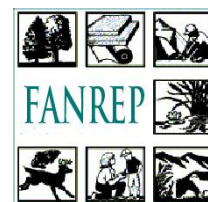


EPAF

Extension Professional Associations of Florida

2008 Professional Improvement Meeting
Lake Buena Vista, Florida

Presentation of Extension Programs
Twenty-Second Annual Proceedings



EPSILON SIGMA PHI- Alpha Delta Chapter
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF EXTENSION 4-H AGENTS
FLORIDA EXTENSION ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES
FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS

Support for publishing the EPAF Proceedings is provided by the
Administration of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service



Extension Professional Associations of Florida

“Riding the Wave of Change”

Buena Vista Palace Hotel & Spa, Lake Buena Vista, Florida

22nd PRESENTATION OF ABSTRACTS

Wednesday, August 13th, 2008

9:00 am– 4:30 pm

Andrew Diller (Escambia County), Co-Abstract Chair and Co-Editor
Carrie Stevenson (Escambia County), Co-Abstract Chair and Co-Editor

EPSILON SIGMA PHI – ESP

Clay Olson (Taylor County).....Westminster

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS – FACAA

Christine Kelly-Begazo (Indian River)Scotland B

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF EXTENSION 4-H AGENTS- FAE4-HA

Bill Heltemes (State 4-H Office).....Scotland A

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES – FEAFCS

Kathy Bryant (Volusia County).....Scotland C

FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE EXTENSION PROFESSIONALS – FANREP

Andrew Diller (Escambia County).....Emerald

EPAF offers our thanks to:

- **Dr. Larry Arrington and Dr. Millie Ferrer** of the UF/IFAS Cooperative Extension Service who funded the distribution of this book and support professional improvement of Extension faculty.
- **The Abstract Chairs of ESP, FACAA, FAE4-HA, FEAFCS and FANREP** who had the difficult task of reviewing and selecting abstracts to be presented.
- **All Extension faculty who submitted abstracts** – continue the excellent work!

MAP OF CONFERENCE FACILITIES

CONVENTION CENTER

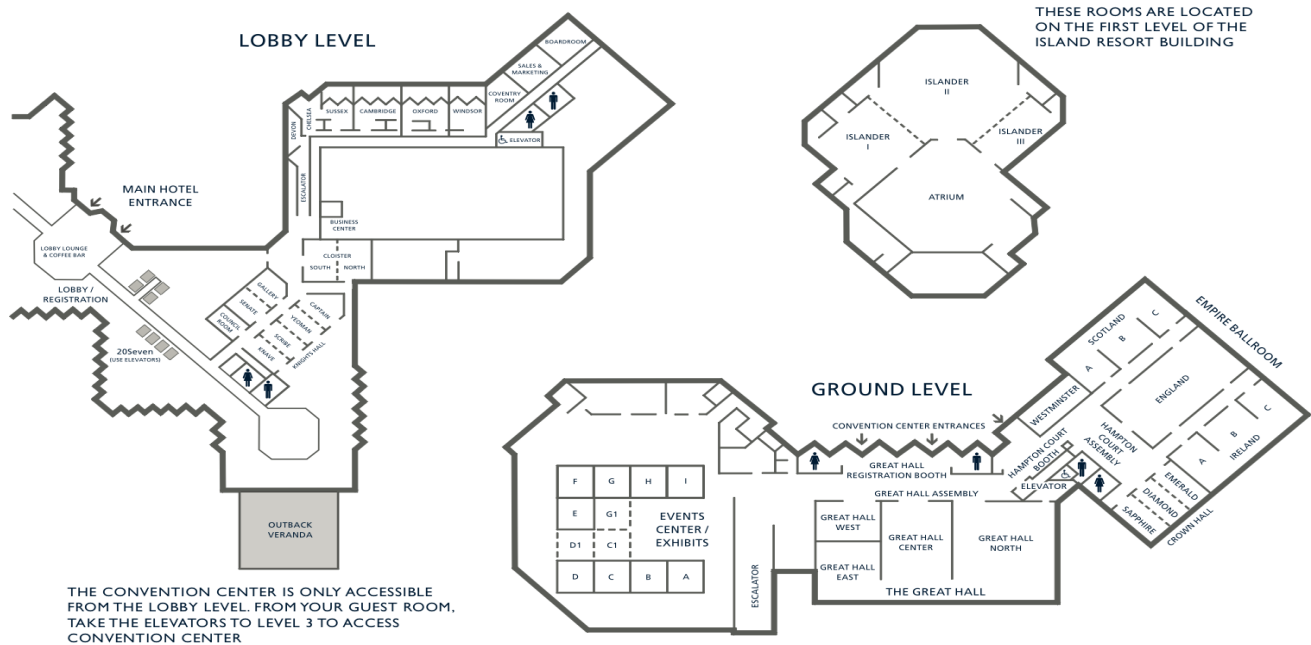


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Visit the EPAF website at <http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu/> for an online version of this abstract book.

Conference archives include previous year's abstracts.

Wednesday, August 13	ESP	FACAA	FAE4-HA
TIME	Westminster	Scotland B	Scotland A
8:45	Introductions	Introductions	Introductions
9:00	Florida Saves: A Statewide Social Marketing Program to Promote Asset Building, M. Gutter, p. 10	Teaching Best Management Practices to Farmers in Rural Communities: Managing Water and Fertilizer Using Drip Irrigation on Small Acreages, J. DeValerio, p. 18	Cooking Camp 101, P. Davis, p. 33
9:15	Adoption of Technology to Improve Organizational Efficiency, S. Gaul, p. 10	The Proof is in the Pudding – Use of “Pilot Programs” to Change Established Behavior in Pest Control Measures, S. Shives, p. 18	Successfully Integrating Military Families and Youth into Your Core Programs, G. Bender, p. 33
9:30	Charters, IRS, and EINs-- OH MY!, M. Norman, p. 11	Best Management Practices Certification and Fertilizer Ordinances, D. Rainey, p. 19	Volunteer Orientation Using 4-H 101 O.W.L., J. Heady & G. Bender, 34
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11:00	Cross-discipline Faculty Team Conducts Fresh Grape Eating Quality Research in Extension Workshop Setting, J. Breman, p. 14	Economic Determinates for using Wildflower Seed as an Alternative Groundcover by State and County Departments of Transportation, G. Harrison, p. 22	Multi-State Youth Dairy Program Increases Knowledge in Dairy Project, B. Broaddus & D. Clements, p. 37
11:15	Model Florida-Friendly Yards, T. Becker, p. 14	Banker Plant Biocontrol Demo Field Day, L. Parker, p. 22	When Middle Management Works, P. Phillippe, p. 37

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Wednesday, August 13	ESP/FACAA/FAE4-HA	FACAA	FAE4-HA
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Wednesday, August 13	FANREP/FACAA	FEAFCS
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**Westminster
Clay Olson, ESP Abstract Chair**

Time	Speaker	Abstract
8:45	Introductions & Procedures	
9:00	Michael Gutter	Florida Saves: A Statewide Social Marketing Program to Promote Asset Building
9:15	Steven Gaul	Adoption of Technology to Improve Organizational Efficiency
9:30	Marilyn Norman	Charters, IRS, and EINs—OH MY!
9:45	Brent Broaddus & Alicia Whidden	Ag-Venture Dairy Station: A New Approach
10:00	Mary Beth Salisbury	Marketing Extension as One
10:15	S. Thompson	Rattler Business Success Club (RBSC)
10:30	Janet Golden	Using Free Blogs to Provide Timely Educational Information to Extension Clientele
10:45	Anita McKinney & Stephynie Perkins	Thinking Outside the Workshop Box: Reaching Young Spenders through Non-traditional Strategies
11:00	Jacque Breman	Cross-discipline Faculty Team Conducts Fresh Grape Eating Quality Research in Extension Workshop Setting
11:15	Tom Becker	Model Florida-Friendly Yards
11:30	Break for Lunch	
1:50	Return from Lunch	
2:00	Lester Muralles	Establishment and Impact of a Vegetable Community Garden
2:15	Maia McGuire	Family Science Nights—a marketing opportunity for Extension

Florida Saves: A Statewide Social Marketing Program to Promote Asset Building **M. Gutter***, State Specialist; **E. Courtney**, Okaloosa County

Objectives: Florida Saves, a part of the America Saves campaign is designed around one simple message, "Build Wealth, Not Debt". Its goals are to motivate people to commit to a specific financial goal. Floridians are encouraged, open savings accounts, pay down debt, or contribute money to savings accounts. **Methods:** The program uses a combination of social marketing and financial education to improve savings. During 2007, Florida along with other states, celebrated Saves week Feb. 24-March 2nd. The Florida Cabinet declared Florida Saves Week at their meeting Feb. 26 in Tallahassee. Florida Saves is coordinated by the Florida Department of Financial Services and UF/IFAS Extension; the coalition included 88 organizations including the local coalitions formed at the county level. Activities and events were conducted in ten counties; many counties issuing their own proclamations at the local level in support of Florida Saves. **Results:** Florida saves was very successful; reaching almost 2 million Floridians through media outreach which included newspaper articles, fliers and brochures, internet advertising, exhibits and billboards. Over 25,000 were directly impacted through classes, emails, handouts, newsletters, etc. The impact of this program will be seen in time, but already 875 savings accounts were opened. UF campus was one of only four campuses in the country to participate. Almost \$14,000 was provided by outside organizations including the Consumer Federation of America to support the initiative. **Conclusions:** The first year of the unified Florida Saves Campaign was successful; with additional time Florida Saves Week 2009 will be even more successful.

Adoption of Technology to Improve Organizational Efficiency **S. Gaul***, **M. Williams**; Nassau County Extension

Objectives: Adoption of new technology in a busy office setting can be difficult for several reasons including time constraints, lack of knowledge and upsetting the status quo. This program was created to introduce electronic scheduling software to the county office. **Methods:** A brief survey was conducted to quantify calendar methods currently in use by faculty and staff. The instrument also determined participants openness to changing their scheduling system and understanding of electronic calendars. Through input from this survey and consultations with IT, it was decided by the group to use Outlook 2007 in order to improve on time management, equipment and conference room use, and scheduling conflicts. Several sessions were conducted to train everyone in the use of this program and to increase the chances of adoption. **Results:** At the end of one month 80% of the personnel had embraced the new technology and were consistently using it to track appointments and schedule meetings. Office staff reported being better able to keep up with faculty which enabled them to inform the clientele of their availability. After six months, 100% of office personnel had adopted the new calendar program. **Conclusions:** Implementing a new technology can be facilitated by obtaining buy-in from participants at the outset. Once the technical issues are resolved, it simply becomes a matter of training and coaching to assist individuals in achieving a level of confidence to alter their behavior to adjust to the new technology.

Charters, IRS, and EINs-- OH MY!

M. Norman*, State 4-H Office, **Amy Duncan**, Citrus County Extension

USDA National 4-H Headquarters requires that youth groups wanting to use the 4-H Name and Emblem must be chartered through the State 4-H Office. Furthermore, those locally based chartered 4-H clubs and affiliated groups who have treasuries must have an IRS Employee Identification Number affiliated with the 4-H name. The process to sign up and successfully document these activities is filled with legal considerations such as Federal tax exemption, EIN forms, 501 (c) 3s-like status, foundations, and more- OH MY. **Objective:** In this presentation, 4-H Club Charters, application forms, EIN numbers, and tax exemption terminology will be described. **Method:** Through a multi-media presentation, the process for registering with the IRS will be outlined, and national fact sheets will be presented. **Results:** Participants will review the success rate of the statewide chartering effort over the last four years, as well as get a preview of the IRS tax exempt website. **Conclusion:** As Florida 4-H reaches for 100% of 4-H Clubs each year to be Chartered, there is greater accountability and consistency across the state. Chartered 4-H Clubs and affiliated groups have the benefit of being able to accept donations from large and small donors, and may even apply for state sales tax exemption.

Ag-Venture Dairy Station: A New Approach

B. Broaddus*, Hillsborough County Extension; **J. Hunter**, Hillsborough County Extension; **H. Jordan**, Hillsborough County Extension; **A. Whidden***, Hillsborough County Extension.

Objectives: 1.) To redesign the twenty-minute dairy station to include multiple teaching approaches and techniques to better engage the participants. 2.) To increase the knowledge gained by the third graders that participate. 3.) To educate third graders on the availability of healthier dairy products options in their diets. **Methods:** The dairy station was redesigned to have four different phases each with a different teaching method. Phase one incorporated lecture style learning including visual aids in the form of posters. In phase two, the youth watch a seven-minute video that visually shows them the process of producing milk from the farm to the fridge. Phase three involved an interactive game where youth volunteers were selected to read questions to their peers taken from information that was already presented. Phase four was hands-on where the class made fruit yogurt parfaits. **Results:** 989 third graders participated in the new dairy station in April. Eighty-five percent of the classes answered all the questions correct on the first attempt. In previous years, only 57% of the classes got the questions correct on the first attempt. **Conclusions:** The results are promising that the new approach incorporating many different methods is helping more youth retain the presented information.

Marketing Extension as One!

Mary Beth R. Salisbury*, Osceola County Extension

Objectives: To market the entire UF/IFAS-Osceola County Extension Service as one. **Methods:** During the fall of 2007 it became evident that volunteers, staff and public did not recognize all of areas of extension as one unit. All faculty members were marketing their programs however connectivity to each other was being missed. A presentation was developed, shown to staff, government officials, civic groups, volunteers and advisory committees. A joint newsletter was developed, and a marketing committee within the office made up of faculty and support staff was developed to review other opportunities for marketing a combined unit. **Results:** Four presentations have occurred; three are scheduled for this summer. Following the presentation to the Board of County Commissioners, seven fellow department directors requested to be added to the list of Extension's partners. Before the director returned to the office, following one civic group presentation, another group had called to request the presentation. **Conclusions:** Clients, staff and government officials need to recognize all of the facets of UF/IFAS Extension services. As we continue to market programs as individual stand alones, we put all of our programs at risk for reduction. Together we stand, divided we will be picked off.

Rattler Business Success Club (RBSC)

S. Thompson*, Leon County Extension (Florida A&M University)

L. Carter, Leon County Extension (Florida A&M University)

Objectives: Redirect, the Entrepreneurial Rural Business Development Project's (ERBDP) resources to rural economically disadvantaged business owners who commit to improve their capacity to acquire and manage substantial loans and grants of \$50,000.00 to \$500,000.00 in a three-year period. **Methods:** The new strategy took the form of the Rattler Business Success Club (RBSC), which provided intensive direct training and coaching in identified areas of weakness that limited acquisition of funding. The new strategy was necessary to increase economic outcomes for clients, because even with a business plan (for-profit) or tax-exemption (non-profit), economically disadvantaged rural business owners were having marginal success securing funding due to poor credit worthiness, financial literacy, computer literacy, and knowledge and skills in how to grow a business. **Results:** Club members are participating in credit worthiness, financial literacy, computer literacy and growing a business education, and receiving coaching as the primary form of reinforcing knowledge and skills learned. **Impact:** Club members' knowledge, behaviors, and attitudes in the identified areas are increasing. Club members are managing, monitoring, and maximizing credit. Debts are being paid off faster, savings are projected, and awareness of spending behavior is increased. Club members are effectively utilizing technology (computer/internet). Evaluation of business strategy and vision for the future and establishing a competitive advantage in the marketplace is improved.

Using Free Blogs to Provide Timely Educational Information to Extension Clientele **J. Golden***, Pinellas County Extension; **S. Curtis**, Pinellas County Extension

According to a 2007 Pinellas County Citizens Survey of more than 800 citizens, the number one preferred communication method for learning about services and information from county departments is through the website. Seventy-nine percent of the respondents have used the internet. Providing distance education opportunities through e-learning to clientele is a priority of Pinellas County Extension, because it will offer existing and new clientele an increased access to learning, provide opportunities for life-long learning, quick access to expertise and a tremendous database of knowledge, and sustainability benefits including saving resources of time and gasoline usage. **Objective:** Develop educational blogs to bring traffic and visibility to the Pinellas County Extension website in order to provide research based education to clientele. **Methods:** Using the free online tools through Blogger and Feedburner, blogs for the Extension *Timely Topics* online newsletter and four program areas were created. On a weekly basis new educational articles and updates for programs are written and posted by Extension faculty and staff.

Results: Within four months of the creation of the blogs, traffic to the website has increased by 31%. **Conclusions:** Blogs allow Extension faculty to reach their clientele with the most up-to-date and timely educational information in the delivery mode that they are requesting. It also promotes clientele to continually return to the website because information is frequently updated.

Thinking outside the Workshop Box: Reaching Young Spenders through Non-traditional Strategies and Tactics

A. McKinney*, Duval County Extension; **S. Perkins***, University of North Florida

Objectives: To increase financial literacy and reduce over-indebtedness among college-age young adults. To determine the most effective marketing and delivery methods to reach this audience. **Methods:** The Duval County Extension Agent worked with the young adults and professor in the University of North Florida Communications Department Marketing Campaigns Class to study this issue. The agent oriented students to the issue in two on-campus workshops and numerous phone and email consultations. The students used quantitative surveys of young adults in Jacksonville and website content analysis to determine participants' financial knowledge and to examine their sources of financial advice. The study also used a qualitative analysis of Duval County Extension Financial Education Program's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. **Results:** The study found that the participants are part of a digital generation that prefers the convenience and accessibility of online resources. Further, the wireless generation balks at the idea of being tethered to a classroom, making Extension's traditional financial classes seem positively analog. Participants did not associate Extension with financial expertise. **Conclusions:** The students presented a marketing program that introduces Bill and Penny, two young adults making financial decisions about managing money and debt. TV, radio, and print ads were produced. The campaign leads young adults to a MySpace page with postings for workshops, events, and content information. It will also house podcasts and distance learning videos. This audience can be reached with vital financial information, but Extension must adjust its strategies.

Cross-discipline Faculty Team Conducts Fresh Grape Eating Quality Research in Extension Workshop Setting

J. Breman*, Union County Extension; **A. Simmone**, Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences; **R. Hochmuth**, Suwannee County Extension; **L. Landrum**, Suwannee County Extension; **M. Taylor**, Suwannee County Extension; **K. Evans**, Youth and Community Sciences; **C. Peavy**, Columbia County Extension; and **D. Goode**, Columbia County Extension.

Clientele requested information about which grape cultivars to plant for the fresh fruit market and home use, which had good eating (sensory) quality. No sensory grape quality evaluation data was included in EDIS grape publications. **Objectives:** There was a need to develop sensory grape data for recommended grape cultivars for fresh consumption. **Methods:** A grape field day was conducted at NFREC – Suwannee Valley. A cross-discipline team (Family Consumer Sciences, Horticulture, Technicians, NFREC support staff, Master Gardeners and Master Food Volunteers) incorporated a formal consumer taste panel (American Society of Testing Materials procedures) as part of the grape field day. The industry standard cultivar was included with four recommended ones in the test with 86 workshop volunteers ($n = 75$ data sets that could be used). **Results:** Three of the five recommended cultivars were statistically significantly higher in overall consumer preference than the other two. Results were disseminated via website, e-newsletter, factsheet, Florida State Horticulture Society Proceedings, and a new EDIS publication (in press). **Conclusions:** A cross-discipline Extension team can conduct applied research that addresses a clientele need. Results were delivered and extended efficiently to clientele, crediting the team.

Model Florida-Friendly Yards

T. Becker*, Lee County Extension

Objectives: The agent sought to assist hundreds of extension volunteers, stakeholder groups and the general public seeking some type of Florida-Friendly yard designation. Yards include hundreds of privately-owned properties. FYN landscapes apply all nine Florida-Friendly landscaping principles. **Methods:** Both quantitative and qualitative criteria were used to establish methods and/or tour site with volunteer hosts and becoming recognized and/or certified, privately-owned or public yards or demonstration landscapes. **Results:** Several different yard recognition and certification programs are part of the process for Lee County Extension staff and volunteers to show 'model' commercial or residential Florida-Friendly yards. Certification programs included the FGBC Green Home Standard Award and the Florida-Friendly Community Awards program. Programs for homeowners include the Florida-Friendly Yard Recognition program, the Cape's "Extreme Lawn Makeover" program and the first annual Lee County Yard and Garden Sunday tour featuring ten Florida-Friendly yards. Multiple FYN concept demonstration sites can be found across the county. **Conclusions:** After multi-year FYN outreach programs, 144 homeowners have created model Florida Yards. Other demonstrations include six Extreme Lawn Makeover sites, Ten builder/developer model home sites, eight FYN demonstration landscapes and one development designated as an Outstanding Florida-Friendly Community.

Establishment and Impact of Vegetable Community Garden

L. Muralles*, Gadsden County Extension.

Objective: To plan and establish a Community Garden in Gretna to provide an alternative activity for interested community members. **Methods:** Community members met and expressed their interest in having a vegetable community garden. Land was acquired from one of the community members and land preparations were carried out immediately. Donated compost was incorporated at 5 tons per acre. The city of Gretna installed running water. The Garden plan layout was made, beds were prepared accordingly and a drip irrigation system was established by the garden members. Work was organized and carried out twice per week by the members of the Garden Club. **Results:** The garden was grown organically during the spring and fall of 2007. The community garden consists of approximately 1/10 acre. An estimated \$5,000.00 worth of produce were harvested and donated to the elderly and handicap members of the community and produce was also shared among the gardening members. So much community interests have been generated that a grant was given to the club to continue their work and purchase materials. In addition, a match fund was given to the club in order to increase their donations. **Conclusion:** The community of Gretna and its surroundings have benefited from the Community Garden. Through this community initiative, active members have alternate activities within their own community. There are 15 active members at the garden club and a few occasional members. This project has provided community members with evening activities and a source of fresh farm healthy produce.

Family Science Nights—a marketing opportunity for Extension

M.P. McGuire*, St. John's County Extension

Objectives: County Extension Offices must continually try to find ways to educate clientele about the wide range of topics that Extension can address. Florida has approximately two million elementary school-aged children. Many school districts are trying to increase science education opportunities for elementary students and their families. **Methods:** County Extension Offices can partner with local elementary schools to hold a Family Science Night. Family Science Nights are typically a 90-minute to two-hour evening program where students and their families visit booths featuring hands-on science-related activities. Older family members help younger family members to follow the instructions for the activity, so all family members are involved in the knowledge gain. From 200-600 people attend these events, depending on the size of the school and the ways in which the event has been promoted. All program areas within Extension can be involved. Sample activities might be as follows: FCS—hand-washing; Horticulture—making a living necklace; 4-H—learning lab activity; Agriculture—identifying what part of a plant various food items come from; Sea Grant/Marine—keep or release fishing game; Community Development—Enviroscape model. **Results:** By sponsoring the event, the County Extension Office's name will be linked to it, and families will be aware that the activities provided during the evening are all part of Extension's programming. **Conclusion:** Family Science Nights provide an opportunity to educate a large number of potential clients about Extension, while supporting the school districts' mission to improve science education for elementary students.

FACAA Schedule

**Scotland B (*unless otherwise noted)
Christine Kelly-Begazo, FACAA Abstract Chair**

Time	Speaker	Abstract
8:45	Introductions & Procedures	
9:00	Jim DeValerio	Teaching Best Management Practices to Farmers in Rural Communities: Managing Water and Fertilizer Using Drip Irrigation
9:15	Sylvia Shives	The Proof is in the Pudding—Use of “Pilot Programs” to Change Established Behavior in Pest Control Measures
9:30	Donald Rainey	Best Management Practices Certification and Fertilizer Ordinance
9:45	Rick Godke	Extension Budget is Saved by Tracking Extension Success
10:00	Larry T. Figart	An Evaluation of the Arborist Certification and Education Program (A.C.E.) in Northeast Florida
10:15	B. J. Jarvis	Charting a Course to Green Pasco County: A Development Perspective
10:30	Gary England	Greening Summit: Extension’s Response to a Disease that Threatens the Florida Citrus Industry
10:45	Les Harrison	Consumer Acceptance and Market Potential for Florida Sub-Tropical Peach
11:00	Les Harrison	Economic Determinates for using Wildflower Seed as an Alternative Groundcover by State and County Departments of Transportation
11:15	Lelan Parker	Banker Plant Biocontrol Demo Field Day
11:30	Break for Lunch	

<u>Time</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Abstract</u>
1:50	Return from Lunch	
2:00	Barton Wilder	Comparison of Two Smutgrass (Sporobolus) Species Common to Florida Pastures
2:15	Ryan Atwood	"Certified Pile Burner" Certification has Advantages for Agricultural Pile Burning
2:30	Jack Tichenor	Lawn Sprinkler Tune-Up Kits
2:30*	Cynthia Sanders	Marketing County Extension Programs through Local Government (Westminster)
2:30*	Bradley Burbaugh	Developing an Economic Impact Brochure for Agriculture and Natural Resources (Emerald Room)
2:45	Wendy Wilber	Master School Garden Volunteers
2:45*	Mark Warren	A Calculated Approach to Comparing Different Stores Forages (Emerald Room)
3:00	Libbie Johnson & Carrie Stevenson	Raising Agriculture & Natural Resources Awareness through 4-H Sponsored Events at the Langley Bell 4-H Center, Escambia County
3:00*	Jim DeValerio & Rebecca Jordi	Expansion of the Volunteer Based "Buzz Buster" Mosquito Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Team Within and Beyond Bradford County, Florida (Emerald Room)
3:15	Doug Mayo	Perennial Peanut Establishment Trial
3:15*	Mary Elizabeth Henry	Effectiveness of Predatory Mites against Twospotted Spider Mite in the Landscape (Emerald Room)
3:30	Martha Thomas	Beef Cattle Ultra Sound Evaluation
3:30*	Robert D. Halman	A Partnership to Protect Livestock and Endangered Species (Emerald Room)
3:45	Elena Toro	Complying with Regulations to Sell Dressed Poultry and Eggs: Is it Possible?
3:45*	Henrique Mayer	Designing and Implementing an Integrated Pest Management Program for Hispanic Landscapers (Emerald Room)

Teaching Best Management Practices to Farmers in Rural Communities: Managing Water and Fertilizer Using Drip Irrigation

J. DeValerio*, Bradford County Extension; **B. Hochmuth**, Multi-County Extension Agent, Vegetable Crops, **M. Bauer**, UF/IFAS BMP Implementation Team

Objectives: The objectives of this extension outreach were to use one farmer's misfortune as an opportunity to teach him and his neighbors the importance of using Best Management Practices (BMPs) and the advantages of using drip irrigation to manage water and fertilizer for crop production. This outreach targeted a farmer in a minority community who has farmed over fifty years, was not reached using conventional advertising and has not worked with the extension service. **Methods:** After realizing a drastic yield reduction from his drought ridden 0.2 acre 2007 strawberry crop, the farmer agreed to trying drip irrigation for the 2008 crop. Agents assisted the farmer over the entire cropping cycle by showing him how to install drip irrigation and use a fertilizer injection system. After the crop was established, weekly visits were made to demonstrate fertilizer management based on soil, sap and tissue testing. These visits provided the opportunity to teach the importance of recording fertilizer and irrigation events. Additional opportunities to teach pest scouting techniques and the value of keeping cost, yield and pesticide application records were also realized. **Results:** Towards the end of the crop cycle workshops targeting local and regional farmers were conducted. According to his own estimates, the farmer used half of the water and fertilizer that he would normally use to produce a crop. Five other area farmers plan to work with extension and convert to using drip irrigation. **Conclusions:** On-farm demonstrations of technologies that are relevant to clientele create an opportunity for technology transfer.

The Proof is in the Pudding – Use of “Pilot Programs” to Change Established Behavior in Pest Control Measures Used in Ornamental Nurseries in Manatee County

S. Shives*, Manatee County Extension; **K. Oliver**, Manatee County Extension.

Traditionally, many nursery growers do not change their practices very easily. Their usual response to “have you tried ...?” is “I’ve always done it this way and it worked.” By the 1990’s circumstances dictated that the old ways did not work any more. **Objective:** To prove to growers that IPM is effective in controlling pests while also cost-effective. Supplying a scout to monitor pest levels reduces the grower's risk because they can ensure immediate action if pest levels rise. **Methods:** Plots were initially selected that had a pest population present. The grower was interviewed to determine which chemicals had been used in the past six weeks to ensure the residual activity of any pesticides used would not harm the beneficials. Initially, the scout would examine the plot by examining 5 leaves on 20 random plants to determine how many leaves on the plant were positive for pests before any beneficial insects were used. The counts were repeated weekly. This gave the initial and weekly pest levels so we could determine how effective the beneficial insects were. Graphs were made of the data counts so the growers could visualize the effects the beneficial insects had on the pest population. **Results:** The Pilot Programs were so effective that most of the initial participants are currently using IPM, and because of those trials other growers in the county are presently using IPM.

Best Management Practices Certification and Fertilizer Ordinances

D. Rainey*, Sarasota County Extension; **P. Dessaint**, Manatee County Extension

Objectives: Green Industry Professionals will receive the Best Management Practices (BMPs) Certification to meet the requirements of local fertilizer ordinances. Between 2006 and 2009, approximately 2,000 in Sarasota and adjacent counties will learn the BMPs, which address fertilizer, pesticide and natural resource management to reduce non-point pollution in urban communities. They will attain at least a 10% knowledge gain, and an 80% pass rate as measured by pre/post-exams. After passing the post-exam, these individuals will receive their required BMPs Certification as mandated by local fertilizer ordinances. **Methods:** 1) Engage in extensive joint planning, teaching and evaluation with county and state faculty, industry representatives, and advisory committees. 2) Integrate with other county departments as the lead educational facilitator. 3) Train support staff to produce uniform registration and other administrative procedures. 4) Train Green Industry volunteers to teach Spanish BMPs classes. 5) Organize class handouts and online materials to provide additional information and post-class support. 6) Post certified participants on local extension website. 7) Evaluate impacts using one year follow-up surveys. **Results:** Through March 2006, 809 professionals attended the BMP program. Of these, 785 (97%) took the post-exam, with 704 (90%) achieving a passing grade thereby demonstrating the positive impact the BMP program has on our target population. **Conclusions:** Based on high attendance, pre/post-exam results, class evaluations, and a one-year follow-up survey, our collaborative efforts demonstrate a successful BMP Certification Program. In order to provide greater uniformity and consistency of program delivery and content, we plan to have larger scale regional training.

Extension Budget is Saved by Tracking Extension Success

R. Godke*, Duval County Extension

Is your office frustrated by complex requests for Extension impact data with a short turn-around time? Is information retrieval and storage in your current IT system difficult to access and customize? If the answer to these questions is 'yes', the Extension Success Tracker model program can help you. Sharing knowledge and information with all types of stakeholders is critical in this climate of budget cutbacks. Accessing the interconnected information and impacts produced by programming staff is critical when emphasizing the work of the entire Extension office as a team. The Extension Success Tracker model program improves the sharing and management of information even though the staff size shifts and if turnover occurs. **Objectives:** Participants will evaluate current and anticipated information retrieval needs, design standard formats and guidelines, and manage the tracking process and upkeep. **Methods:** As the model program developed from a prototype in the Excel® program, it was modified and expanded based on formative evaluations completed by users. Following, continuous improvement monitoring the revised spreadsheet was released for full-time use by 13 users. **Results:** The model program was presented to other departments in the City of Jacksonville for review and adoption. This program can be completed monthly by each agent in 20 minutes, a 30-minute reduction over previous techniques. **Conclusions:** The value of the program is demonstrated every time requests for specific, targeted data can be retrieved and presented to stakeholders in a speedy manner. The use of this program actually saved \$300,000 from being cut in an impromptu budget hearing in fall 2007.

An Evaluation of the Arborist Certification and Education Program (A.C.E.) in Northeast Florida. Does the Program increase the Standard of Care given to Trees by Program Participants?

L.T. Figart Urban Forestry Extension Agent, Duval County Extension Service.

This abstract summarizes an evaluation of the program effectiveness of the Arborist Certification and Education (ACE) program. **Objectives:** Evaluate the program effectiveness of the ACE (Arborist Certification and Education) program by measuring three variables among tree professionals. **Methods:** The evaluation analyzed the results of a survey that was distributed via e-mail to 129 names that were collected from the ISA member database, extension correspondence and attendance sheets from extension workshops including the ACE program. The survey instrument was created using an internet based survey tool. This tool can be found at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com>. It was possible to create and distribute the survey at no cost. The three dependent variables were the standard of arboricultural care, if they have attained ISA Certified Arborist designation, and whether their income level has increased. The independent variable was whether or not they attended the ACE program. **Results:** There was not a significant difference between ACE Participants and Non-ACE Participants. Eighty three percent of respondents provided a high standard of care. Forty two percent of ACE attendees have gotten their Certified Arborist designation and forty percent view arborist certification as something that can increase income. **Conclusions:** There was no measurable difference between the answers given by the program participants and the non program participants. However, there are several reasonable arguments that may cast some doubt on the lack of program impact.

Charting a Course to Green Pasco County: A Development Perspective

B.J. Jarvis, Pasco County Cooperative Extension

Pasco County is one of the State's fastest growing counties for new development. Many programs in west-central Florida exist to educate homeowners and Homeowner Associations once a development is built but few activities influence the builder/developer before challenges are literally "poured in concrete". **Objectives:** To increase the sustainability of Pasco's natural resources by educating builder/developers, community leaders, and residents through a green-building awareness workshop. **Methods:** During the half-day workshop, our goal was to focus on the building process at conception, showcasing green building initiatives as viable, preferable and profitable options for new facilities. Concise segments highlighted water and energy conservation, recycling initiatives, and lessons learned panels from developers and government hosted by community leaders from nearby counties. **Results:** Over 200 participants registered online for this workshop. Panelists confirmed that "eco-friendly" can be profitable as more than a half dozen, upscale "Green" communities are currently being built. The County school system proudly showcased the first certified US Green Building Council LEED K-12 School. **Conclusions:** More than 75% of participants submitting an evaluation said they would attend another such event and took away at least one concrete action they planned to implement. A participating builder proclaimed that "Green home building is at a tipping point". One participant indicated that he planned to bring his light manufacturing plant to Pasco because of the vision demonstrated at this event. Extension planners believe this was a good first-effort at reaching builder/developers, community leaders, and residents.

Greening Summit: Extension's Response to a Disease that Threatens the Florida Citrus Industry

G. England*, Sumter County Extension; **M. Zekri**, Hendry County Extension; **W. Oswalt**, Polk County Extension; **G. Hurner**, Highlands County Extension; **S. Futch**, Hardee County Extension; **R. Atwood**, Lake County Extension

Objectives: Increase the knowledge level of at least 70% of the 375 registered citrus owners, production managers and other personnel of the threat to the viability of the commercial citrus industry in Florida caused by Huanglongbing (HLB), also known as citrus greening, and about the best available strategies that may be employed to combat this devastating disease.

Methods: County citrus extension faculty from around the state obtained grant funding for programming related to HLB and its management from the Florida Citrus Research Coordinating Council in 2007. A portion of the funding, along with \$8,300 from sponsorships, provided for educational programs designed to increase industry knowledge of HLB, ultimately leading to the statewide Greening Summit being held on April 8, 2008 in Avon Park, Florida. The agents organized the program, invited local and international speakers experienced in working with HLB and evaluated the program through a survey they designed. **Results:** Respondents to the post program survey indicated an average rating of 8.4 on a 1-10 scale (1 = no value 10 = great value), for the overall program. One hundred percent of the respondents noted a knowledge gain that would be shared with others, while 80% planned on making management changes in their operations due to program content. **Conclusions:** The Greening Summit was a successful program which provided important and useful information about HLB to key citrus industry personnel. A follow up survey within six months of the program will be designed to document practice changes among the attendees.

Consumer Acceptance and Market Potential for Florida Sub-Tropical Peach

G. Harrison*, Leon County Extension Office; **J. Chaparro**, Department of Horticulture Sciences; **E. Harrison**, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Objectives: To quantify consumer acceptance of the Florida developed sub-tropical peaches and to estimate market potential. **Methods:** Executed a consumer acceptance survey to measure consumer acceptance of Florida produced sub-tropical peaches and, through generally accepted statistical methods, estimate the market potential for Florida produced peach sales. **Results:** The USDA - Federal State Market Improvement Program (FSMIP) grant funded the survey research in five eastern and mid-west cities. Randomly selected individuals were interviewed about their preferences for fruit in general and, peach in particular. Price and value perceptions were included in the data gathered. Standard demographic data was used to fragment the sample universe into identifiable market segments. Market segments with viable economic potential have been identified. Sub-tropical yield data from the Horticulture Sciences Department have been employed to develop an acreage estimate. **Conclusions:** Florida has potential to develop a peach industry based on the new sub-tropical peaches cultivars developed in the Department of Horticulture Sciences. Consumer acceptance is positive and producers have an opportunity to a market window (April and early May) when no other peaches are available in the western hemisphere. Competition for labor will require that producers capture the early market high prices. Development of new and improved cultivars will be essential the long term success of the industry. Also, control of the cultivar rights will minimize oversupply in the market place with the expected price decline. Citrus growers with available land will have a decided cost advantage over producers purchasing land to enter the Florida peach market.

Economic Determinates for using Wildflower Seed as an Alternative Groundcover by State and County Departments of Transportation

G. Harrison*, Leon County Extension Office; **J. Norcini**, Department of Environmental Horticulture.

Objectives: To identify the regional ecotype wildflower seed with growth and flowering characteristics which offer an economically viable groundcover alternative on right-of-ways for State and County Departments of Transportation (DOTs). **Methods:** To examine cost data from State and County DOTs using regional ecotype wildflower and traditional ground covers. **Results:** The use of selected regional ecotype wildflower seed offer State and County DOTs potential cost saving in several areas. The primary savings relate to the areas of mowing and maintenance of public road right-of-ways. Specifically, the mowing schedule is less frequent to gain the maximum benefit from cultivation of wildflowers. The use of multiple species prolongs the blooming period. Labor, fuel consumption, equipment maintenance, and equipment replacement are the major savings. Regional ecotype wildflower seed cost are higher than traditional ground cover seed, but not so expensive as to offset the aggregate savings. A change in “mowing mindset” must occur to maximize DOTs savings. There is also a learning curve relating to wildflower cultivation which will affect the level of success with the conversion. **Conclusions:** Regional ecotype wildflower seed offer an economically viable and visually pleasing alternative to traditional right-of-way ground covers. Savings will become more apparent as fuel prices rise in a tight budget climate. Limited supplies of seed will inhibit growth of this market segment unless more growers are enticed to grow for this market segment.

Banker Plant Biocontrol Demonstration Field Day

L. Parker*, Orange County Extension; **J. Popenoe**, Lake County Extension.

Objectives: Biological control is one of the most environmentally friendly control methods for pests, but the most difficult to learn. Greenhouse and nursery growers have been slow to adopt biocontrol partly because of the complexity in identifying, purchasing and monitoring biocontrol agents. Two banker plant systems to control the two most common greenhouse pests – whiteflies and spidermites – have been used in a grower demonstration project.

Methods: In March the two banker plant systems were introduced into a commercial greenhouse located in Apopka, FL. The grower used a banker plant system which utilized a predator reared corn. The grower placed the banker plant system into the greenhouse crop. Once the grower felt secure with the effects of biocontrol a field day was arranged.

Results: Potential grower acceptance of biocontrol was determined by the willingness of growers to undertake banker plant systems within their greenhouses. Acceptance of biocontrol was measured using a survey method. **Conclusions:** Banker plants provided good general control of spider mites and whiteflies. Surveys indicated the problems growers have with adoption of banker plant systems. Future educational programs will address banker plant system issues. Grower adoption of biocontrol strategies will reduce pesticide usage, make the environment safer and help growers save money with an inexpensive control approach.

Comparison of Two Smutgrass (*Sporobolus*) Species Common to Florida Pastures

B. Wilder*, Alachua County Extension; **B. Sellers**, University of Florida-IFAS Range Cattle Research and Education Center; **J. Ferrell**, University of Florida-IFAS Agronomy Dept

Objectives: Multiple, concurrent field experiments were conducted to determine if adjuvants improved hexazinone efficacy on giant smutgrass. **Methods:** The first segment investigated the effects of varying amounts of the non-ionic surfactant Optima, while the second segment investigated a variety of other adjuvants and their effect on hexazinone efficacy. All treatments received hexazinone at a rate of 1.12 kg/ha. Smutgrass control was visually estimated at 1, 3, 6, and 12 month intervals after herbicide application. After 1 year, all treatments provided at least 90% control with no statistical difference between the treatments. Other adjuvants were also investigated on July 31, 2006 with hexazinone at 1.1 kg/ha. These included MSO, Optima, Kinetic, Dyne-Amic, and Induce. Hexazinone at 1.1 kg/ha was also applied without an adjuvant as a control. Smutgrass control was visually estimated at 1, 3, 6, and 12-month intervals after herbicide application. **Results:** After 1 year, all treatments provided at least 90% control with no statistical difference between the treatments. **Conclusions:** Therefore, it can be concluded that adjuvants do not improve hexazinone efficacy on smutgrass control. **Objectives:** An additional experiment was conducted to determine the optimum hexazinone rate for control of two smutgrass biotypes: giant smutgrass and small smutgrass. **Methods:** The small smutgrass field experiments were conducted at in Alachua County. The giant smutgrass experiments were conducted in Hardee County. Smutgrass control was visually estimated at 1, 3, 6, and 12 month intervals after herbicide application. **Results:** Using regression analysis, the optimum hexazinone rate for 90% control of giant smutgrass was 1.11 kg ai/ha. **Conclusions:** For small smutgrass optimum hexazinone rate for 90% control was 1.16 kg ai/ha. This indicates that although two smutgrass biotypes vary greatly in size, no differences in hexazinone sensitivity was observed.

“Certified Pile Burner” Certification has Advantages for Agricultural Pile Burning.

R. Atwood*, Lake County Extension; **C. Demers**, School of Forest Resources and Conservation; **J. Brenner**, Florida Division of Forestry; **M. Zekri**, Hendry County Extension

The Florida Division of Forestry (DOF) regulates all burn authorizations throughout Florida. “Certified pile burner” (CPB) is a new special designation that may be obtained through training, testing, and by demonstrating a burn for the local DOF district. The CPB designation allows for agricultural or land clearing pile burning on marginal weather days when non-certified burners cannot receive authorization. The CPB are also allowed longer hours to burn piles (finish two hours later). **Objectives:** To provide training and designation to individuals who burn piles, educating them on topics such as fire weather, smoke management, safety, planning and implementation, and public relations. **Methods:** IFAS is working with the DOF to conduct workshops around the state. For an individual to become a CPB they must get a grade of greater than 70% on the CPB exam and demonstrate to the local DOF office that they can follow the correct procedures for burning piles in Florida. **Results:** Eleven training workshops have been conducted statewide since the program’s inception (Fall 2006), with three more currently planned. In addition, 498 CPB certificates have been awarded to individuals. **Conclusions:** This training is educating agricultural producers and providing them more opportunities to burn. Due to the demand for this program, future classes will utilize polycom for statewide trainings. Currently less than one percent of pile burners in the state of Florida have the CPB designation. As this program continues, measurable impacts comparing complaints and accidents from pre and post program will be compiled and summarized.

Lawn Sprinkler Tune up Kits

J. Tichenor*, Manatee County Extension

Objectives: An essential but misunderstood adjustment on automatic lawn sprinkler systems for optimum water savings and lawn health is setting the correct watering time for each irrigation zone. IFAS recommends applying three quarters inch of water per irrigation event but the controllers are programmed in minutes of watering time for each sprinkler zone, not inches of water. Many homeowners are puzzled by this “disconnect” and just guess at their controller settings, often over watering. **Methods:** The Agent developed 600 lawn sprinkler tune up kits for individuals wanting to improve their lawn irrigation system. Simple instructions and colorful illustrations explained the four-step tune up and ten sprinkler calibration gauges were included in the package to provide a way to find the correct watering times. Kits were distributed at numerous extension mini-workshops. **Results:** Participants developed a better understanding and were empowered to reduce water waste in their irrigation system by following the four-step tune up process. An average reduction in water usage of over 4,500 gallons annually per participant was noted in the Agent’s informal water meter monitoring follow-up study. **Conclusions:** Individuals are interested in and willing to improve their lawn irrigation systems if a convenient method is available. Significant water saving measures can be implemented by home owners. Participants gladly accepted the kits but didn’t always use them fully and mailed back only 19 (3%) of the user response cards.

Marketing County Extension Programs through Local Government.

C. Sanders, Alachua County Extension

Objectives: The Alachua County Rural Concerns Advisory Committee Tour is to increase awareness and educate local government officials of the importance of Agriculture in Alachua County. **Methods:** The Alachua County Rural Concerns Advisory Committee is made up of a group of individuals appointed by the Commission to serve a 2 year term. As the Extension Director, I represent the Extension Office on the committee. Each year our committee hosts the “Rural Concerns Ag Tour”. I have been instrumental in the planning and partnering with other government agencies to promote this tour. The tour has included tours of packing sheds, cattle ranches, nurseries, invasive weed sites, grazing on conservation lands, and an IFAS research center. **Results:** The Rural Concerns Ag Tour has been held for the past 3 years, over that period the participation has grown from 20 participants 48 in 2008. Participants have included county and city officials, state legislators, and county employees. As a result of this year’s tour, participants toured the UF Research Unit in Citra, FL. At the conclusion of the tour, several elected officials expressed their appreciation of learning more about IFAS, Extension, and Research. **Conclusion:** The Rural Concerns Committee purpose is to establish the importance of rural agricultural lands and assist in the evaluation of policies that affect those lands. This committee gives me the opportunity to promote agriculture and Extension to clientele and local government agencies.

Developing an Economic Impact Brochure for Agriculture and Natural Resources

B. Burbaugh, Duval County Extension

Most Floridians know very little about the social and economic significance of production agriculture and its associated industries. The truth about Florida agriculture is that it produces over 280 essential commodities to households throughout North America and to 100 international trading partners (FDACS, 2008). In 2007, an annual economic impact of nearly \$88 billion was reported for agriculture and related industries in Florida. **Objectives:** Provide unbiased insight into the economic impact of agricultural and natural resources systems at the county level. Raise public awareness regarding the financial contribution of agricultural and natural resources to the local economy. Advance the reality that agriculture is the most stable contributor to Florida's economy. **Methods:** Use research from IFAS (Hodges et al.) and data from the Property Appraiser to develop an economic impact brochure. Modify the format of a previously developed brochure by Farm Bureau, Cattlemen's Association and IFAS to convey the importance of local agricultural systems. **Results:** A user-friendly and visually appealing means for disseminating the economic, employment and revenue impacts of agriculture and natural resources at the county level. Provide a quick reference for policymakers and extension advocates. Improve sensitivity to local agriculture's vital role in the community. **Conclusions:** Agriculture does not begin at the supermarket. With the right informational tools, such as, The Economic Impact of Agriculture and Natural Resources brochure we can help bridge the gap to better public awareness and understanding of our industry.

Master School Garden Volunteers

Wendy Wilber* Alachua County Extension Service

Objectives Gardening with children provides a wonderful way for Master Gardeners to volunteer in their community. However there are barriers that can inhibit Master Gardeners from selecting youth gardening as a volunteer job. They can be overwhelmed by the idea of working with a group of 2nd graders, they may feel that they don't know the appropriate lessons to teach in the garden, or they may be lacking in 'hands on' youth gardening skills. By training Master Gardeners as 'Master School Garden Volunteers' these barriers are lifted and the MG's go on to be successful youth garden volunteers. **Methods** Starting in 2004 the Alachua County MG's have had the opportunity to get extra training specifically in school gardens, we called this training *Master School Garden Volunteers*. Since most Master Gardeners already know how to grow things well, this three day training highlights more of the classroom skills needed for working in the schools and with children. Topics covered are: 1. Getting growing 2. Working with children 3. Working with teachers 4. Funding 5. Evaluating the experience. Then we had each Master Gardener "student teach" in a 4-H school garden. **Results** The majority of the trainees went on to be very successful in the school garden they were placed in. **Conclusions** For Master Gardeners to be successful 4-H youth volunteers they need a youth gardening skill set that provides knowledge and confidence, *Master School Garden Volunteer* training gives them the training they may need to achieve their volunteer goals.

A Calculated Approach to Comparing Different Stored Forages

M. Warren*, Flagler County Extension

Stored forages are a staple nutrient source for livestock managers. These highly variable feeds represent a third of an operations production expenses. However, the willingness to trade these products based on measured values has been limited. Educational efforts have encouraged managers to utilize analysis to make quantitative comparisons, but the acceptance of this technology has been handicapped by the complexity of considering multiple properties simultaneously. **Objectives:** To provide an electronic tool and instruction that will assist forage producers, consumers, and educators in making calculated comparisons based on chemical and physical data. **Methods:** The "Stored Forage Calculator" along with supporting literature and instructions will be made accessible to county faculty and those within the industry via the World Wide Web. This tool will provide managers with a practical method to perform these comparisons, and also serve as an educational tool to illustrate the influences of production variables and assist with forage management decisions. Contact information will be required for access to the materials and will be used to make follow up surveys for evaluation. **Results:** As an educational tool this calculator has been used to modify current silage production practices resulting in higher quality feeds. As a pricing tool it has provided ranchers with a means to quantitatively compare the economic value of round-bale silage to conventional hay. **Conclusions:** This tool has the potential to change the archaic methods we currently use to evaluate our stored forages to a practical method based on a more substantive set of criteria.

Raising Agriculture and Natural Resource Awareness through 4-H Sponsored Events at the Langley Bell 4-H Center in Escambia County

L. Johnson*, Escambia County Extension; **E.R. Bolles**; **P.H. Allen**; **R.M. Elliott**; **A.P. Diller**; **C.T. Stevenson***; **K.D. Brown**; **D. Lee**; **L.T. Christenberry**; **C. Verlinde**; Santa Rosa County Extension

Escambia County, located in the extreme Northwestern corner of Florida, has a population currently estimated at 296,709, with less than 15,000 considered to be "farm" shares. The Escambia County School District has 43,000 students enrolled in pre-K through 12th grade, and most of the students are from urban/suburban Pensacola. Over 50% of the student populations are on free or reduced lunch. **Objectives:** Because most of our youth was not raised on a farm or in a more rural setting, there is a great lack of agricultural and natural resource awareness. In 2007, Escambia County Extension staff decided to plan two agriculture awareness events at the Langley Bell 4-H Center to raise the level of agricultural/natural resources awareness of 500 youth. **Methods:** The first would be a series of agriculture and natural resource summer day camps, and the second would be a week long event, 4-H Fall Harvest Days. There were five components/workshops offered at the day camps and 4-H Fall Harvest Days: traditional agriculture, livestock production, forestry, aquatic ecosystems, and nutrition. Lessons centered on experiential learning were developed in each area along with eight additional lessons that teachers could take back to their classroom. **Results:** Students who attended 4-H Fall Harvest Days were asked to complete pre and post tests. Tests were scored by Extension personnel, and it was determined that students increased their overall knowledge by 30%. The greatest increase of knowledge was evident in the questions that concerned agriculture and livestock. **Conclusions:** There was significant knowledge gain by both youth and adults and interest for further programs.

Expansion of the Volunteer Based “Buzz Buster” Mosquito Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Team Within and Beyond Bradford County, Florida

J. DeValerio*, Bradford County Extension; **R. Connelly**, UF/IFAS Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory, **R. Jordi***, Nassau County Extension Service

Objectives: Based on cost savings gained from the contributions of volunteers assisting county mosquito control efforts, the goal of establishing a similar program in other counties was identified. **Methods:** The volunteer group “BUZZ BUSTERS” implements IPM strategies by collecting larvae and adult mosquitoes for identification and quantification by the Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory. The volunteers work under a certified mosquito control applicator so they can apply larvicides when surveillance indicates that it is appropriate. When mosquito populations reach critical thresholds, the appropriate mosquito control agency is notified as to which zones need to be sprayed for adult mosquito control. **Results:** In 2008, volunteers in Bradford and Nassau counties were recruited and trained to employ IPM practices in twelve and four zones respectively per county. In addition to assisting county mosquito control agencies, results from Nassau are used to educate and assist mosquito control agencies in the cities of Callahan, Fernandina and Yulee. **Conclusions:** Using IPM practices in a mosquito control program benefits the environment because the use of broad spectrum insecticides is reduced. Utilizing volunteers to accomplish mosquito surveillance provides immediate savings to mosquito control agencies. The number of trapping and sampling events made by Bradford volunteers increased from 64 sampling events in 2006 to 264 in 2007. The estimated value of the 2007 volunteer efforts is \$45,000.00. Another cost savings that is not quantified is the value of the training to mosquito control personnel that is realized through the working relationship between the county extension office and the agency.

Perennial Peanut Establishment Trial

D. Mayo*, Jackson County Extension; **C. Smith**, Jackson County Extension; **A. Blount**, NFREC Marianna; **K. Campbell**, Madison County Extension; **R. Cone**, Cone Farms; & **S. Basford**, Basford Farms

Establishment and weed control were identified by perennial peanut producers as the two issues of greatest concern at the 2004 Perennial Peanut Field Day. Consequently, a trial was conducted at UF/NFREC, Marianna to evaluate the effect of row spacing, planting rate and herbicides treatment on establishment of perennial peanut. **Methods:** A split-split plot design with three replications was used in the study. Row spacing was 28 or 14 inches. Planting density was 80, 100, or 120 bushels per acre of planting material. Herbicides evaluated were Plateau, Prowl, Direx, Valor, Zorial, Raptor, Velpar, Sencor, Strongarm, and 2,4-D applied after planting. Visual ratings of weed control and crop injury were taken at 3 and 6 months after planting. Stand establishment was measured one year after planting. Yields were recorded 16 months after planting. **Results:** Only Prowl and Plateau provided acceptable weed control and crop tolerance. The 14” row-spacing averaged 2.5% higher yield across herbicides and planting rate. The 120 bushel planting rate yielded 8.5% more hay than the lower planting rates. **Conclusions:** While planting-rate and row-spacing did affect perennial peanut yield and establishment, weed control had the most noticeable effect on establishment. Removing weed competition early resulted in better coverage of perennial peanut and higher yield.

Effectiveness of Predatory Mites against Twospotted Spider Mite in the Landscape

M.E. Henry *, Hillsborough County; **J.F. Price**, Gulf Coast Research and Education Center; **L.S. Osborne**, Mid-Florida Research and Education Center; **P. Rauche**, Wildrose Lawncare Inc.; **J. Alcaide**, Nanaks Landscaping.

Biological Control of arthropods using lab raised predators and parasitoids has been shown effective under greenhouse and field conditions in Florida, however very little information is available about their effectiveness under landscape conditions. A research and demonstration project was conducted to explore the practical effectiveness of predatory mites, *Phytoseiulus persimilis* and *Neoseiulus californicus* for control of the twospotted spider mites on landscape roses, with the assistance of innovative landscape maintenance companies interested in possibly adopting the practice. **Objectives:** 1) Provide opportunity for landscape companies to gain knowledge and experience in biological control. 2) Discover if predatory mites are able to persist and reproduce under landscape conditions. 3) Compare costs of using predatory mites with typical treatment. **Methods:** Companies attended project meetings at GCREC, MREC, and the "Living with the Land" attraction at Epcot. Companies contacted customers and scouted for spider mites. Upon confirmation by the Agent, an order was placed for predators. After initial release, ten leaves per plant were inspected weekly. Project began with orientation in January 2007 and concluded in June. Project sites included a garden at the Museum of Science and Industry, and a homeowner property. **Results:** Challenges were predator shipments not on time or with few live predators, very time consuming scouting, and other pest and non pest mites in the landscape. Successes include increased experience with predators and observation of released mites reproducing on landscape roses. **Conclusions:** Predatory mite releases may fit into a sustainable integrated pest management plan of dedicated landscape companies and their customers.

Beef Cattle Ultra Sound Evaluation

M. Thomas, Lake County Extension.

Objectives: To improve carcass quality of steers that are sent to market or sold to youth participating in local and state livestock shows. An increase in carcass quality will result in ranchers and youths receiving improved prices as buyers recognize the enhanced quality of the meat. Cattle genetics will be improved over the years as students and local ranchers strive for improved carcass quality. **Methods:** This will be accomplished by the Lake County Fair Board implementing a Live Ultrasound Carcass Contest. Students and local ranchers will learn about carcass evaluation and how it is used to value a carcass in the beef industry. The local fair board will be educated about the positive impact of a carcass contest by demonstrating that a carcass contest is an effective program for educating and rewarding students for steer selection and feeding. After holding the contest, provide results to students and ranchers. **Results:** Out of 92 steers evaluated, carcasses graded 21% Choice, 47% Select and 32% Standard. The Lake County Champion Carcass also won the state contest. The results from program will encourage exhibitors and ranchers to become more aware of cattle genetics when buying steers for show or bulls for breeding. **Conclusion:** There were several positive comments from 4-H and FFA leaders as well as steer buyers. This is a long term project that will have a major impact on improving cattle genetics in Lake County.

A Partnership to Protect Livestock and Endangered Species

R.D. Halman*, Anni Galdames, Collier County UF/IFAS Extension

Objectives: The Collier County UF/IFAS Extension office in a multi- county / state / federal agency partnership has sought to increase the public's awareness and appropriate response to predator habitat transformation. Providing open discussions along with relevant solutions to livestock safety and the predator issue was a major focus.

Methods: The agents along with the partnering organizations implemented a two part educational outreach effort. The first effort included organization of several public awareness sessions that featured all project organizations as presenters. The second effort included recruitment of volunteers and sponsors to construct predator protection pens within the county community to further illustrate protection alternatives. **Results:** Three public meetings in various regions of the county were held covering panther history, biology and human/ animal interactions and protection alternatives. One of these awareness meetings was hosted by a county commissioner. The agent, with in-kind materials and funds leveraged from partners, implemented the construction of three panther /predator pen building sessions utilizing 4H youth members, local resident volunteers and agency personnel. One pen was constructed at the county extension office as a permanent demonstration structure. **Conclusions:** Development of an awareness campaign and partnership between Collier County UF/IFAS Extension, local/ state governmental agencies and organizations will play a major role in decreasing the impact of urbanization on predator habitat and resident lifestyles. The partnership is now able to continue these outreach efforts with a permanent demonstration structure located on the Extension office grounds and within the residential community for all to observe.

Complying with Regulations to Sell Dressed Poultry and Eggs: Is it Possible?

E. Toro*, Suwannee County; **B. Burbaugh**, Duval County; **L. Landrum**, Regionalized Marketing Agent; **G. Harrison***, Leon County

Legally processing and marketing poultry meat and eggs is a challenge for small farmers in Florida. Poultry regulations are a labyrinth, written in legal terms, appear overlapping, and are open to subjective interpretation even by regulators. Complicating matters, there are few permitted facilities to process poultry and eggs. **Objectives:** Determine the feasibility of processing and marketing poultry in Florida for small scale producers (20,000 birds or less/year). **Methods:** Meet with representatives from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) to understand compliance with current processing, labeling and marketing requirements. Next, meet with producers in Northeast Florida to determine economic feasibility of developing processing facilities for individual farms and/or the acquisition of a regional mobile processing unit. Develop publications for Extension agents and producers to clarify existing regulations and a plan of action for implementation of mobile processing units. **Results:** Farmers producing less than 20,000 birds per calendar year will better understand the applicable food safety laws. Producers need to apply for an annual food permit and have access to a permitted facility to process birds and eggs. The facility can be owned or leased by producers and may be a Mobile Processing Unit (MPU). **Conclusions:** This process has aided in clarifying laws for producers in Florida that want to produce and market poultry legally. A mobile processing unit will serve as a small-business incubator and offer producers and new and economically viable revenue stream.

Designing and Implementing an Integrated Pest Management Program for Hispanic Landscapers

H. Mayer*, Miami Dade County; **E.A. Skvarch**, St. Lucie County; **R. Jordi**, Nassau County

According to a 2005 FNGLA analysis Florida's landscape sector accounts for 5.255 billion dollar sales a year. Almost 30% is related to landscape maintenance business. **Objective:** Teach IPM concepts to commercial Hispanics landscapers in three counties. **Methods:** An IPM toolkit was created which contains briefcase, pruner, hand lens, gloves, pen, markers, pencil, ruler, sample bag, and specimen jars. It also includes reference materials in Spanish: UF card decks – "Disorders and "Diseases of Ornamental Palms", "Helpful – Harmful or Harmless", and "Troubleshooting Lawn Pests", a weed identification insert and survey scouting sheets. Materials were translated into Spanish with revisions from Spanish speaking specialists and county faculty. Spanish translated PowerPoint presentations included information on how to use the IPM scouting kit. The presentations were delivered in three counties Miami – Dade, St. Lucie and Nassau. Each program was enriched by numerous physical samples of insect problems.

Results: Forty-eight participants from 15 companies were selected. In a survey conducted six months after the class it was indicated that participants were using class handouts anywhere from daily to once a month with average use at once to twice a week. The survey also indicated participants felt more confident talking to their clientele on pest related topics.

Conclusion: In Florida, the number of Hispanic speaking landscape management companies is continuing to increase along with the need for educational programs for Hispanic landscapers. The use of IPM principles to minimize pests and improper use of pesticides is a key concept to living in a sustainable environment.

FAE4-HA Schedule
Scotland A, unless otherwise noted

Bill Heltemes, FAE4-HA Abstract Chair

Time	Speaker	Abstract
8:45	Introduction & Procedures	
9:00	Paula Davis	Cooking Camp 101
9:15	Georgene Bender	Successfully Integrating Military Families and Youth into Your Core Programs
9:30	Jennifer Heady & Georgene Bender	Volunteer Orientation Using 4-H 101 O.W.L
9:45	Alex Diaz	Innovative Afterschool 4-H Fitness and Nutrition Programming: The "Power" of Yoga
10:00	Jean Hink	The 4-H / Tropicana Public Speaking Program Evaluation Study: Student Perspectives
10:15	Germaine Pointer	Playground Bullies Grow Up: How to Deal with Adult Bullies
10:30	Norma Samuel & Nicole Walker	Exploring Internationalizing Opportunities: A Partnership with Antigua 4-H Youth Program
10:45	Joy Hazell & Cathy Suggs	Water from Land to Sea
11:00	Brent Broaddus & Debra Clements	Multi-State Youth Dairy Program Increases Knowledge in Dairy Project
11:15	Pam Phillippe	When Middle Management Works
11:30	Break for Lunch	

<u>Time</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Abstract</u>
1:50	Return from Lunch	
2:00	Amanda Thien	Youth Leadership Nassau
2:15	Ivette Valentin	Miami-Dade County's Kid's Fishing Clinics
2:30	Tracy Tesdall	Incorporating 4-H Into an Existing Youth Day Camp
2:45	Kate Fogerty	Helping Tween Youth Succeed: State Level Programming for Intermediate 4-H'ers
2:45*	Jevetta Stanford	Each One Teach One (Westminster)
3:00	Julie Dillard & Nicole Crawson	Thematic Programming
3:00*	Chris DeCubellis	Reenergizing 4-H County Events Through Fun Inter-club Competition (Westminster)
3:15	Jackie Hunter & Holly Jordan	4-H EFNEP Goes "Xtreme Cuisine"
3:15*	Lori Wiggins	Expanding the 4H Tropicana Speaking Program (Westminster)
3:30	Susan Lovelace & Mark Warren	Flagler County Pullet Project
3:30*	Renee Gore	Open House Event to Recruit Volunteers and Members (Westminster)
3:45	Jean Rogalsky	Ochs 4-H Vegetable Garden: Urban Agriculture Education
3:45*	Marcus Boston	The 4-H "Going Green" Day Camp (Westminster)

4-H Cooking Camp 101

P. Davis*, Bay County Extension; **M. Moore***, Bay County Extension; **B. Cameron**, Bay County Extension; **K. Rudisill**, Bay County Extension

This week-long day camp cooking school enabled youth to learn the art of cooking in a healthy manner that included healthy food choices, food safety, hand washing, seafood identification, using garden herbs, table setting, and table manners/etiquette. This was an interdisciplinary team effort that provided a well rounded program for youth to learn culinary arts. **Objectives:** 1) Introduce more inner city youth to 4-H; 2) Demonstrate how to make healthy food choices and prepare meals; 3) Read labels, learn food preparation techniques, make healthy food choices, and 4) Have fun with culinary arts. **Methods:** Received a grant for \$2,500. The 4-H, FCS, Sea Grant, and Horticulture Agents collaborated on curriculum design. Curriculum included information on cooking safety, hand washing, healthy food choices, menu planning, table manners/etiquette, growing/using herbs in recipes, using correct kitchen tools, measuring, and reading labels. Youth toured a farm, bakery, seafood market, restaurant, and hospital kitchen. Camp was held six hours each day. Youth prepared recipes daily emphasizing the MyPyramid. On the fourth day, youth planned a full menu and prepared a meal the last day. A pre/post evaluation was developed and administered. **Results:** Average pretest score was 42% and post-test was 84%. Youth planned to cook for their family more often. They liked trying different recipes and foods. Four youth stated they might become a chef. Parents stated that the youth shared what they learned with family members. **Conclusions:** Extension involvement in this program helped youth learn lifelong skills that will improve their health and well-being.

Successfully Integrating Military Families and Youth into Your Core Programs

G. Bender*, South Central Regional Extension; **M. Lawson***, Operation: Military Kids; **K. Roberts***, Dade County Extension; **J. Golden***, Pinellas County Extension; **G. Pointer***, South Regional Extension; **B. Heltemes***, North East Regional Extension; **P. Davis***, Bay County Extension; and **J. Heady***, Okaloosa County Extension

Since 9-11 the nation has been actively engaged in a Global War on Terror. Called to participate in this war are the Guard and Reserve components of the military. Never before, has such large numbers and repeat deployments affected the 'citizen soldier' who normally did his/her service one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer. These 'citizen soldiers' live in our backyard. There is no base; if lucky there might be an armory. Services normally at a base such as financial assistance, child care, housing issues and much more is not available to them. Many families feel lost as deployments continue to be a part of 'normal' life. How can Extension serve these Florida families as Florida's 53rd Brigade prepares to deploy over 7,000 troops in 2008-2009? **Objective:** To increase Extension's awareness of the need to support military families in their communities and examples of how they can assist. **Methods:** A brief overview presentation of the need and statistics for the state of Florida. Military One Source information kits issued to each participant. Extension staff panel will share current examples of Extension involvement. **Results:** Currently about twenty (20) counties, about thirty percent (30%) our Extension counties are serving our military families. Of that percent, an estimated ninety-five percent (95%) of the involvement is through 4-H Youth Development and the 4-H Military Partnerships of military installation programs and Operation: Military Kids. **Conclusions:** Because of awareness to the needs of the Florida Military Families, an increase of ten (10) counties will include serving Florida military families as part of their local programming efforts.

Volunteer Orientation Using 4-H 101 O.W.L.

J. Heady*, Okaloosa County Extension; **G. Bender***, South Central Region; D. Palmer, Hillsborough County Extension.

Time and funding are limited resources for most 4-H programs. Using distance learning tools for volunteer orientation and training can save time and money. **Objectives:** The objective of this website is to provide orientation to Florida 4-H for staff and volunteers using distance learning tools. **Methods:** Using the 4-H 101 curriculum, articulate lectures were produced for lessons 1-5. For each lesson, a web module was developed that included an articulate lecture, lecture notes, and Florida 4-H Club Resource publications. Some modules also contain videos and activities. Each module takes approximately 10-15 minutes to complete. The course has been delivered through the University of Florida E-learning system. The course has been edited for use through a non-restricted website so that volunteers can now complete the course. **Results:** Eleven 4-H staff members have completed the 4-H 101 O.W.L. in 2007. All 11 reported the lessons were easy to understand, a good use of their time and that they learned something new about 4-H. **Conclusions:** Use of the 4-H 101 O.W.L. website can save 4-H agents time and money, while orienting new 4-H volunteers or staff to Florida 4-H. Using distance learning tools (Articulate software, web design software, video production software), more distance learning courses can be developed for other volunteer training needs such as more 4-H 101 lessons, Advisory Board new member training, School Enrichment teacher training, and project area training.

Innovative Afterschool 4-H Fitness and Nutrition Programming: The “Power” of Yoga
Alex Diaz*, Miami-Dade County Extension, **Ivette Valentin-Bayon**, Miami-Dade County Extension, **K. Fletcher**, Dept. of Family, Youth, & Community Sciences, **K. Fogarty**, Florida 4-H/FYCS, **J. Culen**, Florida 4-H/FYCS

Yoga is a great form of physical and mental exercise for anyone, especially stressed out 4-H agents! However children can also greatly benefit from youth yoga programs. Not only can yoga help increase strength, flexibility, coordination, self-esteem, stamina, and confidence among children but it has also been proven an effective alternative to treating attention deficit disorders, and behavioral problems among children. Yoga is also an alternative that allows children to participate in a non-competitive, relaxing physical fitness program.

Objective: Presenters will discuss the process of implementing a yoga fitness and nutrition 4-H youth program in a Miami-Dade afterschool setting (*Project ACTIVE: Allow Children to Involve in Voluntary Exercise with SFLUM:South Florida Urban Ministries*). **Method:** Via a multimedia presentation, initial program implementation and evaluation of the yoga fitness and nutrition program in Miami-Dade will be presented. **Results:** Participants will learn innovative strategies to evaluate health and fitness programs serving youth as well as ways to implement diverse health and fitness programs in afterschool settings. **Conclusions:** Local after school programs are likely to be not for profits that are highly adaptive to novel approaches to youth programming. After school institutions are more likely to embrace 4-H programming, because their funders expect them to provide and document enrichment activities.

The 4-H/Tropicana Public Speaking Program Evaluation Study: Students Perspectives.

J. Hink*, Pasco County Extension

Objectives: the goal is to demonstrate how a brief survey of the 4-H/Tropicana Public Speaking Program can assist agents, teachers, schools and administrators with program evaluation and accountability at higher levels (tracking attitude and behavior change). In addition, program evaluation will be described as a collaborative process. **Methods:** A concise evaluation tool measuring six (6) communication life skill outcomes were developed, administered, and analyzed. The tool used also included several open-ended questions from a youth's perceptions. **Results:** 150 youth participated in the evaluation. In all six communication skill sets, pre- and post-test measures indicated a statistically significant (via paired sample t-tests) improvement among students, as reported by youth. The analysis revealed that the most important gain youth witnessed was in the life skill of self-confidence. Youth felt they developed self-confidence through the process of creating and presenting a speech. For example, students' ability to organize and express their thoughts into a concise presentation in front of a group helped build their confidence. **Conclusions:** The youth gain confidence as a result of making presentations, skills which will serve them in their later school and professional careers. By teaching students effective speaking skills, they develop poise and self confidence, important characteristics to cultivate from an early age. They will continue to develop these skills as they prepare for higher education and the challenges of everyday life. This program offers this opportunity and teaches youth to be better communicators - a skill with lifelong benefits.

Playground Bullies Grow Up: How to Deal with Adult Bullies

G. Pointer, South Regional 4-H Agent

Having a positive well organized 4-H program requires the coordination of volunteers, youth staff, and parents. Dealing with all of these different personalities can be challenging for 4-H agents. Especially challenging or even overwhelming for many agents is having to deal with the "Adult Bully". **Objective:** Participants will identify the characteristics of adult bullies, and be able to recognize when volunteers are assertive versus aggressive. They will be able to develop a plan to identify, expose and deal with adult bullies within their county program. **Methods:** Through a multi-media presentation, the process for identifying, exposing and dealing with adult bullies will be presented. **Results:** A case study handout will be given to participants as well as suggestions to help create a more harmonious environment. **Conclusion:** In order for Florida 4-H to fulfill its mission of creating supportive environments for diverse youth and adults to reach their fullest potential, there must be an earnest attempt to deal with difficult relational issues. While society is poised and ready to implement measures to insure we stamp out bullying of our youth, we all but ignore adult bullies in our organizations.

Exploring Internationalizing Extension Opportunities: A Partnership with Antigua 4-H Youth Program

N. Samuel*, Marion County Extension; **N. Walker***, Polk County Extension

The Youth Department of the Ministry of Health, Sports and Youth Affairs oversees the 4-H program in the Caribbean nation of Antigua. Staff had minimal 4-H knowledge and needed training on the Experiential Learning Model (ELM) and Essential Elements of 4-H. **Objectives:** Meet with stakeholders to develop a 4-H support system; teach the 4-H 101 curriculum for starting and maintaining clubs; design, implement, and evaluate a horticulture judging event; conduct a teen leadership workshop; gather information to enhance agents' county programs. **Methods:** A meeting with Youth Department staff and stakeholders revealed program history, technical and financial support sources, and program direction. The 4-H 101 curriculum was used to train 19 staff and volunteers. Twenty-one youth participated in a teen leadership workshop and 15 youth and 4 adults participated in Horticulture Judging event. Contacts were also made with Extension and other Ministry of Agriculture officials. **Results:** One-year action plan was developed, outlining the role of the Youth Department, partnering organizations in Antigua, and UF/IFAS. One-hundred percent of 4-H 101 participants indicated knowledge gained in competencies critical for positive youth development; targeting specific life skills; applying the ELM; and starting 4-H clubs. **Conclusion:** Youth Department staff and local stakeholders are equipped with the information and resources needed to begin moving the program forward. The Government of Antigua and IFAS International Programs will complete a formal Cooperative Agreement to cover a five-year partnership. Agents honed teaching skills and gained knowledge and experience for supporting Caribbean and Latino cultural groups in County Extension programs.

Water from Land to Sea

J. Hazell*, Lee County Extension; **C. Suggs**, Lee County Extension.

Objectives: The goal of the program was to create an ecosystem based 4-H marine science curriculum using the experiential learning process for a 4-H Club. The program objectives were for youth to understand water based ecosystems in Southwest Florida, learn the importance of protecting ecosystems and learn life skills including responsible citizenship and leadership to increase stewardship of the environment. **Methods:** The program followed a rain drop as it fell onto land and moved toward the estuary and the Gulf of Mexico. The 4-H marine biology club met once a month for six months. Four days focused mastery of ecosystem science with hands-on learning in wetlands, estuaries, and beaches and understanding their interconnectedness with our quality of life. A project book focusing on factual information and critical thinking was developed for this section of the program. The final two days focused on life skills such as stewardship using responsible fishing programming and public speaking using marine organisms as subject matter. The public speaking complimented a workshop the 4-H agent held and that constituted a second project book. **Results:** 22 Marine Biology Club Youth completed two 4-H projects. 10 Youth competed at County events and 8 of these youth went on to District and State. 1 Youth is using her Marine Biology Project in her application to National 4-H congress. **Conclusions:** 4-H Youth can benefit from an ecosystem based marine science curriculum using the experiential learning process that increase science literacy and provides citizenship and leadership skills.

Multi-State Youth Dairy Program Increases Knowledge in Dairy Project

B. Broaddus*, Hillsborough County Extension; **D. Clements***, Okeechobee County Extension.

The Southeast Dairy Youth Retreat is a partnership between Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia to host an annually rotating dairy youth retreat.

Objectives: The objective of the Southeast Dairy Youth Retreat (SEDYR) is to increase youth knowledge of the dairy industry while providing an opportunity to interact with their peers as they participate in activities designed to improve leadership, citizenship, animal ethics, team building and life skills. **Methods:** SEDYR is a week long camp for youth ages 8 to 18. Activities include multidimensional interactive presentations by extension and dairy industry professionals on topics like milk marketing, dairy cattle reproduction, nutrition, biochemistry, and dairy foods. This fun and educational week provides over 100 youth the opportunity to increase teamwork, leadership and their dairy project knowledge. **Results:** One hundred twenty participants attended the multi-state event. One hundred ten surveys were returned. Ninety-four percent of the participants stated that as a result of attending SEDYR that they had gained knowledge in more than two areas of the dairy project. Eighty-six percent reported they would make changes to their current dairy project. **Conclusions:** Participants learn how dairy production differs in other states as compared to their home state and are exposed to in-depth information on the dairy industry. Although the subject matter and point of interest of the retreat is the dairy project, youth are provided the opportunity to develop and strengthen many life skills that will be applied to all aspects of their lives.

When Middle Management Works

P. Phillippe, Charlotte County Extension

Objective: To recruit experienced adult volunteers to serve in middle management roles for four county 4-H programs during 2007-2008. **Methods:** A large pool of adult leaders was selected based on their previous involvement in county-wide events and/or activities. An invitation was sent to all prospective leaders to attend an informational meeting concerning acceptance of middle management roles. Five project-related activities were chosen for the first year: County Communications Events; Club Officer Training; County Youth Council and Centennial Celebration. Volunteer leaders selected the activity they felt most confident in. Following the selection, each individual leader received instruction on the management needs of the event he/she had chosen. All planning - date, location, materials, assistance needed, and completion of the activity/event was done by the volunteer. Mailings, reproduction of materials and expenses were handled by extension staff. A leader and agent evaluation conference was held immediately following each event/activity. **Results:** By investing the time to recruit capable volunteers, and by letting them totally assume the roles of management for these activities/events, this agent was able to focus on other events and activities. Because these were experienced volunteers, they were comfortable in taking on new roles, and felt a true sense of accomplishment in doing so. All have agreed to assume the same roles for the next 4-H year. **Conclusions:** By assuming middle management roles, leaders greatly increased their self-confidence while taking more ownership of the 4-H program.

Youth Leadership Nassau

A.Thien*, **M. Williams**, **M. McAlpine**, **R. Jordi**, **S. Gaul**, Nassau County Extension;
L. Landrum, **B. Hochmuth**, North Florida REC

Objectives: 1) To provide high school youth the opportunity to discover and apply their leadership skills by working collaboratively on a culminating service learning project; 2) Expose youth to community needs and opportunities through interaction with community leaders and decision makers. **Methods:** School guidance departments and home education networks recruited twenty-seven youth for the program. Six sessions were held at various locations throughout Nassau County; each session covered topic areas such as quality of life, environmental issues, etc. Students were exposed to a variety of county resources and concerns. Self evaluations took place at the conclusion of each session. A follow up meeting was conducted to review youth evaluations and make program revisions. **Results:** Twelve students completed the program. They worked collaboratively on four culminating projects; presenting them to commissioners and county residents. The group was addressed by the county commissioners and the youth spoke about their service learning project. Each project was successful because youth identified and applied their individual leadership skills, and learned to appreciate team members for their contributions. **Conclusions:** This program was effective in helping youth develop their individual leadership skills. Youth were inspired to become more involved in other community through leadership activities by the conclusion of the program. These students are now more aware of the resources and concerning issues we face in Nassau County.

Miami-Dade County's Kids' Fishing Clinics

I. Valentin*, Miami-Dade County Extension; **C. Miller**, Miami-Dade County Extension

Objectives: The youth sportfishing program in Miami-Dade County serves a dual purpose: To let youth experience and learn about Florida's natural resources, and serve as a promotional tool to recruit new members into the County's 4-H program through the establishment of 4-H sportfishing clubs. The highlight of the program is the annual Miami-Dade Kids' Fishing Clinic, which is a multi-agency event held in the spring. **Methods:** The Kids' Fishing Clinic is a result of a joint effort between Miami-Dade County Extension, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Oleta River State Park, the Fish Florida Foundation, and other corporate and private sponsors. The event is the culmination of a year-long planning process, and follows the guidelines set forth by the FFWCC protocol. Extension was responsible for selecting site locations, volunteer recruitment, fundraising, promotion, and participant registration. **Results:** In the second year of the program, Clinic attendance increased over 300% to 271 youth participants. Youth learned about Florida's marine ecosystem, the importance of preserving natural resources, and critical fishing skills. Each child also received a free fishing rod and tackle kit thanks to a grant provided by the Fish Florida Foundation. A post-event survey indicated that 100% of program participants has learned new information and wanted to fish more often and in an ethical manner as a result of attending the clinic. **Conclusions:** The fishing clinic has proven to be an invaluable tool for recruiting prospective 4-H members, and provides a great marketing opportunity for promoting the entire extension program.

Incorporating 4-H into an Existing Youth Day Camp

T. Tesdall, Leon County Extension

Keywords: youth development, belonging, mastery, generosity, independence

Objective: To combine the knowledgebase of an already existing day camp (Camp Bark-ly) and to integrate 4-H and positive youth development principles into the program. **Method:** Camp Bark-ly is a 5-day camp lasting two weeks (6-8 year olds, week 1; 9-12 year olds, week 2) coordinated by TREATS, Inc (an animal welfare nonprofit) and Leon County 4-H. For the previous eight years, the camp was coordinated by TREATS and the Tallahassee-Leon Animal Service Center. By partnering with Camp Bark-ly, 4-H was incorporated into the daily schedule. A 4-H youth development environment was created by meeting the needs of the youth through belonging, mastery, independence and generosity. The 4-H pledge was said each day, 4-H project books, including cat, dog, pets, rabbit and horse books, and the experiential model were used to teach concepts of animal care and the motto for the week: "protect, respect and never neglect your pet." A camp counselor job description was developed and the Counselors received training in advance, along with counselor meetings following each day of camp. Pet and animal 4-H curricula to reinforce guest speakers were used. **Results:** Fifty-two youth, ages 6-12, four adult volunteers and seven teen volunteers participated in the day camp. Some problems the camp experienced in the past were eliminated through counselor training and taking into account the needs of youth. **Conclusions:** This was a natural partnership. It was a successful day camp that met the needs of the youth while meeting the expectations and requirements of TREATS and 4-H.

Helping Tween Youth Succeed: State Level-Programming for Intermediate 4-H'ers

Kate Fogarty*, Florida 4-H/Family, Youth, & Community Sciences, **Adam Cletzer**, Indian River County Extension, **Wendi Zimmerman**, Florida 4-H

Raising up the next generation of senior Florida 4-H'ers for involvement in the program at local, county, district, state and national levels is a continuing challenge. Participation trends in 4-H programs in Florida (and across the nation) show a drop in numbers of youth involvement occurring between the 8th and 9th grades. Over the past two years Florida 4-H has implemented Intermediate Leadership Adventure Weekend (I-LAW). I-LAW is designed for Florida 4-H's 11-13 year-olds to learn about future leadership opportunities in 4-H from their senior-level peers, including: Executive Board and State Council, National and Scholarship Opportunities, Career Choices, and Healthy Lifestyles. **Objective:** Participants will learn about the specific needs of intermediate 4-H'ers, the logistics of I-LAW, evaluation results over the past two years, and consider ways to accommodate the specific needs of 11 -13 year-old 4-H'ers in a variety of 4-H programs. **Methods:** Videos, photos, itineraries, evaluation results, and information on developmental needs of "tween" 4-H'ers will be demonstrated in a multimedia format. **Results:** Participants will consider the ways to market as well as enhance this state event and prepare their intermediate youth for participation in state 4-H programs (e.g., holding district Junior Congress events). **Conclusion:** Intermediate youth need not be lost from 4-H before they have the chance to become seniors. Supporting intermediate 4-H'ers developmental needs at the local levels will prepare them for 4-H involvement at the state level.

Each one Teach One

J. Stanford*, Duval County Extension.

Objective: Increase knowledge among 300 high school students participating in the nutrition and fitness train-the-trainer program; enroll 30 high school students as peer nutrition educators; and plan and conduct one nutrition and fitness program under the sole leadership of the peer nutrition educators. **Methods:** High school students participate in a nutrition and fitness train-the-trainer program. Participating students have the option of becoming peer nutrition educators that plan and conduct a nutrition and fitness themed lesson or activity with middle students. Peer nutrition educators that complete the program receive a service stipend. **Results:** 534 high school students participated in the nutrition and fitness train-the-trainer program; 83 students expressed interest in becoming peer nutrition educators; 17 students enrolled as peer nutrition educators. Knowledge increase among participants still to be determined. Due to changes in administration, unable to conduct nutrition and fitness themed lesson or activity with middle students. Peer nutrition educators conducted Nutrition Jeopardy with untrained high school peers. **Conclusion:** Each one Teach One engaged high school students in community health education, one of the fundamental premises of the 4-H program. Overall, peer educators demonstrated an increased interest in nutrition and fitness upon completion of the program. Further evaluation of program data will hopefully reveal significant increases in nutrition knowledge.

Thematic Programming

J. Pigott Dillard*, Washington County Extension; **N. Crawson***, Holmes County Extension

This abstract details the successful implementation of thematic curriculum planning in various youth development programming. Initially, this process found its success in afterschool programs and has been modified to meet the needs of local 4-H programs. It was developed as a means to unify and simplify program planning and implementation. **Objectives:** To implement a unified theme of curriculum planning for 4-H summer programming. **Methods:** Experiential learning activities are planned, coordinated, and evaluated through a series of day and residential camping experiences that center around a central theme designed to create interest, motivation, and continuity in participants. Academic enrichment and life skill development are incorporated into these activities through hidden learning and packaged to participants as fun-filled, exciting adventures. **Results:** The use of thematic programming focused creativity and planning in a simplified format for ease of implementation and delivery. Of the residential summer camp and the eight summer day camps, all programming was filled to capacity. Total impact included 200 youth participants in two rural counties serving low socio-economic clientele with limited transportation and financial resources. **Conclusions:** As a result of adopting thematic programming into the planning process, youth participation increases in traditional 4-H programming with a higher satisfaction rating due to hidden learning objectives through enjoyable hands-on activities.

Reenergizing 4-H County Events Through Fun Inter-club Competition

C. DeCubellis*, Gilchrist County Extension.

Objectives: County Events day is an opportunity for 4-H members to exhibit life skills they have learned through 4-H projects. The agent's goal was to increase the number of youth participating in 4-H County Events. **Methods:** The agent worked with the Gilchrist 4-H County Council, 4-H Leaders, and the 4-H Advisory Committee to develop some fun, informal competitive events between 4-H clubs to add to traditional County Events activities. Each club earned points for every youth participating in a certain aspect of County Events, such as points for youth giving a demonstration, entering a poster or pictures, participating in Share the Fun, or Fashion Revue. Traditional competitive events took place in the morning. Participants could also enter cakes for a cake contest. After a cook out, clubs competed in fun inter-club relay races and participation in the relay races also earned points for the clubs. Youth had to give a demonstration, speech, compete in fashion review or share the fun to participate in the relay games. At the end of the day the points were totaled and the club with the most points won a banner that read 4-H County Events Day Champion. **Results:** As a result of adding some fun competition between clubs, total participation in County Events rose this past year with 119 youth participating. **Conclusions:** Adding some fun inter-club competitions, along with the traditional cook-out and cake baking contest, took some of the stress out of county events and encouraged more youth to participate.

4-H EFNEP Goes "Xtreme Cuisine"

J. Hunter*, Hillsborough County Extension; **H. Jordan***, Hillsborough County Extension

Objectives: Teaching students to make their own healthy snacks using fresh Florida fruits and vegetables was the focus of "Xtreme Cuisine" Day Camps hosted by Hillsborough County 4-H Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP), Hillsborough County Farm Bureau and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. After-school snacks are as much a part of the school year as pencils, paper and textbooks. But if those snacks are low in nutrition and fiber and high in salt, sugar and fats they contribute to the growing problem of childhood obesity. **Method:** Three 6 hour day camps were held at the Extension office and facilities located in limited resource areas through the county. The 4-H EFNEP Agent identified and secured locations and provided nutrition information, Farm Bureau provided a facilitator, and The Florida Department of Agriculture provided the tested recipes and the food items for preparation. **Results:** 80 youth participated in the day camps. All participants were introduced to a fruit or vegetable that they had not eaten before. All completed the pre and post test. 98 % of test scores indicated knowledge gained, showing that they explore healthy alternatives by using fresh Florida fruits and vegetables as ingredients for healthy and delicious snacks. **Conclusions:** Collaborating with other agencies can provide invaluable resources in providing nutrition education to help youth change their snacking habits. Instead of automatically reaching for junk foods, they explore healthy alternatives by using fresh Florida fruit and vegetables as ingredients for fun and delicious snacks.

Expanding the 4-H/Tropicana Public Speaking Program

L. Wiggins*, Taylor County Extension

Schools consider the proficiency in oral and written communication skills to be a skill essential to professional success however, traditional educational curricula has emphasized the development of written communication skills over speaking skills.

Objectives: Youth in grades 3rd thru 8th will acquire the ability to develop and strengthen their oral communication skills, express ideas effectively, and develop poise and confidence.

Methods: The 4-H/Tropicana Public Speaking Program has become a very important and effective tool to help develop and enhance oral communication skills for youth in Taylor County. Due to the popularity of the program and requests from teachers and youth, the program was expanded to grades 3rd – 8th, in 2000, from only having 4th-6th grades participate. The program has been met with great success and support from the school system. Materials, delivery methods and creative additions have been developed to enhance the original program including a power point that is presented to all participating youth by the 4-H Extension Agent.

Results: In 2008, 100 percent of youth in grades 3rd – 8th in Taylor County participated in this program (1502 youth and 52 teachers). Results from post-evaluations revealed that 95% of the participants improved their skills on making an oral presentation. **Conclusions:** This program gives youth an opportunity to develop communication skills that increase their poise and self-confidence for future endeavors in citizenship and leadership roles in their community and is a great program to help market the 4-H program.

Flagler County Pullet Project

S. Lovelace*, Flagler County Extension; **M. Warren***, Flagler County Extension

Objective: The Pullet Project provides youth with an opportunity to develop their character and gain life skills through a 6 month animal science project. In the fall of 2007, the Flagler County Extension Service in cooperation with the Flagler County Fair Board offered a new project that offered a scaled down livestock project using chickens. **Methods:** The project was open to all FFA and 4-H members aged 5-18 years old. Participants and their families learned how to responsibly care for and prepare a small flock of “black Sex-link” pullets for exhibition at the Flagler County Fair. Clinics provided all of the necessary information, from constructing a brooder, to basic care and showmanship. Youth raised chickens from “day-old” biddies to five month old “ready-to-lay” pullets. **Results:** Twenty-three Flagler County youth enrolled in the project and twenty of those youth brought their top four hens to present to the judge at the Flagler County Fair in April 2008. Those who chose to then auctioned their flocks to the highest bidders at the annual youth livestock auction. **Conclusion:** All who participated, parents included, experienced personal growth, developed a better understanding of the agricultural industry, and participated in a new and positive learning program.

4-H Kick Off – Open House Event to Recruit Volunteers and Members

R Gore*, Baker County Extension

Objectives: To educate the public that 4-H is alive and well in Baker County and offers a wealth of experiences for youth to gain citizenship, leadership and life skills within the course of exploring subject matter project experiences. **Methods:** Volunteers and staff organized the 4-H Kick Off at the beginning of the new program year in September to showcase the opportunities within Baker County 4-H. Volunteers planned club informational booths and table top displays. Booths were manned by leaders and returning club members who were available to answer questions and educate families about 4-H opportunities. Two different power point slide shows ran automatically throughout the evening to be viewed while guests were eating and filling out paperwork. 4-H Agent was available and circulated through-out the evening answering questions and recruiting. **Results:** The Kick Off was well attended with 91 guests signing in. Enrollments were completed on a total of 57 youth and received the night of the Kick Off program. Another 15 enrollments were taken home to be completed. Six new volunteers were recruited through the Kick Off event. Events promoted at the Kick Off had good attendance with 33 youth attending the Table Setting Workshop and 35 families attending the Horse Rally, Horse Project Education Day. **Conclusions:** The Kick Off was successful providing positive media coverage and educating the public about 4-H as a positive youth development choice for youth. It recruited new members and new volunteers. It educated new and existing members about 4-H opportunities and delivery methods.

Ochs 4-H Vegetable Garden: Urban Agricultural Education

J. Rogalsky*, Pinellas County Extension

Keeping pace with the growing development of Florida is the growing disconnect of Florida's urban youth with the sources of their food, the agricultural industry, and the natural world in general. The decrease in backyard gardens removes an effective tool to teach youth about the original forms of common foods or the processes to grow it. **Objective:** Participants in this session will identify methods to teach agricultural awareness and sustainable living choices in an urban environment. **Methods:** Through a multi-media presentation, handouts, and discussion, participants will identify possible opportunities to teach agricultural awareness and sustainability in their own county for clientele without land. **Results:** Agents will be able to plan a structured vegetable garden program with conservation practices such as water conservation, composting, and IPM. **Conclusion:** With increasing interest in organic food and sustainability, the Ochs 4-H Vegetable Garden program offers 4-H families the opportunity to learn about agriculture from the roots up, while learning sustainable practices for their homes.

The 4-H “Going Green” Day Camp

M. Boston*, S. Rosenthal, W. Sheftall, Leon County Extension

In Leon County and across the country many school age youth suffering from what has been described as “Nature Deficit Disorder”, a large majority of youth spend an increasing amount of time “indoors”, while the time spent “outdoors” is on a rapid decline.

Collaboration with the Leon County 4-H Agent, Forestry, and the Natural Resource Agent resulted in an environmental education program during public school spring break that would teach its participants the importance of environmental stewardship. **Objective:** The objective of this camp was for its participants to learn how to enjoy being outdoors and develop an awareness and appreciation of our water systems, and wildlife habitats in Leon County. **Method:** Youth participants performed lab experiments on the PH level, dissolved oxygen, and nitrogen levels founds in Wakulla Springs. A trip down the Wakulla River gave youth an opportunity to identify and learn about the various forms of wildlife that live make this habitat their home. The campers also took educational field trips where they learned how “Sinks” are formed as well as how to collect and identify macro-invertebrate and use them as water quality indicators. **Results:** Pre and Post evaluation were given and the beginning and end of the camp are reflected a 98% increase in overall knowledge of each subject matter area covered during the week. **Conclusion:** By providing this fun educational program, its participants have increased their knowledge in each area covered and have greater appreciation of our environment and how to protect and preserve it.

FEAFCS Schedule Scotland C

Kathy Bryant, FEAFCS Abstract Chair

Time	Speaker	Abstract
8:45	Introduction & Procedures	
9:00	Alicia Bradigan-Betancourt	Working With Community Organizations
9:15	Mary Kennington & Glinder Stephens	Orange County Saves: Eco-Nomic Living Expo
9:30	Elaine Courtney & Lisa Leslie	Young Investor Website: UFYoungInvestor.org
9:45	Joan Elmore & Judy Corbus	The Credit Puzzle
10:00	Julie England	Build Your Bones! Osteoporosis Education Program
10:15	Linda Bobroff	Development of "MyPyramid for Older Adults" – An Adaptation of USDA's Food Guidance System
10:30	Karen Headlee	Go Bananas with Dad!
10:45	Heather Futch	Hamilton on the Move
11:00	Julie England	Marketing Extension: The Timely Topics Series
11:15	Samantha Kennedy	Living Well for Seniors: Teaching Older Adults How to Live Healthier Lives
11:30	Break for Lunch	
1:50	Return from Lunch	
2:00	JC Mayberry	Teen Horizons Summer Camp 2007
2:15	Alicia Bradigan-Betancourt	Creating Public Value Statements and Cost-Benefits
2:30	Jackie Schrader	Home-Buyer Education – A Community Partnership
2:45	Jill Taufer	Stress Management Workshop
3:00	Stephanie Toelle	A Community Model for Strengthening Families
3:15	Stephanie Tolle, Maisie Ross, & Javetta Stanford	Extension Childcare Training Certifies Providers
3:30	Sharon Treen	School Gardens as a Nutrition Education Tool
3:45	Kendra Hughson	Nutrition and Health Program with a Kick

Working with Community Organizations

Alicia Bradigan-Betancourt, Monroe County Extension

Objective: Providing support, best management practices and educational workshops for these leaders and organizations that contribute to the availability and quality of services in the community. Provide leadership necessary to insure success for local not for profit organization and newly forming grassroots movement efforts. Provide and recognize the use of volunteers to expand resources and programs. **Methods:** Through group instruction and individual consultation a variety of topics on: Business Management, Community Resource Planning and Project/Program Design. **Results:** 100% of organizations reporting increase in membership and /or programs, 4 of 4 # of organizations gained 501 C (3) designation, 6 of 6 # of organizations gained bylaws/ articles/ board development policies, 6 of 6 # of organizations who implemented BMP recommendations, facilitated 1680 volunteer hours overall with 11 different organizations, 7 of 11 organizations increased amount of funds secured by grants, donations, and membership, 11 of 11 Increased number volunteer hours, dollar value of in-kind products and services. **Conclusions:** Work in this area enhances the scope, scale, and effectiveness of public and private community institutions and services, including emergency preparedness and response, and public safety. Local non-profit groups received Business Development Education to help them develop into sustainable community organizations and share resources, reducing duplicate services. These groups serve the needs of thousands of residents through direct services and education.

Orange County Saves: Eco-Nomic Living Expo

M.S. Kennington*, Orange County/UF Extension; G.S. Stephens*, Orange County/UF Extension Director.

1) Objective(s): Orange County Mayor Richard T. Crotty launched an initiative, "Turn Orange to Green," to promote energy efficiency while magazines stimulated public interest in the green movement. Extension staff observed that consumers wanted to "Go Green," but many were unsure how to get started. FCS staff decided it was an opportune time to disseminate "green" education through an inter-disciplinary event. The event, Orange County Saves: Eco-Nomic Living Expo, aimed to help participants learn to save energy, reduce waste and conserve resources, while saving money. The Expo, a spin-off of America Saves campaign, emphasized preserving natural resources and saving money. **2) Methods:** The entire staff worked together to develop adult and youth educational programs using Extension's knowledge base. Extension conducted 12 concurrent workshops while vendors displayed "green" products and provided donations for door prizes. In addition to a nationally renowned keynote speaker and the closing general session rounded out the day's events. **3) Results:** Approximately 175 residents attended. A written evaluation was administered at the conclusion of the Expo. Eighty-five (49%) participants returned a completed evaluation. To help stimulate participants to return evaluations, each participant submitting the evaluation received an Orange County/UF IFAS Extension eco-friendly bag. Ninety-percent (96%) of the 85 participants completing the survey indicated that they were motivated (24) to very motivated (58) to practice techniques taught to conserve natural/monetary resources. A six-month follow-up evaluation will be administered to evaluate practice change. **4) Conclusion:** Plans have started to replicate and broaden the collaboration efforts for a 2009 event.

Young Investor Website: UFYoungInvestor.org

E. Courtney-Okaloosa County*; **L. Leslie**-Hillsborough County*; **M. Gutter**-FYCS-UF/IFAS; **H. Futch**-Hamilton County; **T. Mountain**-FYCS/UF/IFAS; **J. Hugus**-UF/IFAS Communication Services; **M. Douglass**-UF/IFAS Communication Services.

The Young Investor curriculum is a five unit curriculum designed for traditional classroom delivery. Young adults are a challenging audience, but have an increased need for investing education. **Objectives:** Adapt and redesign Young Investor curriculum to deliver via *Solutions for Your Life* in a manner that would be engaging to 18-24 year olds. **Methods:** Funding was obtained through a Program Enhancement Grant. Existing curriculum was reviewed and adapted into a three unit website. Web based financial calculators were purchased. Video public service announcements were modified for use on the site. "Talking" head, interactive games and worksheets were developed. Focus groups will be held (July 08) to evaluate this educational website. **Results:** Domain name UFYoungInvestor.org was obtained. A website was developed which appeals to young adults (18-24 year olds). The site teaches about investing and has built in activities and evaluations. Focus groups helped to determine the usefulness of the site. Promotion for the site was done through the social networking tool, Facebook.com, as well as traditional methods. **Conclusion:** Utilizing the web is an appropriate method for reaching and educating young adults. This site should also be a useful resource to Extension Faculty who teach financial education.

The Credit Puzzle

J. Elmore*, Jackson County Extension; **J. Corbus***, Washington and Holmes Counties Extension.

Many consumers, especially prospective home buyers, seem to underestimate the value and importance of their credit score. According to the Fannie Mae National Housing survey, about one half of Americans do not seem to understand the negative effect that a poor credit history can have on their ability to qualify for a home loan. Misuse and abuse of credit is eroding the financial net worth of many Americans. Consumers should check their credit report annually for accuracy and make corrections, if necessary. **Objectives:** 1. To educate consumers on obtaining, understanding, and evaluating their credit report. 2. To teach consumers how to improve their credit score by understanding how the credit process works. **Methods:** Initially, a multi-county two-hour presentation is being developed for the citizens of Jackson, Washington, and Holmes Counties. They will receive information on "Your Credit Background," "Reestablishing Credit," "Credit Scoring," and "Techniques to Manage and Maintain Your Credit Score." **Results:** An evaluation tool will be developed. **Conclusions:** Over time, consumers who keep their credit balances low, pay their bills on time, and check their credit report annually will improve their credit score and increase their likelihood of being approved for a home loan.

BUILD YOUR BONES! OSTEOPOROSIS EDUCATION PROGRAM.

J. England, Lake County Extension.

Osteoporosis is a disease that results in deterioration of bone and increased fracture risk. Although genetics plays a large part in susceptibility, ten to fifty percent of risk factors can be traced to lifestyle choices including calcium consumption and weight-bearing exercise. Build Your Bones! target audience is middle-aged and older adults. **Objectives:** At series conclusion, 90% of participants will increase knowledge of personal risk of osteoporosis and 75% will intend to take steps to improve their bone health. Post-program follow-up surveys will show sustained behavior change with 67% of participants increasing calcium consumption and weight-bearing exercise. **Methods:** The four hour program was presented as a two or four part series. Educational activities include lecture, discussion, demonstrations and interactive activities. Activities included calculating calcium consumption, tasting calcium-rich foods and practicing weight-bearing exercises. **Results:** The program was presented five times in 2007 to 94 participants. Results from post-program survey of 75 participants showed 91% intended to take action steps to reduce their risk of osteoporosis; including 56% intending to increase daily calcium intake and 57% planning to increase weight-bearing exercise. A follow-up survey of one program with 48% response rate (n=11) showed 73% increased daily calcium intake and 55% included weight-bearing exercise in physical activity plan. **Conclusions:** The results from surveys, instructor observation and feedback from an Extension specialist show a need for program revision to increase knowledge gain and behavior change. Recommendations include expansion to six hours of contact with participants, increased number of interactive activities and revision of evaluation instruments.

Development of “MyPyramid for Older Adults” - An Adaptation of USDA’s Food Guidance System

Karla P. Shelnut, **Linda B. Bobroff***, **Jennifer Hillan**, University of Florida IFAS Department of Family, Youth and Community Sciences

In 2005, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) released MyPyramid, a new food guidance system based on the Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2005. The Dietary Guidelines include key recommendations for older adults that are not emphasized in MyPyramid. These key recommendations reflect special nutritional needs of older adults that are related to physiological changes associated with aging. The goal of this project was to adapt MyPyramid for use with an older population by including the key recommendations for older adults of the Dietary Guidelines as well as tailoring the information for this age group. This new educational tool is titled “MyPyramid for Older Adults” and includes USDA’s original MyPyramid symbol. We added original drawings of foods that often are chosen by older adults for ease of purchasing, chewing/swallowing, and/or preparing. Silhouettes representing older adults dancing, gardening, or walking a dog encourage physical activity. We used a lower calorie level for the food plan due to the lower caloric needs of this group, and include targeted messages that encourage healthful eating and physical activity. MyPyramid for Older Adults is easy to read and attractive and can be used in a variety of educational settings. This presentation will focus on the development of this educational tool, including focus group data with consumers, dietitians, university professors, and Extension agents that guided development of the final version. This project was funded by the University of Florida Foundation.

Go Bananas with Dad!

Karen S. Headlee*, Lee County Extension; **F Beckford ***, Lee County Extension

Objectives: The program goal was to connect at-risk children with their fathers, some absentee, by giving them a project to help enhance their connection throughout the year. Extension partnered with the Michigan International Academy and the African Caribbean American Center in Fort Myers. **Methods:** All participants were provided a nutritious breakfast before the workshop and then were given a short presentation on the planting and caring of a banana plant. They were provided healthy banana snacks fathers could prepare with their children and provided information on shared reading techniques that fathers could use when reading to their children. Participants played a jeopardy game focusing upon information presented. Children with the most points were awarded prizes. Every father and child was given a banana plant to take home and plant. **Results:** 85 fathers (uncles, grandfathers (one mother)) and children participated in the program. 37 plants survived to be judged. Master Gardeners will visit the homes to judge the plants and select a winner. An evaluation will be conducted assessing the plantings of the banana plant, and the time dads spend interacting with their children. A separate evaluation will be developed to assess the children's perception of the banana project and how the project has affected their relationship with their fathers. **Conclusion:** This is just one example of nontraditional methods addressing social issues and challenges that face families today by focusing on agricultural and nutrition programming and by partnering with other agencies and schools in Lee County.

Hamilton on the Move

H. Futch, Hamilton County Extension.

Recent studies have shown that a high percentage of the U.S. population is estimated to be overweight and obese; Hamilton County is no exception. Obesity increases the risk for developing many chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, stroke, and death. **Objectives:** Make Hamilton County residents aware of the current amount of activity they participate in and increase those amounts of activity. **Methods:** Worked in cooperation with Hamilton County Department of Health to hold bi-weekly informational and activity meetings. Meetings included giving tips on how to become more physically active, usage of a body composition scale, and demonstrations of new exercises. Gave participants pedometers, information packets, and team kits to get started. Created a team competition for the most miles walked. Participants turned in weekly walking distances which were used to motivate teams to walk further. **Results:** 40 participants walked over 3800 miles in eight weeks and lost between one and five pounds on average. Participants increased the amount of time spent being physically active. **Conclusions:** Inclusion of a pedometer and peer groups into an exercise plan can help to increase physical activity.

Marketing Extension: The Timely Topics Series

J. England, Lake County Extension.

Consistent Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) programming had not been offered at the county extension office for several years due to construction and remodeling of the Extension office and FCS agent position vacancy. **Objectives:** Create an educational series targeting needs of county elders and raise the public awareness and attendance of Lake County FCS programming. **Methods:** Timely Topics, a series of eight monthly programs from October through May, was developed and presented by the two FCS agents. Subjects included nutrition, mold and mildew prevention, food safety and closing seasonal homes. The series was promoted using flyers and brochures, the FCS quarterly newsletter, Extension office sign, the county government website and press releases. Two and sometimes three of the county's daily newspapers published program notices. **Results:** The series was attended by 263 adults with positive evaluations. Two evening programs were added due to requests generated by the press releases. Additional community programs were scheduled as a direct result of the publicity for the series. Many of the participants had never been to the county extension office and were unaware of services provided. The overall mission of Extension was promoted at each program and information on upcoming programs distributed. **Conclusions:** The development and marketing of Timely Topics lead to an increase in awareness of FCS programs and provided educational information to county elders. The series increased educational programs within the community and county government. Timely Topics will continue in 2008-2009 and evening sessions will be added.

Living Well for Seniors: Teaching Older Adults How to Live Healthier Lives

S. Kennedy*, Manatee County Extension; **J. Lowry**, Manatee County Health Department

Manatee County has a large population of older adults who are at high risk for many nutritionally-related diseases. There is a tremendous need for educational programs designed to teach these audiences about healthy lifestyle concepts. **Objectives:** Participants will learn to: 1) identify five major concepts of a healthy lifestyle; 2) identify the signs and symptoms of several nutritionally-related diseases; 3) substitute healthier ingredients for "traditional" ones in recipes; 4) pare down recipes for one or two people; 5) include dessert as a healthy addition to meals. **Methods:** The agent and a registered nurse with the Manatee County Health Department co-presented three classes. PowerPoint was used to present educational concepts and recipes. Hands-on demonstrations were used to teach healthy cooking and preparation techniques. **Results:** A total of 76 people attended. Post-class surveys showed that participants reported an increase in knowledge of both the five healthy lifestyle concepts (92%) and the signs and symptoms of nutritionally-related diseases (76%). New behaviors they would most likely adopt are: 1) substituting healthy ingredients for "traditional" ones in recipes (88%); 2) paring down recipes for one or two people (86%); and 3) including a healthy dessert in their meal plans (78%). **Conclusions:** This is the first time the Living Well for Seniors series was offered in Manatee County and was very well-received. Another series is scheduled for this summer at a local library. They are a great benefit to participants, especially since the program is offered *free of charge* to a predominantly low- or fixed-income audience.

Teen Horizons Summer Camp 2007**J. Mayberry***, Orange County Extension; **C. Mondelus**, Orange County Extension

Objectives: Teen Horizons was a 5 day program to help youth gain relevant skills for life and work. Extension's goal was to provide a safe and positive learning atmosphere with the objective to educate and motivate youth participants to gain knowledge, explore post-secondary options, and prepare them for employment. **Methods:** The program format was built on curriculum from the interdisciplinary resources of Extension and invited community guests who spoke on their careers and expertise. Extension agents within and outside of the Orange County/ UF Extension Office and program assistants taught components of Teen Horizons to help youth participants identify personal strengths. Included in the program were a personality assessment, career exploration activities, life skills education, and experiential learning (tours). Teen Horizons was held at the Orange County/UF Extension Education Center. Students with a 2.5 GPA throughout Orange County were invited through school visits and mass media promotional efforts. **Results:** Pre and post-tests were used to determine knowledge gained. Specific findings showed, sixty percent (7 students) of student participants reported an increase in knowing their personality strengths. Also, seventy-five percent (9 students) reported an increase in familiarity with the process to attend a Florida university and seventy-five percent (9 students) reported an increase in preparedness for job interviewing. A majority (11 students) of students in an exit interview said they would recommend Teen Horizons to a friend. **Conclusions:** The larger implications of the program are that students explored post-high school options that they were not considering before Teen Horizons.

Creating Public Value Statements and Cost-Benefits**Alicia Bradigan-Betancourt**, Monroe County Extension

Objective: To explain the process and resources for crafting public value statements and researching cost-benefit of programs to provide to stakeholders and advocates. **Methods:** Through "Building Extensions Public Value" by Dr. Laura Kalambokidis of University of Minnesota. Find local state and national research to support public value and cost-benefit. **Results:** Extension agents will have a way to develop and explain research-based public benefits for their programs. **Conclusions:** Relate programs with issues that are key to stakeholders and residents. Make public officials, community leaders and County residents aware of important issues and extension's efforts. Develop alternatives and consequences for high priority public issues.

Home-Buyer Education—A Community Partnership

J. Schrader*, Clay County Extension; **R. Zerba**, Clay County Extension

Objectives: The Clay County Homebuyer Education Program educates potential home-buyers on the process of purchasing and maintaining a home. We partner with other community agencies to familiarize participants about local resources in hopes of making home ownership more convenient and less stressful. **Methods:** Clay County requires SHIP program participants to take 8 hours of home-buyer education. Local financial institutions are also requiring classes for their prospective clients. We offer an all-day Home-Buyer education class once a month. The class has 4 sections: Home-Buying Professionals, Buying Your Home, Taking Care of Your Home, and Landscaping/ Yard Maintenance. Many guest speakers are used including a representative from the State Division of Financial Services. Topics include a wide variety of subjects from credit issues to do-it-yourself home projects. **Results:** Approximately 30 people per month receive education which meets part of the requirements set forth by many financial programs in our county. There is a better understanding and continuity between lenders, realtors, the SHIP program, and all involved to make the process run faster and smoother for the clients. **Conclusions:** Working with all parties involved in planning, implementing, and follow-up strengthens the program and supports these low-income, at-risk clients. By partnering with other agencies, we reach more potential clients for the program. All participants gain valuable knowledge of maintaining a comfortable home even if they do not qualify for purchasing at the time of classes.

Stress Management Workshop

J. Taufer*, Volusia County Extension

In 2007 the Volusia County Supervisor of Elections identified stress as a major concern for county employees. The FCS agent partnered with the Volusia County Wellness Coordinator to develop a program designed to give county workers specific tools to help them deal with stressful work conditions. **Objectives:** At the conclusion of the workshop participants will identify at least one goal that will work with their lifestyle to decrease the negative effects of stress. Goals and action plans will be written on "Conclusion/Goals" handout. **Methods:** A 2 ¼ hour workshop was offered to county employees. The program consists of the following three components: the nutrition stress connection, reducing stress with exercise, and concludes with the audience participating in a 15 minute relaxation activity. The program was offered throughout the year at 8 county locations. **Results:** 304 employees participated in the workshop. 87% wrote at least one goal. 61% felt strongly that they could maintain a lifestyle change. 98% indicated they gained skills they can use when stressful events occur. **Conclusions:** Positive feedback from the election supervisor led to other county departments requesting the program and a request to present at the Florida State Sheriff's Executive Assistant Conference. Evaluations indicated that a consistent goal for employees was reducing trans fat and refined sugar from their diets. This information was valuable in developing 2008 programs.

A Community Model for Strengthening Families

S. Toelle*, Duval County Extension.

Duval County has 210,878 families and they are stressed. Nearly 16% of all families with children under 18 years live below the poverty line. Our homicide rate is 11.7 per 100,000, and domestic violence is reported at 836.7 cases per 100,000. Further, 8310 grandparents have responsibility in raising their grandchildren and 31% of our families are headed by single parents. Sixty-one percent of dual-income families have children under 6 years, which can contribute to stressed families. We have a divorce rate of 68%, among the highest in the United States. Although many services for families exist in Jacksonville, they are disjointed and unconnected. **Objective:** To increase family functioning and stability through a community-wide effort. **Methods:** The Jacksonville Network for Strengthening Families was established in 2004. This network is a three-pronged model consisting of training, support, and services through over 80 trained facilitators, 54 partnering agencies, and an advisory board. Extension has been involved in each aspect. **Results:** From 2004-2007, 144 network workshops were conducted, with 1711 graduates and 93% indicating a positive difference in their lives even six months after the workshop. Beyond this workshop, the Network has hosted Family Summits and sends the agency partners, including Extension, referrals for our own workshops. **Conclusion:** Involvement in the Jacksonville Network for Strengthening Families allows Extension to extend its services as a piece of a wider network of care for families. Further, our involvement brings greater awareness of our services to the community.

Extension Childcare Training Certifies Providers

S. Toelle*, Duval County Extension; **M. Ross***, Palm Beach County Extension; **J. Stanford**, Duval County Extension; **A. Medina-Solórzano**, Palm Beach Extension; **N. Boodoo**, Palm Beach Extension.

Sixty-two percent (43,765) of families with children under 6 years in Duval County and 64% (54,456) of the same in Palm Beach County have all parents in the household working, putting a large number of children in need of quality supervision and care. Further, 36% of families in Duval County are headed by single parents and 30% of families in Palm Beach County are headed by single parents. Although community colleges provide the basic state-required training of each childcare provider, another requirement is a ratio of one credentialed provider per 20 children at a center. Extension can provide the hours and CEUs necessary for the credential and its renewal. **Objective:** To provide quality training in the 8 content areas required for the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential. **Methods:** Duval and Palm Beach county extension agents coordinate training efforts with local coalitions and children's services councils to fulfill the training needs of CDA candidates. The agents discuss technical aspects of registration and intake, quality curricula, and community involvement efforts across counties to lead to greater local success. Agents across FCS disciplines contribute their expertise. **Results:** Combined efforts demonstrate that 801 childcare providers participated in 30 2-hour workshops. **Conclusion:** Extension can contribute to higher quality childcare through training for the CDA credential, a statewide opportunity. Sharing efforts can lead to greater successes.

School Gardens as a Nutrition Education Tool

S.Treen*, Flagler County Extension; **K. Busey**, Flagler County Extension; **K. Fisher**, Flagler County Extension

Getting kids excited about eating fruits and vegetables can be a challenge. **Objective:** Teach children how to grow nutritious food and increase their consumption of vegetables. **Methods:** In cooperation with Bunnell Elementary, and with donations from Lowe's, Jungle Growth and other businesses totaling almost \$3000, the Flagler County Extension Service provided 170 school age youth with the opportunity to grow a garden. The youth planted cabbage, cucumbers, potatoes, squash, radishes, lettuce and other fruits and vegetables. While the garden grew, Extension staff taught the youth about the nutritional benefits of these foods. The youth then had the opportunity to harvest and taste the foods they had grown. **Results:** Participants enjoyed eating the vegetables they grew. They tried new foods and encouraged their family to incorporate these foods at home. One third grader reported that "I learned that vegetables are good for your health and they make you smart". The garden was so successful that the sponsors have committed to increased support for 2009. This will allow for the expansion of the program at additional elementary schools. **Conclusions:** Nutrition education through school gardens increases children's knowledge about fruits and vegetables, which may improve their attitudes towards these foods and lead to better eating habits.

Nutrition and Health Programs with a Kick

K. Hughson*, Walton County

Two key factors in preventing chronic disease include being physically active and eating a healthful diet. The Center for Disease Control reports less than half of Americans meet the daily recommendation for physical activity. Additionally, the numbers of both children and adults who are overweight or obese continues to grow. **Objectives:** To provide innovative and active nutrition and health programs that result in improved attendance, improved completion rates, and behavior change. **Methods:** Walton County Extension expands the outreach of nutrition and health programs by offering an active learning experience. This seminar will discuss two examples: 1) Participants engaged in a ten-week line dancing class learn about physical activity and nutrition in addition to getting a minimum of 50 minutes of weekly physical activity. 2) Children and their families participating in a *Rolling into Summer* community event get physical activity and learn about health and safety through hands-on activities, demonstrations, and other active learning experiences. **Results:** Innovative and active programs resulted in Walton County Extension reaching larger and more diverse audiences through Family and Consumer Sciences programs. Preliminary results indicate that participants changed behavior including increased physical activity, decreased consumption of fat and sugar, weight loss, and more. Additionally, classes have high attendance and completion rates. Participants previously not reached through traditional Family and Consumer Sciences programs have exposure to Extension and advocate for Family and Consumer Sciences programs. **Conclusions:** An innovative and creative approach to nutrition and health programs resulted in improved outreach to general community populations, behavior change, and also yielded some unexpected results.

FANREP Schedule Emerald

Andrew Diller, FANREP Abstract Chair

Time	Speaker	Abstract
8:45	Introduction & Procedures	
9:00	Thomas Becker	Best Practice Community Review
9:15	Annemarie Post	Community Power
9:30	Carrie Stevenson	First Annual Florida-Friendly Landscape Design Workshop, Escambia County
9:45	Christian Miller	Residential Rain Water Harvesting in Miami-Dade County
10:00	Chris Demers	Florida Invasive Species Partnerships: Thinking Locally, Acting Neighborly
10:15	Andrew Diller & Brooke Saari	Wildlife Friendly Lighting: From Saving Sea Turtles to Saving Money
10:30	Brian Cameron & Scott Jackson	"Deep Sea Safari": An Extreme Student Learning Adventure
10:45	Bryan Fluech	Development of a Pelican Rescue Techniques Workshop to Minimize Impacts on Brown Pelicans in Southwest Florida
11:00	Dennis Mudge	Wedgefield Firewise Year-Round Program
11:15	Gus Koerner	Using GPS Receivers to Reinforce Math, Science, and Technology in Secondary Education
11:30	Break for Lunch	
1:50	Return from Lunch	
2:00	Mary Campbell	Check Your Green Commitment – Take the Pledge!
2:15	Michael Andreu & Rob Northrop	City of Tampa – An Urban Ecological Assessment

Best Practice Community Review

T. Becker*, Lee County Extension

Objectives: Three planned communities with wetland and preserved green space received multi-year development visits, landscape reviews and/or homeowner problem-solving visits by the FYN agent. Starting in 2005, the agent evaluated each communities' use of Florida-Friendly landscaping and irrigation 'best' practices. **Methods:** In 2007, the agent spent several weeks examining residential landscapes and yards within three developments built out from 50 to 90%. The prestigious statewide Award known as the Florida-Friendly Community Award was used as the gold standard to achieve significant progress within three master-planned community developments wanting to conserve water, protect Lee Counties' natural resources and support and attract wildlife. Each community was visited repeatedly, reviewed extensively and guided in the process of completing award applications requiring both quantitative and qualitative criteria **Results:** All three communities reviewed received numeric ratings in the categories: Community Design/Preservation, FYN Checklist/Landscaping, Water (Quality & Quantity), Maintenance, Public Education and Overall/Effort/Innovation . **Conclusions:** After multi-year FYN outreach to each community and an extensive pre-application review process, Pelican Preserve, a WCI Community received the statewide outstanding community award, scoring 33.25/40. Mediterra, a Bonita Bay Group Community scored 31.0/40 and Veridian, Gulfstream Homes Community scored 26.75/40.

Community Power

A. Post*, Sarasota County Extension

Objective: In 2000, the Sarasota County *Florida-Friendly landscaping for Community Associations Program* was established to educate community associations, neighborhoods, associated professionals (such as community managers and Green Industry professionals) and other stakeholders on how to create and maintain landscapes that reduce stormwater runoff. **Methods:** The program addresses these goals by establishing educational programs that promote environmental sustainability through good landscape and natural area management practices. The program seeks commitment from participants through actively involving the target group, through site visits and presentations. Participants at site visits are interviewed after one year. Those present at presentations receive an evaluation form. **Results:** In 2007, 94 percent of the 334 communities that received site visits since 2000, made positive changes: 87 percent reported changes to irrigation system management and 11 percent reported removing invasive plants and/or restoring natural areas. Of the 2674 attendees at educational programs during 2007, 99 percent indicated on evaluation forms that they intend to make changes in their landscape practices. The knowledge gain was rated as 35 percent. Observed water savings of four Community Associations visited during the length of the program was approximately 390,000 gallons per acre. Potential future water savings of the 533 associations visited (total acreage approximately 8,430) during the length of the program based on 90% participation: 1,479,465,000 gallons yearly, conservatively.

Conclusion: The success of this program has led to continued county funding through 2012 and was also the incentive for SWFWMD to fund similar programs in Pinellas/Pascoe and Hillsborough/Polk counties.

First Annual Florida-Friendly Landscape Design Workshop, Escambia County **C. T. Stevenson***, Escambia County Extension.

Objectives: The goal of this workshop was to reach local homeowners interested in landscaping and increase their awareness of FYN principles, basic landscape design, and use of native plants. The timing in early March was intentional, to reach people before they started spring gardening. **Methods:** The half-day workshop included 3 talks: an introduction to FYN, design principles led by a professional landscape designer, and “hands-on” time with the owner of a native plant nursery and her plants. All participants received a folder with a FYN guide, graph paper (to start a rough landscape sketch), and newsletter. To make the workshop easier for parents to attend, Master Gardeners supervised children ages 6-12 who participated in outdoor activities, including aquatic insect hunting and building birdhouses. Registration was \$10/person and \$15 at the door.

Results: 75 adults and 12 youth attended the workshop, raising \$775 for continuation of FYN programs. Evaluations indicated that 90% understood the FYN program, 83% understood landscape design principles, and 95% were more familiar with the benefits of native plants. 90% of participants stated they planned to make changes in their landscape as a result of the workshop, particularly by using native plants and creating wildlife habitat. 51 of the participants, including a landscaping business owner, signed up to receive a bi-monthly Extension horticulture newsletter. **Conclusions:** The successful workshop will be expanded next year. Many people requested it be upgraded to an all-day workshop or series and several said the children’s activities made it possible for them to attend.

Residential Rain Water Harvesting in Miami-Dade County **C. Miller***, Miami-Dade County

Objectives: Currently, issues of water quantity and quality are critically important and at the forefront of current issues in Miami-Dade County. Due to a state-wide drought, the local water management district has imposed stringent water usage restrictions for residential applications. Residents attending Miami-Dade County’s rain barrel workshops are introduced to critical water resource issues and practical approaches to conserve and protect these resources. **Methods:** The rain barrel program in Miami-Dade County consists of a series of workshops offered at several times and locations throughout the year. Rain barrels are made available to workshop participants, and registration fees are collected to pay for barrels and other supplies. Support materials and an instructional video have also been made available on-line, and workshop dates are promoted by mass-media via the County Department’s Public Relations office. **Results:** To date, over 600 people have attended 24 rain barrel workshops in Miami-Dade County. 75% of participants indicated they would modify current behaviors in order to conserve water. A survey conducted 3-6 months after workshops indicated that participants were saving, on average, ~50 gallons of water week through collection of rain water and other water conservation measures.

Conclusions: The rain barrel program has proven to be a valuable tool for raising awareness of critical water issues and increasing water conservation for residents of Miami-Dade County. Future plans include advanced master gardener training to increase the availability of the program, expanding partnerships with other organizations, and teaming with other extension agents and specialists to better address program impacts.

Florida Invasive Species Partnerships: Thinking Locally, Acting Neighborly **C. Demers***, UF-IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation.

Invasive species know no boundaries and continue to degrade Florida's habitats. If landowners and land managers wish to achieve long term success in controlling invasive species, it is critical for them to collaborate with all stakeholders. **Objectives:** The Florida Invasive Species Partnerships (FISP) is striving to focus statewide efforts on prevention as well as treatment. By working together across agency and property boundaries, we hope to encourage development of innovative management approaches, provide new tools, decrease implementation costs, and ultimately increase effectiveness. **Methods:** FISP developed a dynamic "Incentive Program Matrix" of existing federal, state and local funding sources, incentive programs and technical assistance for landowners in Florida. The interactive matrix database will allow private and public land managers to determine what current technical and financial assistance is available to meet their specific needs and coordinate control efforts across boundaries. FISP is also promoting Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMAs) in Florida, to encourage development of local partnerships between federal, state, and local government agencies, tribes, individuals and various interested groups to manage noxious weeds or invasive plants in a defined area. **Results:** To date there are 10 CWMAs across Florida from Walton County to the Florida Key's Invasive Task Force. The Incentive Program Matrix and locally led CWMAs allow us to expand invasive species management efforts across the landscape and build community awareness. **Conclusion:** Coordinated efforts serve to protect our valuable conservation areas, public lands and private lands from the continuing colonization of invasive species across the landscape.

Wildlife Friendly Lighting: From Saving Sea Turtles to Saving Money

A.P. Diller*, Escambia County Extension; **B. Saari***, Okaloosa & Walton County Extension; **C. Verlinde**, Santa Rosa County Extension; **B. Cameron**, Bay County Extension; **L.S. Jackson**, Wakulla County Extension.

The advantages of sea turtle friendly lighting, also known as wildlife friendly lighting, include energy savings that may motivate additional property owners to retrofit lights. **Objectives:** Teach coastal residents how to safely light their property without disorienting sea turtles. Illustrate how this lighting is friendly to wildlife and saves money. Assist property owners to retrofit their lights. **Methods:** As part of the Turtle Friendly Beach Program, Sea Grant agents in the western Panhandle partnered with US Fish and Wildlife, FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and local sea turtle permit holders to host sea turtle friendly lighting workshops for both professionals and residents. Agents also assisted with lighting surveys on beaches to identify properties that could cause disorientation. Finally, agents worked with property owners to retrofit lights, including searching for funding for cost-share assistance. **Results:** Trained thirty-two professionals in sea turtle friendly lighting methods at a workshop in Gulf Breeze, Florida. Approximately one-hundred people attended property owner lighting workshops in Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, and Walton Counties. Several condo associations and Pensacola Beach Elementary School requested assistance to reduce lighting during the 2008 sea turtle nesting season. Encouraged over 2000 students to examine their home's exterior lighting for ways to save energy and help wildlife. **Conclusions:** Urban glow can still be an issue for sea turtles and other wildlife even if beaches are dark. Promoting wildlife friendly lighting and its energy saving advantages can work to mutual benefit for property owners, wildlife, and the environment.

“Deep Sea Safari”: An Extreme Student Learning Adventure

B. Cameron*, Bay County; **S. Jackson***, Wakulla County; **A. Diller**, Escambia County.

Objectives: To increase knowledge of deep ocean ecosystems through comparison and contrast to familiar marine coastal systems. **Methods:** Deep sea oceanographic exploration by Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute and other research groups provide the opportunity to bring deep sea exploration into the classroom. Utilizing multimedia presentations and activities participants received science-based information regarding chemosynthetic ecosystems and how organisms function in the absence of sunlight. Student investigations were conducted in a tactile environment simulating extreme ocean depths. A small building was completely darkened using black paint and window coverings reproducing the lack of sunlight. Blacklights and fluorescent paint were used to create deep sea creature art. Fog machines simulated entering into another “world” and portrayed the presence of hydrothermal vents. Multimedia presentations included PowerPoint with embedded video clips, music, and sound effects to capture the attention of students. Additional resources included adapted materials created in association with Walt Disney Studio’s IMAX movie “Aliens of the Deep.” **Results:** 112 youth attending Florida 4H State Marine Camp in Niceville, FL, participated in the “Deep Sea Safari” program. Pre-Post tests indicate a 40% increase in knowledge gained relating to oceanography, marine habitats, and the food web. Additionally, 30 high school students from Mosley High School in Panama City, FL, participated in the program. Post-instruction, all could discern chemosynthesis and photosynthesis. **Conclusions:** As a result of this learning experience campers reported a growing interest in marine science and oceanography. Students were intrigued with bioluminescence of deep sea ocean life. Future programs will build upon this interest.

Development of a Pelican Rescue Techniques Workshop to Minimize Impacts on Brown Pelicans in Southwest Florida

B. Fluech*, Collier County Extension

Objectives: The pelican rescue techniques workshops were developed to increase the number of staff and volunteers capable of rescuing pelicans injured from fishing gear, and educating anglers on methods to minimize impacts on pelicans. **Methods:** The agent collaborated with the Conservancy of Southwest Florida to host two workshops for park rangers, beach patrol staff, resource managers, and volunteers who work in areas where pelican/angler interactions are common. Workshops focused on pelican life history and population trends, fishing impacts on pelicans, rescue assessment and techniques, and education materials to educate anglers about minimizing impacts on pelicans. **Results:** 40 participants attended two workshops. A step scale evaluation tool was used to assess participant’s knowledge gain on rescue techniques and confidence to rescue injured pelicans. Each participant received a rescue kit and educational materials to assist with rescue operations and outreach efforts with anglers. **Conclusions:** As a result of the workshops, all new Collier County park rangers receive training on pelican rescue techniques from senior park rangers who attended the workshops. The Lee County Sea Grant agent organized a third workshop in her county using the format and educational materials of the original workshops. Also, three volunteers who attended the second workshop now patrol the Naples Pier on a weekly basis to rescue pelicans entangled from fishing gear and educate anglers on rescue techniques. A follow-up survey will be sent out this summer to assess the extent to which workshop participants have used the rescue kits and education materials.

Wedgefield Firewise Year-Round Program

D. Mudge*, Orange County/University of Florida Extension Education Center

Objective: As a result of a January 2000 “Wild Land Fire Education Workshop” conducted by Martha Monroe, Matt Weinell, Alan Long, Alison Bowers, Frances Nevill, and Geoff Babb, Natural Resources Agent Dennis Mudge pursued community programs addressing the need for wild fire education interface for communities in Orange County. **Methods:** A media event hosted by National Firewise was held in Wedgefield Community that had nearly succumbed to fire in 1998. With Agent facilitation, a Wedgefield Community Firewise Board was formed in 2001. It was then chosen as one of seven pilot communities nationwide participating in the National Firewise Program. The Wedgefield Firewise Community Committee has residents, realtors, St. John’s River Water Managements representatives, Orange County Parks, Orange County Fire Department, Orange County Planning, and others. Direction comes primarily from Division of Forestry (DOF) and Ranger Drainage District (RDD) as well as Orange County IFAS Extension. The chair person is a resident volunteer. **Results:** Presently, the committee oversees a year-round education calendar of events which is regarded by many as the most successful Firewise Community effort in the nation. National prestige has come from two national awards and also one from Orange County and another from private industry. Most recently a “Firewise Model Home” has been constructed in Wedgefield by private industry. Brochures on Firewise Landscaping have been authored by this Agent featuring this model home. **Conclusion:** This is a model Extension education effort from State training, to IFAS Extension application and programs to public agency and private industry adoption and ownership.

Using GPS Receivers to Reinforce Math, Science and Technology in Secondary Education

G. Koerner*, C. Minot, V. Spero, Brevard County Extension, **D. Matthews**, Technological Research and Development Authority (TRDA)

Objectives: Using Global Positioning System (GPS) receivers, teacher workshops were held in to present hands-on activities on how to use the equipment and to demonstrate the National 4-H Cooperative Curriculum Service (N4HCCS) *Exploring Spaces, Going Places* curriculum. In addition, a critical objective was to establish and build a partnership between extension, TRDA and neighboring school teachers. **Methods:** Secondary public school teachers attended six-hour workshops hosted by Orange and Brevard County Extension. The extension agent who attended the workshop received a classroom GPS education kit including 11 receivers and the N4HCCS curriculum for check-out, and was introduced to the teachers as a local resource and subject matter expert. **Results:** In 2007-2008, four teacher workshops were held with 56 attendees from both counties. In Brevard County, the teachers went on to instruct 180 students with at least 6 hours of school enrichment and Kennedy Space Center instructed over 700 youth in their informal education programs. In all cases name brand recognition of UF, IFAS, Extension and 4-H was reinforced. Today classes continue, and more teachers are becoming involved. **Conclusions:** Data has not been collected on improvement to student scores due to this project, however anecdotal evidence suggests that there has been an increase of student interest in navigation, geography, geographic information systems and healthy, wholesome, outdoor recreation.

Check Your Green Commitment –Take the Pledge!**M. Campbell**, Pinellas County Extension

Objectives: Participants in the Check Your Green Commitment –Take the Pledge program will report an increase in use and frequency of sustainable practices, such as water conservation, energy conservation, recycling and waste reduction. **Methods:** The pledge is taken through an on-line checklist made available at events and programs and through on-line marketing. **Results:** A total of 1,078 pledges were taken for sustainable practices online or as part of a green event/demonstration. Post/Pre-evaluations showed 75% gained awareness of new sustainable practices from pledges and 100% of the responses indicated an increase in frequency of the sustainable practice after the pledge. **Conclusions:** The community -based social marketing program breaks downs barriers to the implementation of sustainable practices through a commitment to the practice. As participants pledge to various practices they are also learning about new practices. Awareness of these sustainable practices and the commitment to make a behavior change, prepares residents to make continued positive actions a part of their everyday routine.

City of Tampa – An Urban Ecological Assessment**M. G. Andreu***, Ph.D., School of Forest Resources and Conservation; **R. Northrop***, Hillsborough County Extension; **M. Friedman**, GCREC-Plant City

Objectives: Support the development of an urban forestry program in the City of Tampa that is based upon ecological science and supports regional sustainability. **Methods:** We utilized high resolution aerial and satellite imagery from 1996 and 2006 to detect spatial canopy change and established 500 permanent plots in a systematic random sample to quantify urban forest structure and composition within the city and adjacent watersheds. These plots establish the baseline for long-term monitoring and trend analysis. The U.S. Forest Service UFORE model was used to investigate ecological function and economic value of the existing urban forest. **Results:** The immediate outputs from this long-term (2 year) study are now being used for: enhancing the understanding of the urban forest's values, improving urban forest policies, planning and management, and providing empirical data for the inclusion of trees within strategies for urban and watershed sustainability. The Office of the Mayor (Tampa) and the University of Florida IFAS Extension are cooperating in the presentation of a 'Symposium on Community Trees and the Urban Forest' as a first step in developing consensus among communities, businesses and government agencies on the proper management of the city's trees and woodlands to support urban sustainability. **Conclusions:** Science-based inquiry, monitoring and the transfer of appropriate technologies to city agencies and private businesses has provided a common ground and language for business leaders, communities and city agencies to build an urban forestry program that supports mutually enhancing economic, environmental and social values.

NOTES

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Members of the Extension Professional Associations of Florida are encouraged to prepare program abstracts for 2009. The format may change slightly, but the general criteria and structure will remain the same. The **abstract title** should briefly identify the subject and indicate the purpose of the program. The abstract should be a brief, factual summary of the content of the program. It should include:

- **objective** of the educational effort/program
- **methods** used
- the **results**
- **conclusions** or interpretation of the program's significance
- the body **should not exceed 250 words**.

CONTENT

Abstracts should describe a creative method implemented or an innovative subject researched by the author(s) as part of an Extension program.

ENTRIES FOR 2008

Submit abstracts to the EPAF Sharepoint site. A Call for Abstracts is made by electronic mail. Format and entry instructions will be specified then.

Prepare now for the 2009 annual meetings!

