



## The Baker Bulletin

A  
Baker County  
Extension  
Service Monthly  
Newsletter

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Horticulture	2
Horticulture, cont.	3
Calendar	4
Upcoming Events	5
4-H	6
Agriculture	7
Notices	8

Dear Extension Friends,

**We have a request for our readers this month; we need your feedback via a survey. By including your contact information in your response you will be entered to win a gift basket that includes: 1) Simply Florida cookbook, 2) Outdoor Water Saving Kit, 3) UF | IFAS Tote, and other items. The survey can be found online at <http://goo.gl/nEK4jl>. The link can also be found on our webpage or by the QR Code below. As always, if we can help you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.**

Sincerely,

Michael A. Davis  
County Extension Director / Ag Agent  
Baker County Extension Service



### Contact Information—Baker County Extension Service

1025 W. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny, FL 32063

Phone: (904) 259-3520, FAX: (904) 259-9034

Email: [baker@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:baker@ifas.ufl.edu) Hours: M—F 8:30am to 5:00pm (Closed Noon to 1:00pm for Lunch)

**Michael Davis, Ph.D.**  
[michael.davis@ufl.edu](mailto:michael.davis@ufl.edu)  
Agriculture Agent



**Alicia Lamborn**  
[alamborn@ufl.edu](mailto:alamborn@ufl.edu)  
Horticulture Agent



**Position Vacant**  
Family & Consumer  
Sciences Agent



**Shaina Bennett**  
[slbennett@ufl.edu](mailto:slbennett@ufl.edu)  
4-H Agent



# Highlights in Horticulture

By:

2

*Alicia Lamborn,  
Horticulture Agent*

## Garden Q & A

**Q: I was thinking about putting moth balls on my vegetable garden to keep the squirrels and rabbits out. Is this a good idea and will the produce be safe to eat?**

A: Mothballs contain the chemical dichlorobenzene and are not labeled for use on food products, or any other place in the garden. Moth balls are sometimes suggested for repelling wildlife from gardens, attics, crawl spaces, and trash cans, but this is an illegal pesticide use and probably ineffective. Since mothballs are registered pesticides, it is illegal to use them in locations that are not on the label (remember the label is the law), and manufacturers do not claim that these products are effective for anything but the control of moths (or carpet beetles for some products). In addition, the misapplication of mothballs may cause a noxious odor which can lead to adverse health effects in pets and people, and if accidentally eaten by children or wildlife, they are highly toxic.

**Q: Can I grow Brussels Sprouts here? I've gotten mixed answers from my gardening friends.**

A: Brussels sprouts are not considered easy to grow, but they may be grown successfully in Florida. Long ago, they were grown near Brussels, Belgium (hence the name), but today's commercial crops are grown primarily in New York and California. In Florida, production is mostly in backyard gardens where it is grown alongside its relatives cabbage, kale, collards, cauliflower, and broccoli. Brussels sprouts are actually a tall-stemmed cabbage and have the same cultural requirements as cabbage, but instead of one large head, many tiny heads form along the length of the stalk and at the base of each leaf. Sprouts are harvested continually by picking the lower sprouts as soon as they become walnut size (3/4 to 2 inches across). Breaking the leaf below each sprout makes for convenient picking.



These plants require cool weather, with average temperatures of 58 to 60 degrees being ideal for best growth. Plants even withstand light to heavy frost, but temperatures well below freezing can be detrimental. The potential problem with growing them in Florida is the inconsistent cool weather that we often receive, as warm temperatures cause sprouts to be soft and open rather than solid and tightly packed. If you'd like to try growing Brussels sprouts in your Florida garden, the best time to plant is October through December when there is sufficient cool weather for fair results. Two varieties suggested for gardeners are 'Jade Cross,' a hybrid variety that matures in about 85 days, and 'Long Island Improved,' an open-pollinated variety that takes a few days longer.

Source: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/mv034>

Photo Credits: <http://www.hort.purdue.edu/ext/senior/vegetabl/brussels1.htm>

## Did You Know?

*Althaea officinalis*, commonly called Marsh Mallow, is the original marshmallow candy!

*Althaea officinalis* is a species of marsh plant native to Eurasia that has long been used for medicinal purposes, as well as making marshmallow treats using the root of the plant.

Although similar in appearance to the *Althaea* (Rose Mallow) plant you might have in your yard, this species has been used for remedying the common cold, sore throat, cough, inflammatory bowel diseases, indigestion, and stomach ulcers for more than 2000 years. It is still used as a medicinal plant today, with the dried leaves and roots used in teas, and the roots used in ointments, creams, cough syrups, or powdered in capsules.



It is the root however that has been used since ancient Egyptian times to make a confection that evolved into today's marshmallow treat. But before you go telling campfire stories about marshmallows being made from plants, you should know that the modern marshmallow is nothing like ancient times. Today they are made of sugar, corn syrup, water and gelatin which is whipped and molded into the cylindrical pieces that make it so easy to pierce with a stick and toast over the open fire.

Photo Credit & Information adapted from: [http://www.serc.si.edu/labs/marine\\_invasions/databases/daily\\_invader\\_archives\\_CBplants.aspx](http://www.serc.si.edu/labs/marine_invasions/databases/daily_invader_archives_CBplants.aspx)

## UF/IFAS Baker County Extension Strawberry Fundraiser

We still have strawberry plants available!

For best results, get them planted early this month.

**'Camarosa' strawberry plants:**

**10 plants—\$5  
50 plants—\$20**



All purchases come with planting and growing instructions.

Funds support educational gardening programs and activities in Baker County.

Pick yours up today—while supplies last!

## Poinsettia Show & Sale

The UF Environmental Horticulture Club's 18th Annual Poinsettia Fundraiser will be held at Fifield Hall on Hull Road in Gainesville:

**Thursday, December 5th 8am - 5:30pm  
Friday, December 6th 8am - 3pm**

Over 30 varieties will be offered for sale including traditional reds and novelties such as Shimmer Surprise, Orange Spice, Winter Rose and Ice Punch. 6 ½" pots are the most popular and include colorful decorative pot covers. Larger showpieces in 8" and 10" pots will also be available along with centerpiece bowls.



For more information and directions, visit:

<http://gatorpoinsettia.com>

# November 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5 	6 	7 	8	9
10	11  Veteran's Day	12 	13 	14	15 	16
17	18	19 	20	21	22 	23
24	25	26 	27	28 Thanksgiving Holiday Extension Office Closed		30

Upcoming Programs are marked with a Program Area Symbol. Please match these symbols with the list on the following page for more information about the program.



4-H



Horticulture



Family &  
Consumer Sciences



Agriculture

# Upcoming Programs & Events

Programs will be held at the Baker County Extension Office (Agricultural Center) unless otherwise noted.

- Nov. 5** **Small Projects for Small Farms: Build a Small Greenhouse**, *Bushnell, FL*. To RSVP online, please visit [http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu/events\\_calendar.html](http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu/events_calendar.html) or call Cami E. McAvoy at 352-793-2728, ext. 234 or Jonael Bosques-Mendez at 352-671-8400.
- Nov. 6** **The Florida Ag Expo**, *Wimauma, FL*. To register online please visit [http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu/events\\_calendar.html](http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu/events_calendar.html). For additional information, please contact Frank Giles at [fgiles@meistermedia.com](mailto:fgiles@meistermedia.com) or call 407-539-6552.
- Nov. 7** **Hydroponics Workshop: Floating Water Gardens**, *Baker County Extension Office, 5:15pm*. Learn how to grow veggies like lettuce and herbs in water using a floating system. These types of growing systems are relatively easy to start and require little to no maintenance while the crop is growing. A limited number of small starter kits are still available for purchase and include instructions, plants, fertilizer and a basic floating system ready for immediate use. Small Kit (\$5): holds 3 plants, ready to use in your own 3- or 5- gallon bucket. Pre-registration required and kits purchased no later than November 5th.
- Nov. 15** **Drip Irrigation School**, *UF | IFAS Small Farms Academy, Live Oak, FL*. For additional information or to register, please visit <https://dripirrigation111513.eventbrite.com/> or contact Sarah White at [sewhite@ufl.edu](mailto:sewhite@ufl.edu) or 386-362-1725, ext. 102.
- Nov. 22** **Grow Veggies Year-Round**, *UF | IFAS Bradford County Extension Office, 1:30pm—4:00pm*. For additional information and to register, please contact the Bradford County Extension Office or visit [http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar/2013\\_1122\\_GrowVeggiesYrRound.pdf](http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu/calendar/2013_1122_GrowVeggiesYrRound.pdf).



## 4-H Club Meetings & Events:

**All County 4-H Club**—November 19th,  
6:00pm, Classroom

**Livestock Club**—November 19th,  
6:00pm, Classroom

**Cloverleaf Cloggers**—Tuesdays, 7:00pm,  
Fabulous Foot Works

### More Upcoming 4-H Events:

Nov 13– 4-H Cookie Party, \$5, 3-5pm 4-H Classroom, ages 8-13,  
register by November 6

Enrollment and re-enrollment for 4-H is now 100% digital. You can go to <http://bit.ly/IVY456> to enroll for the new 4-H year. However, you will not be approved without paying your \$1 insurance fee. Please do this as soon as you register for the new 4-H year at the Extension Office.



# Lucky Clover Chronicle

By:

*Shaina Bennett,  
4-H Extension Agent*

## October Recap!



This October was so busy! We participated in the Baker County Fair, enjoyed a special guest speaker at All County 4-H, travelled to Moultrie, Georgia for the Sunbelt Agricultural Exposition and hatched baby chicks at Westside Elementary School. Congratulations to our fair participants! You all did such an awesome job! You represented Baker County 4-H in one of the best ways possible!



To the left, Penny Davis and Kaleb Lewis are ready for the market animal auction! To the right, Scott Read is speaking at the All County 4-H Club.



To the left, Ms. DaNell, Kaleb, Blaine, Cody, and Ms. Shaina are enjoying the John Deere exhibit at the Sunbelt Ag. Expo. If you would like to participate in one of these activities speak with your 4-H Leader or contact Ms. Shaina.

## November News

This November is almost as busy as October! First of all, if you have not re-enrolled in 4-H for the new year please do so as soon as possible!!! Next, Livestock Club and All County 4-H Club will BOTH be meeting on November 19th, at 6:00 pm in the 4-H Classroom.

Please bring a non-perishable food item to donate to Vineyard of Love Ministries in Olustee. They are collecting for local families for not only Thanksgiving, but also Christmas. If anyone would like to donate a turkey, ham, or money towards those fresh items please contact Marjena Bass at 904-588-4711 or Angie Alexander at 904-379-0455.



All County 4-H is doing "Monkey in a Bag" which is both a community service project and a fundraiser. People sponsor a stuffed monkey, that will be provided to a patrol car, ambulance, or fire truck to help comfort children during a time of crisis. The sale will be the 3rd and 4th weeks of November. Please let us know if you would like to sponsor a "Monkey in a Bag"!

## Events

- Nov 11– Veteran’s Day, 4-H Office Closed
- Nov 13– 4-H Cookie Party, \$5, 3-5pm 4-H Classroom, ages 8-13, register by November 6
- Nov 19– All County 4-H and Livestock Meeting
- Nov 28-29– Thanksgiving, 4-H Office Closed



Us! [www.facebook.com/bakerco4h](http://www.facebook.com/bakerco4h)

## Birthdays for November:

Wishing all of you a very **happy birthday** from the Baker County Extension Office!

- Nov 6– Lucinda Rogers
- Nov 10– Lydia Lovingood
- Nov 22– AnnLee Kick
- Nov 24– Ms. Lydia Pons
- Nov 27– Kenu Turk
- Nov 28– Weston Sands



Enrollment and re-enrollment for 4-H is now 100% digital. You can go to <http://bit.ly/IVY456> to enroll for the new 4-H year. However, you will not be approved without paying your \$1 insurance fee. Please do this as soon as you register for the new 4-H year at the Extension Office.



## Common Fall Weeds for Northeast Florida

### Mimosa Tree

**Description**—Mimosa trees are very distinctive because of their leaf pattern. They have alternate compound leaves with pink, showy blooms in the spring. The mimosa tree also has large seed pods that can reach 6 inches in length. It is often found along fence lines, road sides and other disturbed areas.

**Control**—Apply Remedy in a 15% solution with basal oil applied to the lower 12-15 inches of bark around the entire stem. Spray until the bark is wet, but not to the point of runoff and do not apply to wet bark. The leaves can be spot treated with 1% Imazapyr or 2% Triclopyr. Large trees should be cut down and the stump treated with 50% Garlon3A immediately to prevent regrowth.



### Chinese Tallow

**Description**—The Chinese Tallowtree has simple leaves with a distinct point at the tip. The sap from the tree is milky and the fruiting body is 3-lobed with a capsule that stays on the tree through the fall. It is also known as the 'popcorn tree'.

**Control**—Apply Remedy in a 15% solution with basal oil applied to the lower 12-15 inches of bark around the entire stem. Spray until the bark is wet, but not to the point of runoff and do not apply to wet bark. The leaves can be spot treated with 1% Imazapyr or 2% Triclopyr. Large trees should be cut down and the stump treated with 50% Garlon3A immediately to prevent regrowth.



### Blackberry

**Description**—Blackberry is a woody, perennial bush that forms thickets and can invade grazed pastures. Also found along fence lines and distressed areas. It can be very hard to control due to the large underground root system.

**Control**—Multiple applications are often needed. Remedy (1qt/ac) or Pasturegard (2qt/ac) will give rapid brown-out, but 20-30% regrowth is expected. Control is best achieved when applied late in fall, prior to the first frost with a reapplication in spring.



### Spiny Amaranth

**Description**—This plant is also called 'carless weed'. It is common within heavily trafficked areas of pasture. Each weed can produce thousands of seeds multiple times during the year. Therefore, it can out-compete existing grass.

**Control**—Many herbicides are effective, including: 2,4-D; Weedmaster; GrazonNext and Telar.



#### Photo Credits:

**Mimosa**—Chuck Barger, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org; **Chinese Tallow**—Charles T. Bryson, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Bugwood.org; **Blackberry**—Ohio State Weed Lab Archive, The Ohio State University, Bugwood.org; **Spiny Amaranth**—John D. Byrd, Mississippi State University, Bugwood.org

**Baker County Extension Service**  
1025 West Macclenny Avenue  
Macclenny, FL 32063

Phone: (904) 259-3520  
FAX: (904) 259-9034  
Email: michael.davis@ufl.edu  
Website: <http://baker.ifas.ufl.edu>

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 17  
Macclenny FL 32063

Extension programs are open to all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, handicap, or national origin. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person needing a special accommodation to participate in any activity, should contact the Baker County Cooperative Extension Service at 1025 West Macclenny Avenue, Macclenny, FL 32063 or telephone (904) 259-3520 no later than five (5) days prior to the event. Hearing impaired persons can access the foregoing telephone by contacting the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8770 (voice) or 1-800-955-8771 (TDD).

*Congratulations to Ms. Doreen Johns of Glen St. Mary. Ms. Johns won our gift basket drawing for signing up for our newsletter. The basket included a food preservation book with recipes, a UF | IFAS tote and grocery bag, a water savings kit and other goodies. Congratulations, Ms. Johns, and thank you for supporting the Baker County Extension Service.*



## Newsletter Survey

We need your feedback via a survey. By including your contact information in your response you will be entered to win a gift basket that includes:

- UF | IFAS Tote
- Florida Yards & Neighborhoods Handbook
- Garden Insects Field Guide
- Simply Florida Cookbook
- Water Saving Kit
- 4-H Day Camp Voucher (\$25)
- Other items

The survey can be found online at:  
<http://goo.gl/nEK4jl>

The link can also be found on our webpage or by the QR Code at right. The survey closes at 8:00am on December 2nd.

