in North Florida. The Citrus Health Response Program was established in 2007 as a cooperative program of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), and the United State Department of Agriculture (USDA) with contributions and support from industry and other stakeholders. It is administered by the Division of Plant Industry (DPI), Bureau of Pest Eradication and Control (PE&C) whose mission is to detect and defend the industry from pests and diseases of citrus and to support management practices to help maintain viability for Florida’s citrus.

There are five CHRP offices statewide (Avon Park, Vero Beach, Immokalee, Winter Haven and Quincy) that provide services throughout the citrus-producing areas including surveys for Citrus Black Spot, Preharvest (for fresh fruit shipment),





Grower Request, Nursery Environs (survey one-half mile around commercial citrus nurseries), Multiple Pest Survey for signs of Huanglongbing (HLB or greening), Asian citrus psyllid (vector of HLB), citrus canker, and other diseases and pests that threaten Florida's multi-billion dollar citrus industry.

The CHRP office located in Quincy will provide services including surveys, sampling as indicated or requested with follow up diagnostic services through the DPI laboratory, regulatory oversight as required by the state including the issuance of compliance agreements to growers/caretakers, harvesters/haulers, and processors, permits for certified citrus waste dumpsites, and various other inspections. CHRP offices also provide assistance and support to growers as well as participate in meetings and distribute information as public outreach in each of their respective areas, answering questions and seeking input from the grower communities to best serve their needs.

Ethan Andrews is the supervisor of the Citrus Health Response Office located in Quincy. Ethan received his Bachelor's degree from South Florida State College. He began his career with FDACS in 2016 as a citrus grove surveyor. While in that role, Ethan inspected commercial citrus groves for various diseases that threaten the industry. After a year in the field, he was promoted to Senior Clerk data entry position in the office. In that position, Ethan created monthly data reports of all scouting survey data, created maps for grove blocks in GIS mapping system, and worked with growers on compliance agreements. Ethan is excited and looking forward to being a part of the growing citrus industry in North Florida.

If you have any questions or want further information, please contact Ethan Andrews at 850-508-6830 or Callie Walker at 863-271-3766.



**Ethan Andrews**  
FDACS CHRP Office  
Supervisor- Quincy  
850-508-6830  
[Ethan.Andrews@FDACS.gov](mailto:Ethan.Andrews@FDACS.gov)



**Callie Walker**  
FDACS Chief Bureau of Pest  
Eradication & Control  
863-271-3766  
[Callie.Walker@FDACS.gov](mailto:Callie.Walker@FDACS.gov)



# Citrus Maintenance Calendar

|                                | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| <b>Routine maintenance</b>     |     |     |     |     |     |      |      |     |      |     |     |     |
| Postemergent herbicide         | X   |     |     |     |     |      | X    |     |      |     |     |     |
| Pre-emergent herbicide         |     | X   |     |     |     |      |      | X   |      |     |     |     |
| Fertilization                  |     |     | X   |     | X   | X    | X*   |     |      |     |     |     |
| Irrigation                     |     |     | X   | X   | X   | X    | X    | X   | X    |     |     |     |
| Prune low branches/rank growth |     |     | X   |     |     |      |      |     |      |     |     |     |
| Tissue analysis                |     |     |     |     |     |      | X    | X   |      |     |     |     |
| Windbreaks                     | X   | X   | X   |     |     |      |      |     |      |     | X   | X   |
| <b>Insect treatment</b>        |     |     |     |     |     |      |      |     |      |     |     |     |
| Citrus leafminers (CLM)        |     |     |     |     | X   |      | X    |     | X    |     |     |     |
| Leaf-footed bugs               |     |     |     |     |     | X    | X    | X   | X    | X   | X   |     |
| Rust mites                     |     |     |     | X   | X   | X    | X    |     |      | X   | X   |     |
| Chewing insect pests           |     |     | X   | X   | X   | X    | X    | X   | X    | X   | X   |     |
| Spider mites                   |     |     | X   | X   | X   | X    |      |     |      |     |     |     |
| Orange dog caterpillar         |     |     | X   |     | X   |      | X    |     | X    |     |     |     |
| Soft-bodied pests              |     |     | X   | X   | X   | X    | X    | X   | X    | X   |     |     |
| Asian citrus psyllids (ACP)    | X*  | X*  | X   | X   | X   | X    | X    | X   | X    | X   |     |     |
| Thrips                         |     |     | X   |     |     |      |      |     |      |     |     |     |
| <b>Disease treatment</b>       |     |     |     |     |     |      |      |     |      |     |     |     |
| Greasy spot                    |     |     |     |     | X   | X    |      | X   |      |     |     |     |
| Alternaria                     |     |     | X   | X   |     |      |      |     |      |     |     |     |
| Melanose                       |     |     |     | X   | X   |      |      |     |      |     |     |     |
| Citrus canker                  |     |     |     | X   | X   | X    | X    |     |      |     |     |     |
| Citrus greening (remove tree)  |     |     |     |     |     |      |      |     |      |     |     |     |
| Citrus scab                    |     |     | X   | X   |     |      |      |     |      |     |     |     |
| Anthracnose                    |     |     | X   | X   |     |      |      |     |      |     |     |     |
| <b>Physiological issues</b>    |     |     |     |     |     |      |      |     |      |     |     |     |
| Fruit sunburn                  |     |     |     |     |     | X    | X    | X   |      |     |     |     |
| Fruit shed                     |     |     |     | X   |     | X    |      |     |      |     |     |     |
| Gum spots                      | X   | X   | X   | X   | X   | X    | X    | X   | X    | X   | X   | X   |
| Fruit split                    |     |     |     |     |     |      |      |     | X    | X   |     |     |





# COLD HARDY CITRUS ASSOCIATION CORNER

Thank you, Danielle, for allowing Cold Hardy Citrus Association (CHCA) to have a corner in the first edition of the Cold Hardy Citrus Connection. This publication is a great way for UF/IFAS Extension to communicate with the growers about what is happening in the cold hardy region relative to citrus.

We are in the spring of a new year, with lots of grove chores to be done in the cold hardy citrus region. Our trees are out of dormancy now and beginning to flower. Some are at petal fall with bees feeding on the sweet nectar. Some of the trees may appear a little “hungry” or nutrient deprived as they break from dormancy. Dormancy is one of the climate characteristics that sets the citrus of the cold hardy region apart from the citrus of other areas.



**Mack Glass, CHCA President**

Photo Credit: Helen A Lockey

Everyone in attendance at the UF/IFAS Citrus Health Forum, presented at the NFREC in Quincy, benefited from some very good presentations by well-informed speakers on many topics relative to our cold hardy region’s citrus industry. We are extremely fortunate to have the support of NFREC and IFAS Extension in our effort to transform from a niche to a true alternative crop industry.

The Cold Hardy Citrus Association had a productive 2019. We were able to complete all the necessary paper work and filings to create a legal entity to represent our growers. We were able to make a monetary contribution to NFREC toward citrus research. As you probably are aware, we lost a valuable asset when Dr. Andersen retired from the University. He has continued to be available on a limited basis as we

lobby to make sure his position is filled. We have worked closely with IFAS to provide educational seminars to our growers on current issues. We have been working to keep our state officials aware of the growing citrus industry in this cold hardy region. We currently have representatives from CHCA serving on several advisory committees such as the Farm Bureau State Citrus Committee.

As we progress through 2020, marketing will be a top priority with a focus on promotion of the Cold Hardy Region Citrus. Please, as members show up and step up by attending meetings, volunteering for committees, sharing your thoughts, and promoting citrus from the cold hardy region in your social media postings.

SAVE THE DATE our Annual COLD HARDY CITRUS ASSOCIATION meeting is September 24, 2020. STAY SAFE as we work through this COVID-19 situation.

-Mack Glass, President CHCA



**Save the Date:  
Cold Hardy Citrus  
Association  
Annual Meeting -  
September 24, 2020**



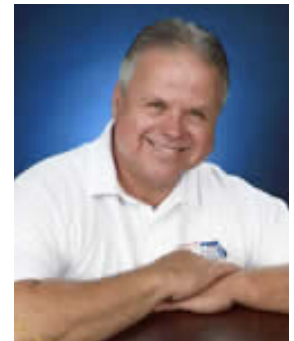
# COLD HARDY CITRUS CONNECTION TEAM



**Dan Fenneman**  
UF/IFAS Ext. - Madison Co.  
184 NW College Loop  
Madison, FL  
850-973-4138  
dfenneman@ufl.edu



**Danielle Sprague**  
UF/IFAS Ext. - Jefferson Co.  
2729 W. Washington Hwy  
Monticello, FL  
850-342-0187  
dsprague@ufl.edu



**Clay Olson**  
UF/IFAS Ext. - Taylor Co.  
Agent IV-Emeritus  
203 Forest Park Drive  
Perry, FL  
cbolson@ufl.edu



**Jake Price**  
UGA Ext. - Lowndes Co.  
2102 East Hill Avenue  
Valdosta, GA  
229-333-5185  
jprice@uga.edu



**Joshua Dawson**  
Fort Valley State University  
Ext. - Lowndes Co.  
229-333-5185  
dawsonj01@fvsu.edu

# Cold Hardy Citrus Association, Inc

## Membership Application

Type of Membership requested (*circle choice*):

**Grower/Producer** - Commercial producers and growers of citrus (30 or more trees)

**Allied** - Processors, suppliers, vendors, re-sellers, brokers, and similar activities

**Honorary** - Those that have rendered notable service to the CHCA or the industry

**Dooryard/Ornamental Growers** - Individuals growing less than 30 trees and are not considered commercial by selling product.

**Education and Advisory** - Individuals directly engaged in extension, teaching, and research, plus agency personnel involved in the protection and regulation of the citrus industry.

*Grower/Producer and Allied Memberships are \$100/year. Only Grower/Producers may vote on Cold Hardy Citrus Association matters and can be elected to the Board of Directors or serve as an Officer. Allied Members have a committee representative on the Board of Directors. There are no dues for the other types of memberships. You may be represented in more than one category.*

Name of Organization/Farm \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Contact Person (First and Last Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Contact Person (First and Last Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (Street, City, State, & Zip Code) \_\_\_\_\_

County and State your grove is established in \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number for Primary Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Email for Primary Contact \_\_\_\_\_

*(your primary source for communication will be your email address, please print clearly)*

Phone Number for Secondary Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Email for Secondary Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need assistance in Marketing your product? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be interested in serving on the Board of Directors or a Committee \_\_\_\_\_

*Information about your grove is voluntary and will be used for regional planning purposes.*

Current number of Trees Planted \_\_\_\_\_ Tree Spacing \_\_\_\_\_

Varieties Planted \_\_\_\_\_ Rootstock Planted \_\_\_\_\_

Year Planted or anticipated to be planted \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this application and payment to: Cold Hardy Citrus Association, 1313 S Jefferson St, Perry, FL 32348. Inquiries to coldhardycitrus@gmail.com**