



2026 TRI-STATE FRUIT & VEGETABLE CONFERENCE

January 29, 2026

UF/IFAS Jackson County Extension, 2741 Penn Ave, Marianna, FL

Link to register: **26TriState.eventbrite.com** **Cost: \$10**
CCA, Florida, and Georgia pesticide applicator CEUs available

7:30 am: Registration & Tradeshow Opens

8:00 am: Welcome- Abbey Smith, UF/IFAS Extension
Jackson County

8:05 am: From Niche to Necessity: Blackberries as a
Superfood Crop for Southeastern Growers: Dr. Muhammad
Shahid, UF/IFAS NFREC- Quincy

8:45 am: Managing Bacterial Wilt in Tomatoes Lessons
Learned from Research & Field Trials: Dr. Sanju Kunwar,
UF/IFAS NFREC- Quincy

9:25 am: Fruit & Vegetable Market Update: Kevin Athearn,
UF/IFAS NFREC- Live Oak

10:05 am: Break

10:45 am: Fresh From Florida Program & Benefits: Gabi Ius,
Division of Marketing, FDACS

11:25 am: Update on Collaborative Project Management of
Anthracnose on Cucurbits: Dr. Pamela Roberts, UF/IFAS
Plant Pathology-SWFREC

12:05 pm: Florida Food Safety Update: Billy Mitchell, UF
Food Science & Human Nutrition Department

12:35 pm: Lunch is Served/Meeting Adjourned

