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MESSAGE FROM THE FANREP PRESIDENT!

Dear FANREP colleagues,

I am honored to be writing to you as your FANREP President. FANREP is an impactful and enthusiastic association that I am proud to be part of. Our members have always produced outstanding works which are recognized both regionally and nationally. I want to congratulate all the FANREP members who won the ANREP Awards and FANREP Awards. I would also like to give special thanks to the FANREP Awards and Recognition Committee for judging all the submissions.

The 2022 EPAF conference is just around the corner. It will be held in Panama City from August 29 to September 1. This will be our first in-person EPAF since the COVID-19 pandemic hit us in March 2020. Registration is open now. The Dean's office is graciously providing \$500 to county and state faculty attending the conference. To receive the funds, you must attend all Wednesday and Thursday meals and sessions. As usual, FANREP will hold the membership meeting at EPAF. This year the membership meeting will be held on Monday, August 29, 3 pm – 5 pm.

During the membership meeting, we will elect the 2022 – 2023 FANREP officers. The change of leadership team will create several new openings, including President-Elect, Treasurer, Northwest District Director, and Northeast District Director. I encourage you to consider these leadership roles or participate in a committee.

Thank you to Lorna Bravo and Carrie Stevenson for putting this newsletter together and for everyone who submitted articles. Thank you to all the committee chairs and members for your time and commitment to keep FANREP running smoothly. I wish everyone a safe and healthy summer! Please let me know if you have any questions or comments at any time by emailing me at yilinz@ufl.edu or calling 407-410-6901.

Yilin Zhuang,
FANREP President



Meet our New UF Palm Horticulturalist Specialist



MICA MC MILLAN
Assistant Professor
Palm Horticulture

Dr. McMillan is the Assistant Professor of Palm Horticulture at the Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center. She has worked as a researcher in the agriculture, turfgrass and media industries focused on developing chemistries to improve plant and soil health. Dr. McMillan's research will primarily focus on palm and ornamental plants from seed to establishment under a variety of environmental and edaphic conditions.



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Scholarship Stories

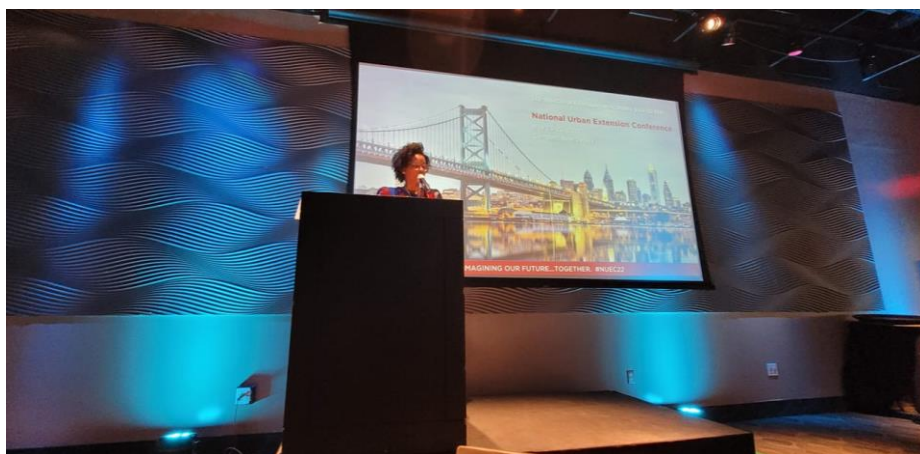
In May 2022, the National Urban Extension Leaders hosted its annual conference in Camden, New Jersey. The National Urban Extension Leaders (NUEL) began in 2013 as an effort of committed educators with the mission to advance urban related programs. To show support of NUEL, several UF/IFAS Extension agents, many of whom work in Florida counties with growing urban areas, travelled to the conference to learn from others working in urban and more densely populated communities.

Randall Penn, waste reduction agent from Sarasota County, received a FANREP travel scholarship to present a lightning talk at the conference. The presentation focused on how IFAS has brought green sports education into the classroom and beyond.

Highlights of the program include:

- 2 UF sport management courses at both the master's and undergraduate levels. Our course modules include an introduction to sustainability, on campus programs, as well as professional sports venues and operations.
- a Green Sports Internship Program, now in its fourth cycle of students working on various environmental related projects on campus and beyond. The Active Learning Program (ALP) partnership has over 864 student hours and \$22,000 in-kind contributions;
- Multiple green business partnerships with sports related businesses in Sarasota County, Baltimore Orioles, several golf courses, and local YMCA.
- Event food waste collection: UF/IFAS partnered with Sarasota County to create a closed-loop composting program with the goal of reducing environmental impacts at sporting events.

Over the past several years, we have seen the green sports movement evolve. It has moved from recycling and LED lighting to discussions of inclusion and food systems. At UF/IFAS, we are preparing the future generations to enter the world of sports management. Our goal is to be on the leading edge of these ever-changing discussions.- *Randall Penn*



May 2022, the National Urban Extension Leaders hosted its annual conference in Camden, New Jersey.
Photo Credit: Lorna Bravo



Randall Penn
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Scholarship Stories

Shelly Krueger is a marine biologist and the Florida Sea Grant agent for the University of Florida IFAS Extension, Monroe County. Shelly was fortunate to be awarded a travel scholarship to attend the ANREP conference in Kalamazoo, Michigan in June 2022.

I presented on sargassum management master plans entitled “University of Florida IFAS Extension agents create partnerships to turn mountains of trash into cash.” Sargassum is a very important habitat type out in the open ocean as it provides one of the only places for some species of fish, crabs, and juvenile loggerhead sea turtles to forage and hide from predators. In the Florida Keys, when we experience prevailing winds from the east and southeast, these massive floating mats of sargassum that have broken free out in the open ocean come ashore.

Historically, sargassum comes from an area in the open ocean called the Sargasso Sea. Now, there appears to be a second Sargasso Sea closer to the equator that scientists are calling the Great Atlantic Sargassum Belt. Scientists hypothesize there was an extreme North Atlantic Oscillation in 2009-2010, that caused sargassum to become entrained in currents closer to South America. As a result, since 2011 rafts of floating sargassum near the equator have been described as the largest macroalgae bloom in the world, which can wreak environmental and economic havoc when it washes ashore en masse. A team of 5 Extension agents (Armando Ubeda, Randall Penn, Vincent Encomio, Michelle Mularz, and Shelly Krueger) and 1 Specialist (Dr. Ashley Smyth) obtained funding to research the viability of composting the sargassum in collaboration with our respective counties. Shelly was happy to share preliminary results at the ANREP conference and highlight the work of our team.

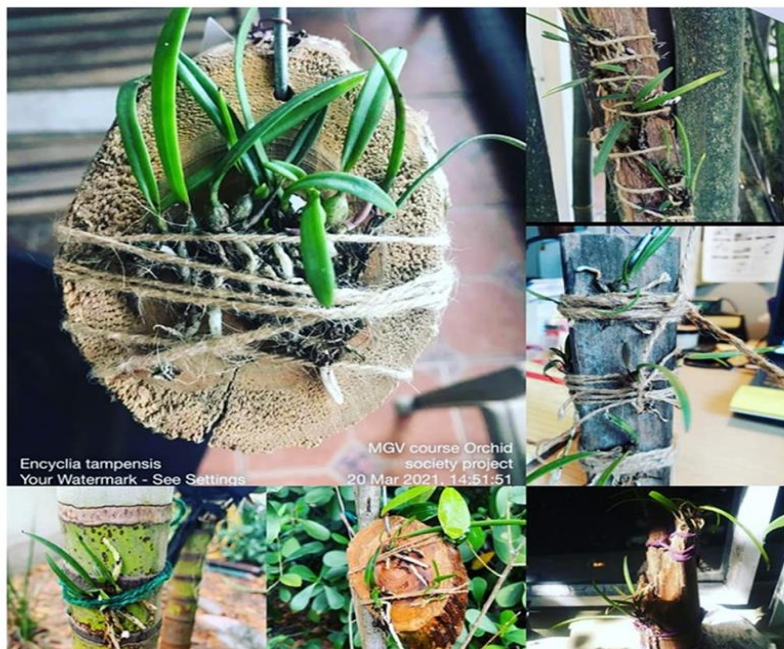
Pilot Study to Evaluate Sargassum Composting for Soil Amendment Applications in Municipal Landscaping

The collage features six photographs:

- Top left: Dr. Ashley Smyth, a woman with blonde hair, looking at a small object in her hands.
- Top right: Vincent Encomio, a man in a grey shirt, working with a large black compost bin outdoors.
- Middle left: Armando Ubeda, a man wearing a white hat and a blue shirt, smiling at the camera.
- Middle center: Shelly Krueger and Michelle Leonard, two women standing outdoors in front of a large black compost bin.
- Bottom left: A close-up of Armando Ubeda smiling.
- Bottom right: Randall Penn, a man in a blue shirt, standing next to a large stack of orange buckets labeled 'COMPOST'.

Restoring Native Orchids Throughout Broward County

Native orchids were once plentiful throughout Broward County but poaching and habitat loss wiped out most populations. The Broward County Native Orchid Project is restoring native orchids to our now predominantly urban environment. The long-term goal is to restore native orchids throughout our county in environments where they can successfully get established, bloom, get pollinated, set seed pods, disperse seed, and develop recruits.



Encyclia tampensis
Your Watermark - See Settings

MGV course Orchid society project
20 Mar 2021, 14:51:51



MGV RICH ACKERMAN-FORMER PRESIDENT
FORT LAUDERDALE ORCHID SOCIETY



Were you aware that Florida is home to at least 106 native orchid species? Unfortunately, 58 are listed as endangered by the Atlas of Florida Plants, and another 18 species are threatened. The good news is that you can be part of the solution by learning about our native orchids.



Watch our Native Orchid
Installation Videos

Site Selection, Installation
& Care Requirements

➤ https://youtu.be/Z7Zas_7RKWQ

Tree Selection

➤ <https://youtu.be/8vYoLAQtbik>

Installation Demonstrations

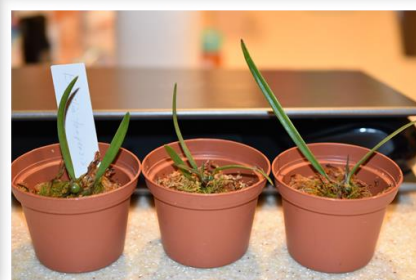
➤ <https://youtu.be/aaJxC12oE6I>



Read our
program blog

[Florida's Native Orchids - University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences \(ufl.edu\)](https://www.ufl.edu/~norp/Florida's%20Native%20Orchids)

Restoring Native Orchids Throughout Broward County



Native Orchid Success Stories

The **Florida butterfly orchid** (*Encyclia tampensis*) is one of the showiest native orchids. Its flowers are small and colored yellow, copper, green, orange, or bronze. A cluster of these blooms looks like a flutter of tiny, colorful butterflies.

Did you know? There is also an 'alba' form with white and green flowers throughout the state. They bloom between May and July.

Broward County Success Stories

UF/IFAS Extension Broward County is working to restore native orchids in urban environments. As part of their training, Broward's Master Gardener Volunteers have installed **129 native orchids in 43 Broward County landscapes as of 2022**. They are helping re-pot native orchid seedlings at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and are installing native orchids in parks and residential projects throughout the county.



Residents can buy native orchids for their own landscapes through [Broward Native Orchids – Restoring native orchids throughout Southeast Florida](#)



MGV Rich Ackerman-Distributing Native orchids to Broward MGV Class 2022



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Broward County Parks & Recreation



2022 AWARDS

Award Chair: Alyssa Vinson, Co-Chair: Marnie Ward

Achievement Awards

Early Career Leadership: Yilin Zhuang

(Winner of ANREP Early Career Leadership Award)

Innovative Program: Innovative Partnerships Protect Valuable Coastal Resources, Alyssa Vinson, Armando J. Ubeda, David C. Outerbridge

ANREP INNOVATIVE PROGRAM: Sustainable Floridians Benchmarking and Monitoring Program

Jennison Kipp-Searcy, Dr. Basil V. Iannone III, Dr. Pierce Jones, Dr. Nicholas Taylor, Dr. Alexander J. Reisinger, Dr. Eban Z. Bean, Dr. Mark Hostetler, Dr. Mark Clarke, and Brooke Moffis (University of Florida), Dr. Patrick Bohlen (University of Central Florida)

Outstanding Team: Central Florida CISMA Invasive Species Education Team, Morgan Pinkerton, Tina McIntyre, Allegra Buyer, Sherry Williams, Elizabeth Stephens, Amanda Lindsay, Mark Kateli, Jacki Rolly, Richard Shuman, Beth Jackson

FANREP Outstanding Specialist: Dr. Ashley Smyth

Outstanding 4-H Youth Development Program: Wildlife Outdoor Leadership Focus (W.O.L.F): Virtual to Personal, Ronnie Cowan, Laura Tiu, Sheila Dunning, Brian Estevez, Alyssa Schortinghouse

Outstanding Educational Materials

Book or Comprehensive Curriculum:

1st Place: *Plant This, Not That: Avoiding Invasive Plants in Florida*, Tina McIntyre, Rachel Gutner, Morgan Pinkerton, Sandra Wilson

2nd Place: *The Secret Life of Trees: A tree steward manual for Florida* Marguerite Beckford, Editors: Alyssa Vinson, Jamielyn Daugherty

3rd Place: *Junior Water Academy Curriculum*, Author: Lisa Krinsky, Co-authors: Natalie Parkell, Jessica Moses, Madison Borman

(Winner of ANREP Bronze Award in this category)

ANREP Gold Award for *Selling Logs from your Property: A Curriculum package*

Lauren Grand, Alicia Christiansen, and Francisca Belart (Oregon State University), Tamara Cushing (University of Florida), Chris Schnepf (University of Idaho), Kelsey Ketcheson & Kevin W. Zobrist (Washington State University).

Long Publication:

1st Place: *Standardized Invasive Species Terminology*, Basil Iannone III, Emily C. Bell, Shannon Carnevale, Jeff E. Hill, Julie McConnell, Martin Main, Stephen F. Enloe, Steven A. Johnson, James P. Cuda, Shirley M. Baker, Michael Andreu
(Winner of ANREP Gold Award in this category)

2nd Place: *Florida's Handbook for Municipal Action on Climate Change*, Holly Abeels, Alicia Betancourt, Ashley Smyth, Lacey Lingelbach

3rd Place: *Trimming Mangroves*, Michael Andreu, Natalia Medina-Irizarry

Newsletter/Series of Articles:

1st Place: *Panhandle Outdoors e-Newsletter*, Rick O'Connor, Contributors: Dr. Andrea Albertin, Jennifer Bearden, Ray Bodrey, Sheila Dunning, Scott Jackson, Molly Jameson, Daniel Leonard, Erik Lovestrang, Mark Mauldin, Danielle Sprague, Carrie Stevenson, Mark Tancig, Dr. Laura Tiu, Chris Verlinde, Kaylen Waters, Dr. Patrick Williams
(Winner of ANREP Gold Award in this category)

2nd Place: *LakeHome Magazine Increases Awareness of Programs*, Jamie Daugherty

Podcast/Radio:

1st Place: *Naturally Florida Podcast*, Lara Milligan, Shannon Carnevale
(Winner of Silver ANREP Award in this category)

2nd Place: *Plant This, Not That on National Public Radio Syndicate*, Tina McIntyre

Promotional and Marketing Materials:

1st Place: *Promoting Naturally Florida Podcast*, Lara Milligan, Shannon Carnevale
(Winner of ANREP Gold Award in this category)

2nd Place: *Central Florida Water Resource Website*, Yilin Zhuang, Caroline Warwick

3rd Place: *Growing for Florida Forks*, Marnie Ward, BJ Jarvis, Crysta Reaves, Steven Davis

Short Publication:

1st Place: *Prepare Your Forest Property for Hurricane Season*, Chris Demers, Dr. Michael Andreu

2nd Place: *Energy and Water Saving Factsheet*, Lee Hayes Byron, Sara Kane, Alia Garrett, Jackie Leboutz, Abbey Tyrna

3rd Place: *Mushroom Basics Infographic*, Alyssa Vinson, David C. Outerbridge, Armando J. Ubeda

Televised Conference/Videoconference/Webinar

1st Place: *The World of Invasive Species: Insect Edition*, Morgan Pinkerton, Tina McIntyre
(Winner of ANREP Bronze Award in this category)

2nd Place: *Nature Knowledge*, Shelly Johnson

3rd Place: *Edible Gardening Series: A gardener's toolkit*, Kevin O'Horan, Mindy Hanak, Sarah Bostick

TV/Video

1st Place: *Flip My Florida Yard Show*, Tina McIntyre

2nd Place: *Seminole County Virtual Farm Tour Video Series-Pollination*, Morgan Pinkerton

3rd Place: *Cool Season Food Plot Demo*, Jennifer Bearden

Website/Apps/Educational Technology

1st Place: *Wildlife Outdoor Leadership Camps: Virtual to Personal*, Ronnie Cowan, Sheila Dunning, Brian Estevez, Alyssa Schortinghouse
(Winner of ANREP Bronze Award in this category)

2nd Place: *Edible Gardening Series: A gardener's toolkit*, Kevin O'Horan, Mindy Hanak, Sarah Bostick

HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR STATE AND NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS!





**2022 Professional Improvement and Administrative Conference
Sheraton Panama City Beach Golf & Spa Resort
August 29 - September 1, 2022**



Early Bird Registration: June 1 – July 15: \$500
Regular Registration: July 16 – August 15: \$550
Late Registration: August 15 – August 23: \$600

The Dean's office is providing \$500 per state or county faculty member attending—must be present all day Wednesday and Thursday of the conference to receive funds.
To register, go online here: <https://extadmin.ifas.ufl.edu/epafreg/>



**Are you interested in contributing
by sharing your program stories to
our FANREP Newsletter?**



Contact Carrie Stevenson [@ctsteven@ufl.edu](mailto:ctsteven@ufl.edu) or
Lorna Bravo [@lbravo1@ufl.edu](mailto:lbravo1@ufl.edu)