

July to September 2020- Volume 3, Number 3

In this issue

Gardening in South Florida -Vermicomposting	2,3
UF/IFAS Lettuce Lines Grown Hydroponically	4
Self-Watering Bucket Garden Project.....	5,6
Community Impact-COVID-19.....	7
2020-New Urban Food Production Short-Course.....	8
Florida-Friendly Landscape Plant of the Month.....	9
Florida-Friendly Landscape Butterfly of The Month.....	10

A Note From the Broward County's Urban Horticulture Extension Agent..

Dear "Broward Green Bites" Readers,

I am very excited to share with you our Summer Broward Green Bites newsletter. Our new issue is sharing some of our fantastic new 2020 projects, educational information, and collaborative initiatives for original programming. The University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) is a federal, state, and county partnership dedicated to developing knowledge in agriculture, human and natural resources, the life sciences and to making that knowledge accessible to sustain and enhance the quality of human life. Enjoy our new newsletter!

Warm Regards,

Lorna Bravo



Hydro Kit –UF/IFAS Lettuce Project

Photo Credit: Lorna

Lorna Bravo, Urban Horticulture Agent II, CED LEED AP BD+C

Phone: 954-756-8529

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Email: lbravo1@ufl.edu

CHECK OUT THESE ONLINE RESOURCES:

UF/IFAS Extension Website: <http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward/urban-horticulture-and-natural-resources/>

EDIS Publications: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Florida Master Gardener: <http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/>

Florida Friendly Landscapes: <http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Gardening Solutions: <http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Broward Master Gardener Volunteer: <http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward/urban-horticulture-and-natural-resources/broward-master-gardener/>

Sustainable Urban Food production: <http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward/urban-horticulture-and-natural-resources/sustainable-urban-food-production/>



Upcoming Events

UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

UF/IFAS Extension Broward County

2020 SUSTAINABLE URBAN FOOD PRODUCTION SHORT-COURSE

MONDAYS, 1:00 - 4:00 PM

AUGUST 17, 2020
Introduction to Sustainable Urban Agriculture & Regulations

AUGUST 24, 2020
Business and Marketing Plan, and Financial Resources

AUGUST 31, 2020
Urban Food Production Systems

SEPTEMBER 14, 2020
Best Management Practices

SEPTEMBER 21, 2020
Technology Integration in Urban Agriculture

SEPTEMBER 28, 2020
Post Harvesting & Food Handling

Short-course will be delivered virtually.

Location
UF/IFAS Extension
Broward County
3245 College Ave.
Davie, FL, 33314

For More Information Contact
Lorna Bravo (lbravo1@ufl.edu)
Amy Wiedenfeld
(awiedenfeld@ufl.edu)
or 954-756-8519

Organized by: Dr. Jianguo Qiu, Assistant Professor, Landscape Ecology (jiu@ufl.edu)
Lorna Bravo, UF/IFAS Broward County Extension Director (lbravo1@ufl.edu)
Jessica Ryals, UF/IFAS Extension Agent Sustainable Food Systems (jessicarials@ufl.edu)

This comprehensive UF/IFAS Extension program on sustainable urban food production is geared for all audiences including homeowners, school teachers, community gardeners, urban farmers, and entrepreneurs interested in this developing industry. In response to the Covid-19 social distancing requirements, the short-course this year will be conducted in a blended format with virtual lectures, zoom presentations, hands-on activities, and virtual tours. Participants will gain a better understanding of social, environmental benefits of urban agriculture, acquire knowledge and adopt management practices to start, expand and empower their operations of local food production in urban settings. Participants will receive a certification after completion of this short-course.

Registration: \$25 for 6 classes. (Note: Due to Covid-19, the workshops will be offered free of charge, and all registration expenses will be returned to the participants in the form of training materials).

Seating limited

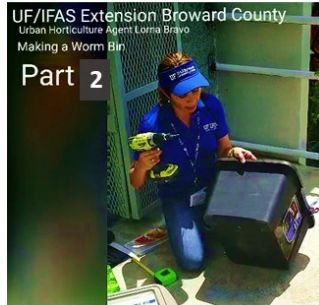
Register online here
<https://browardurbanag2020.eventbrite.com>

New 2020 Sustainable Urban Food Production Short-Course Series

UF/IFAS Extension Broward County is launching 2020 Sustainable Urban Food Production Short-Course. This comprehensive UF/IFAS Extension program on sustainable urban food production is geared for all audiences including homeowners, school teachers, community gardeners, urban farmers, and entrepreneurs interested in this developing industry.

Join us to our Online lecture series and invite a friend!!!
Refer to flyer on page 8. Contact: lbravo1@ufl.edu

GARDENING IN SOUTH FLORIDA



VERMICOMPOSTING- MAKING YOUR WORM BIN

Presenter: Lorna Bravo-UF/IFAS Extension Urban Horticulture Agent

Organic Recycling

DID YOU KNOW?

Organics is one of the largest fractions of waste, by weight, generated in the state of Florida. Of the 47 million tons of MSW generated in 2018, organics accounted for 33% of Florida's waste stream.

Reducing organics in the waste stream is vital for Florida's state to reach its 75% recycling goal by 2020, Organics, which includes food waste, yard trash, and paper.

Master Gardener Volunteer (MGV) Class 2020 reported a total of 150 lbs. of organic waste generated per week at home, making that to an estimated total of 7,200 pounds per year! This year, 1/3 of the MGV class 2020 will be starting their Vermicomposting projects to be part of the solution and help reduce Florida's organic waste. You can start too.

Let's work **TOGETHER** to reduce Florida's Organic Waste!

Florida-Friendly
Landscaping™ PROGRAM



Source: [https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/Final%20Strategic Plan 2019%2012-13-2019_1.pdf](https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/Final%20Strategic%20Plan%202012-13-2019_1.pdf)

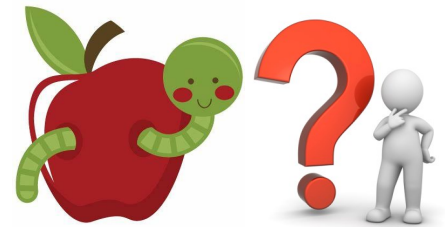
What is Vermicomposting?

Vermiculture, also known as vermicomposting or worm composting, is the process of using worms to break down waste materials into compost. Worm Casting adds microbes to the soil and helps retain moisture.



Vermicomposting is the way to go if you

- generate only kitchen/table scraps
- live where composters are not allowed
- don't have a yard



Benefits

- Creates 100% Organic Fertilizer
- Lower Greenhouse Gasses
- Reduce Food waste
- Reduce Florida's Organic Waste

Want to get Started?

Introduction-Why Vermicomposting (part 1)

<https://youtu.be/BhZq-pOPp2s>

Worm Bin materials (part 2)

<https://youtu.be/aJaeZZEf0k>

Building Worm Bin (part 3)

<https://youtu.be/v9C7GYxtuVM>

Building Worm Bin (part 4)

<https://youtu.be/feA3p99RGas>

Harvesting Vermicomposting (part 5)

<https://youtu.be/j-VwscsjEFQ>



Did you know that 1 pound of worms can turn 65 pounds of garbage into garden compost in 100 days?

Broward County Master Gardener Volunteers Evaluate UF/IFAS Lettuce Lines Grown Hydroponically



Are you interested to Evaluate UF/IFAS Lettuce lines?
Lettuce Start!



Did you know that the United States is the second-largest producer of lettuce in the world?



It is a 3 Billion Dollar Business to the entire USA which situates second after China in the production of this leafy vegetable.

Lettuce is one of the top ten most consumed vegetables in the USA providing a source of unappreciated nutrients to consumers. Dr. German Sandoya teaches one workshop during UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Master Class Course Title "Lettuce Production in Florida for Master Gardener Volunteers". The new hydroponic seminar, along with his lettuce class for Master Gardener Volunteers, will be helping evaluate UF lettuce lines suitable for hydroponics.

The Master Gardener Volunteer Trainees will be helping gather data during the Summer of 2020 on three lettuce breeding lines for Dr. Sandoya's Research project. Participants will apply the skills taught during the Master Gardener class and will apply the hands-on practice in making their water quality measurements; proper fertilizer use and practice nutrient load reduction in hydroponics. They will also be weighing lettuce heads, identifying disorders as tip burn, bolting, and evaluating taste, and other checklist items.

Read about our New Hydroponics Project:
<https://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/browardco/2020/05/26/broward-county>

UF/IFAS EXTENSION BROWARD COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER PEG LACKNER-TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM



Self-Watering Bucket Garden

TRAIN THE TRAINER PROJECT

Prepared by: UF/IFAS Extension Master Volunteer Gardener Peggy Lackner



MATERIAL LIST

- 1) 5-gallon food grade bucket - \$4.50
- 2) Plastic basket with side holes \$1.00
- 3) ¾" PVC pipe cut 16" long, cut one end on an angle to allow water flow \$0.50
- 4) Optional tomato cage for climbing plants \$0.50
- 5) Soil: planting mix to fill bucket \$5.00

TOTAL COST \$11.50



Lorna Bravo-UF/IFAS Extension Urban Horticulture Agent

Self-Watering Bucket Garden

TRAIN THE TRAINER PROJECT

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE



- 1 Place a basket with holes, upside down at the bottom of the 5-gallon bucket.
- 2 Drill one hole into the side of the bucket at the height of the top of the basket.
- 3 Place a 3/4" X 16" tall PVC pipe into the bucket standing upright.
- 4 Finally, fill the entire bucket with the planting mix. Make sure you wet the planting mix.
- 5 Using the PVC pipe, fill the bucket with water until it runs out of the hole on the bucket's side. Going forward, you will water using the PVC pipe to encourage profound root growth. Plants will draw water naturally through capillary action. Plant your seeds or seedlings.
- 6 Crop selection consideration: tomatoes, sugar snap peas, cucumbers, and herbs.



Prepared by: UF/IFAS Extension Master Gardener Volunteer
Peggy Lackner-TRAIN THE TRAINER PROJECT

Lorna Bravo-UF/IFAS Extension Urban Horticulture Agent



An Equal Opportunity Institution and Employer

INTERESTED TO JOIN OUR TRAIN THE TRAINER PROGRAM? CONTACT US!



SELF-WATERING BUCKET GARDEN CROP SELECTION EXAMPLES

WATCH Peg Lackner's Self-Watering Bucket Garden Video:

 https://youtu.be/HFvYLgi_Lzo



UF/IFAS Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Peg Lackner

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Urban Horticulture

June 2020-COVID-19

Lorna Bravo –Urban Horticulture Agent

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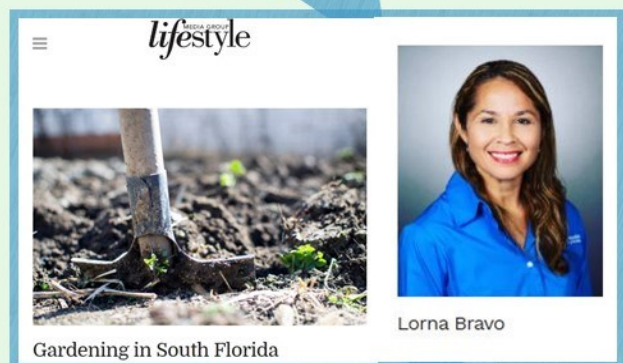
#1 Success Stories

Urban Horticulture Program Featured in Lifestyle Magazine

<https://imgfl.com/south-florida-gardening/>

"Great paper to improve lives and promote Extension work. Bravo Lorna!"

Juan Sierra
EOAC Chair



"In case I didn't let you know how terrific your article is, here's my kudos to you. Hope every city that uses LifeStyle has this in one of their current issues.! Congratulations and thanks for all you do!"

Mona Johnston
UF/IFAS Extension Education Urban Horticultural
Advisory Board Member

Visit

<https://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/plants/editables/vegetables/paper-vegetable-gardening-cost-analysis.html> UF/IFAS initiative that started during the pandemic to promote sustainable urban home food production.

<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward/urban-horticulture-and-natural-resources/>



1,702 Website Engagements



2,911 Email Consultations



274 Webinar Participants



144 Phone Consultations



25 Educational Materials



31 MGVS Helpdesk Services



Florida-Friendly
Landscaping™ PROGRAM
2 Field Consultations



5,663 Social Media



Visit our new Instagram Page:

[@urbanhortbroward](https://www.instagram.com/urbanhortbroward)

Visit our new Twitter Page:

<https://twitter.com/HortUrban>



UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Short-Courses 2020

UF/IFAS Extension Broward County

2020 SUSTAINABLE URBAN FOOD PRODUCTION SHORT-COURSE

UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

BROWARD
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Organized by: Dr. Jiangxiao Qiu, Assistant Professor, Landscape Ecology (qiu@ufl.edu)
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Florida-Friendly Landscape Plant of The Month

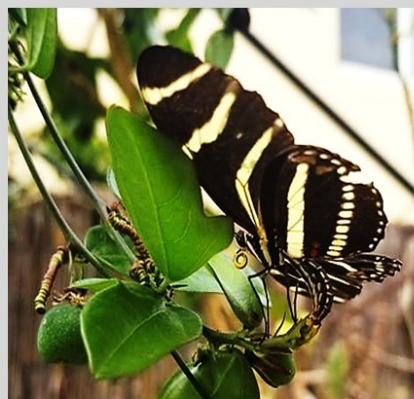


Photo: Lorna Bravo. UF/IFAS. All rights reserved



Florida-Friendly
Landscaping™ PROGRAM

Corkystem Passion-flower (*Passiflora suberosa*)



- ❑ **Family:** Passifloraceae
- ❑ **Scientific Name:** *Passiflora suberosa*
- ❑ **Common Name:** Corky Stem
Passionvine, Indigo Berry, Devil's Pumpkin
- ❑ **Hardiness Zone:** 9A,9B,10A,10B,11
- ❑ **Wildlife and Ecology:**

Larval host plant for gulf fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*), julia (*Dryas iulia*) and zebra longwing (*Heliconius charitonius*) butterflies. Attracts bee pollinators.

- ❑ **General Landscape Uses:**
Informal groundcover or low-climbing vine.

Passiflora suberosa is commonly called Corky-stem passion vine, in reference to the older stems that have a thick "corky" look. This beautiful low-growing climbing vine with stems two or more feet in length is a Florida native. Prefers shady locations but will grow in full sun, often spreading to create large patches. The fruit is a green, dime-sized, and many-seeded berry, turning bluish-black at maturity. Birds love the fruit and butterflies, including the Florida State Butterfly, the Zebra Longwing use this vine as a larval host plant. Females lay the small yellow eggs singly or in small clusters on terminal leaves and tendrils of this native. Corky stem merely is irresistible to several butterfly species, which makes it must-have for the Butterfly Garden. You'll be delighted you choose to add this unique native climbing vine to your Florida-Friendly Landscape! - Lorna Bravo

Want to visit UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Education Florida-Friendly Landscaping Demonstration Gardens?
You can see examples of our Florida-Friendly Landscaping Plant of The Month. Contact our office.

Visit our UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Website at:

<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward/urban-horticulture-and-natural-resources/>



Visit our new Twitter Page:
<https://twitter.com/HortUrban>

Like @ufifasextbroward

Florida-Friendly Landscape Butterfly of The Month

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Photo by Amy Rielly

BROWARD
COUNTY
FLORIDA

Florida-Friendly
Landscaping™ PROGRAM



DARE TO ID



VISIT US: <https://youtu.be/PHSCzaykGtc>

Florida-Friendly Landscape Principle # 5 Attract Wildlife

Plants in your landscape that provide food, water and shelter will attract Florida's diverse wildlife

Want to visit UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Education Florida-Friendly Landscaping Demonstration Gardens?

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Do you want to receive our quarterly newsletters?

Visit: <http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward/urban-horticulture-and-natural-resources/publications/>



FLORIDA
MASTER
GARDENER
VOLUNTEER

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Visit our new Twitter Page:
<https://twitter.com/HortUrban>

Like  [@ufifasextbroward](https://twitter.com/ufifasextbroward)