

October to December 2020- Volume 3, Number 4

In this issue

Broward County Native Orchid Project	2,3
UF/IFAS Lettuce Lines Grown Hydroponically	4,5
FFL-Broward County Water Ambassador Program.....	6
Community Impact-MGV Southeast Regional Conference.....	7
2021-New MGVScholarship Program.....	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 fall Broward Green Bites newsletter. Our new issue is sharing impact stories, new 2021 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!



UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Rain barrel Program
 Photo Credit: Rose Bechard-Butman/NatureScape

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

Phone: 954-756-8529 | Fax: 954-357-5271

Email: lbravo1@ufl.edu

CHECK OUT THESE ONLINE RESOURCES:

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



MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER SCHOLARSHIP Class of 2021

UF/IFAS Extension, Broward County Master Gardener Volunteer Program launches the first Master Gardener Volunteer Scholarship to join the class of 2021.

For more information please contact:

Lorna Bravo | lbravo1@ufl.edu
 Anthony Gross | anthony.gross@ufl.edu
 Samuel Chillaron | samuel.chillaron@ufl.edu

Interested in learning more about the Master Gardener Volunteer Program or our new Scholarship Opportunity?

Please visit us on the web:

<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward/urban-horticulture/broward-master-gardener/>

SCAN ME!



New 2021 Master Gardener Volunteer Scholarship Program

Applications are available for the 2021 UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Master Gardener Volunteer (MGV) training scheduled to begin in February 2021. For the second year in a row, the program will be conducted virtually with two classes a week for 16 weeks. Deadline to apply is Friday, December 18, 2020. For the first time, a scholarship program has been designed for interested participants who might not otherwise be able to financially pay the complete cost of the training fee.

Interested? Contact: lbravo1@ufl.edu



BROWARD COUNTY NATIVE ORCHID PROJECT

UF/IFAS EXTENSION BROWARD COUNTY MASTER GARDENER RICH ACKERMAN
MILLION ORCHID PROJECT-FORT LAUDERDALE ORCHID SOCIETY



UF/IFAS EXTENSION BROWARD COUNTY URBAN HORTICULTURE: LORNA BRAVO

HISTORY

Did you know that in the late 1800s, as the Florida East Coast Railroad extended southward, orchids were among the first natural resources to be exploited?



SOURCE: <https://fairchildgarden.org>

- Millions of flowering orchids were ripped from the trees and packed into railroad cars, destined to be sold as disposable potted plants in northern flower shops.
- Orchid populations dwindled rapidly to catastrophically low levels.
- Urban development and agriculture further eliminated nearly all remaining orchid habitat.



Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ PROGRAM

REINTRODUCING NATIVE ORCHIDS TO SOUTH FLORIDA

The UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Florida-Friendly Landscaping program has joined forces with The Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society to help reintroduce native orchids in Broward County's Residential Landscapes. Our region has countless suitable landscape trees for orchid reestablishment in schoolyards, roadways, and other public spaces.



Today native orchids exist in such small numbers that they have no hope of recovering on their own, despite the fact that oaks and mahoganies have been gradually making a comeback as street and landscape trees throughout South Florida.





**PROJECT MISSION:
RESTORING NATIVE ORCHIDS
IN BROWARD COUNTY**

MILLION ORCHID PROJECT-FORT
LAUDERDALE ORCHID SOCIETY
&
UF/IFAS EXTENSION BROWARD COUNTY
URBAN HORTICULTURE PROGRAM

Florida-Friendly
Landscaping™ PROGRAM

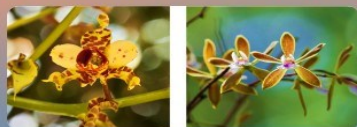


READ OUR BLOG:

- <http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/browardco/2020/10/18/broward-county-native-orchid-project/>

INTERESTED TO INVITE NATIVE ORCHIDS IN YOUR LANDSCAPE?

CONTACT OUR UF/IFAS EXTENSION BROWARD COUNTY **Florida-Friendly
Landscaping™ PROGRAM**



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

URBAN HORTICULTURE AGENT: LORNA BRAVO

EMAIL: lbravo1@ufl.edu

or

Anthony Gross @ anthony.gross@ufl.edu



LORNA BRAVO
URBAN HORTICULTURE AGENT



ANTHONY GROSS EDUCATION
TRAINING SPECIALIST



SAMUEL CHILLARON
EDUCATION TRAINING SPECIALIST

WATCH OUR VIDEO:

- <https://youtu.be/BVXNWC0AAmE>

HYDROKIT PROJECT HYDROPONIC GARDENING

GOAL: To train MGVs to explore new sustainable local urban food production practices such as indoor hydroponics. To empower MGVs to evaluate UF/IFAS Lettuce lines grown hydroponically.



METHOD: We implemented a virtual 7-week online learning platform in Microsoft Teams. Each participant took a deep-water culture system home and a lettuce cultivar. The Urban Horticulture team created a deep-water culture how-to videos and manuals. We invited several UF specialists to cover virtual weekly topics. MGVs planted their lettuce in groups of 4 from home, shared weekly progress, collected data, and presented results on week 7 via Teams.

ADVANCE TRAININGS

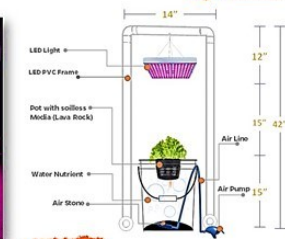


5-Gal DWC Hydroponic Kit
Measurements and parts



WEEK 6 UF LETTUCE LINES
GROWN HYDROPONICALLY-INDOOR

Lorna Bravo-Urban Horticulture Agent



Prepared by Lorna Bravo-Urban Horticulture Agent



An Equal Opportunity Institution and Employer




CONCLUSIONS:

22 MGV's were educated on the use of hydroponics to focus on water use efficiency. 50% (n=11) showed knowledge gain by growing lettuce in a deep-water hydroponic system, applying hands-on water quality measurements, properly fertilizing use, managing pests, and know-how to reducing nutrient load.

UF/IFAS Extension Master Gardener Volunteers Grow Food Indoor-Hydroponically

The hydrokit inspired and helped me by learning the basics of hydroponics structure and more importantly the nutrient intake by the plant's root system. With the basic concepts in place, I was able to build a version using other food grade containers readily available. A stand was created to elevate the kit for ease of draining and ergonomic height for daily care and maintenance of the hydroponic. -**Amy Rielly-MGV Class 2018**

FLORIDA MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER




Hydroponic Project:
Growing Indoors
Master Gardener Volunteer Class 2018
• Amy Rielly

- **Crop:** Basil, Cucumber
- **Hydroponic System:** DWC 5-Gallon Bucket
- **LED Light:** 75 Watt
- **Duration:** 60 Days

UF/IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

FLORIDA MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER

Master Gardener Volunteer Trainee Class 2020
• April Erlandson



Hydroponic Project:


- **Crop:** Swiss Chard
- **Hydroponic System:** DWC Raft System
- **Duration:** 60 Days

UF/IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

"The 7-week Hydro kit inspired me by helping to learn the basics about measuring and tracking the nutrient solution. From there I was interested in trying a different system out. I created a small DWC floating raft to grow a few Swiss chard (Ferry-More mixed colors). I'm using natural light from a south facing window and I simply check only the pH once or twice a week. So far I just had to add a little amount of nutrients and water because it evaporates." - **April Erlandson MGVC Class 2020**

FLORIDA MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER

Master Gardener Volunteer Trainee Class 2020
• Julieta Ross



GENOVESE BASIL

Hydroponic Project: Growing Indoors

- **Crop:** Genovese Basil
- **Hydroponic System:** DWC 5-Gallon Bucket
- **Indoor Lighting:** LED 45 Watt
- **Duration:** 60 Days

UF/IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

"Getting started in hydroponics can seem very complicated and daunting. We need to shift our focus from preparing and tending to soil, to designing, building and using a hydroponics system. And we need to learn how to manage other types of issues that may arise, such as algae, root monitoring, EC/PPM measurements. To someone with no practical hydroponics experience, this could be overwhelming and enough of a reason not to get started. The Hydrokit project demystified the process for me. It made it very easy to get started, to quickly set up a system at home, and to learn the basics of growing hydroponically." - **Julieta Ross MGVC Class 2020**



2020 WATER AMBASSADOR SHORT-COURSE

OCTOBER 5-NOVEMBER 9
1-4:30PM

UF/IFAS Extension Broward County
3245 College Avenue • Davie, Florida 33314

OCTOBER 5
Introduction: What are Sustainable Landscapes (Live Lecture)

OCTOBER 12
Water Trends (Live Lecture/Virtual)

OCTOBER 19
Soil Water Science/Plant & Turf (Live Lecture/Site Visit)

OCTOBER 26
Technology Integration-Water Conservation (Live Lecture/Hands-on)

NOVEMBER 2
Cultivating Community Change-Encouraging Water Conservation Behavior (Live Lecture/Zoom Webinar)

NOVEMBER 9
Our Connectivity to Water (Site Visit/Stewardship Project)

To make a difference concerning the issues surrounding water quality and quantity in our urban communities, we must understand the various ways in which we interact with water.

As Floridians, we are connected to our oceans and bays by our faucets and laundries. We are connected to our neighborhood ponds and lakes by our yards and streets, and our regional and statewide neighbors by our surface and groundwater supplies.

This new program will use expert presentation, online exploration, experiential learning, field experience in water trends, soil water science, smart irrigation systems, and help define sustainable South Florida landscapes. We will cover communication skills training to foster a greater understanding of these interactions and provide the tools necessary to become stewards of our water resources. During this six-session course, participants will travel to locations across Broward County and The Everglades to explore the natural beauty, learn about emerging water issues, and meet with local experts. Participants will also connect and learn about other County's water challenges and work together to plan and implement a stewardship project that makes a difference in our local community.

Register online here

www.2020waterambassadorbroward.eventbrite.com

For More Information Contact:
Lorna Bravo, lbravo1@ufl.edu
Anthony Gross, Anthony.gross@ufl.edu

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW WATER AMBASSADOR CLASS 2020!

OUR WATER AMBASSADORS WILL BE ASSISTING HOMEOWNERS WITH THEIR FLORIDA-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING EFFORTS AND EDUCATE HOW THEIR LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE DECISIONS CAN PROFOUNDLY IMPACT FLORIDA'S ENVIRONMENT.



UF/IFAS EXTENSION, BROWARD COUNTY WATER AMBASSADOR PROGRAM – 2020



UF/IFAS Extension, Broward County
3245 College Avenue, Davie, FL 33314
954-756-8550 | 954-756-8519
styl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward



Katy O'Hara

Master Gardener Volunteer Since: 2020

Certifications:
Basic Tree Trimming Certificate



Mario Rios

Master Gardener Volunteer Since: 2020

Certifications:
Basic Tree Trimming Certificate



Gerrit Stryker

Master Gardener Volunteer Since: 2019

Certifications:
Advanced Tree Trimming Certificate



Kaylee Kildare

Master Gardener Volunteer Since: 2021

Certifications/Education:
Bachelor of Arts in Commercial Advertising
Magna Cum Laude, University of Florida
Bachelor of Arts in Graphic Design, Magna Cum Laude, University of Florida
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, Florida State College
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, Florida State College
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, Florida State College
Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, Florida State College



Karen Wheeler

Master Gardener Volunteer Since: 2019

Certifications/Education:
Florida Master Naturalist



Jennifer Sirop

Master Gardener Volunteer Since: 2020

Certifications/Education:
Basic Tree Trimming Certificate

Faculty & Staff

Lorna Bravo
County Extension Director &
Urban Horticulture Agent

Anthony K. Gross
Education & Training Specialist I
Urban Horticulture Program

Lorna Bravo
Program Assistant
Urban Horticulture Program



Shauna Boughton

Master Gardener Volunteer Since: 2009

Certifications/Education:
Bachelor of Science in Horticulture



Sheila Rowen

Master Gardener Volunteer Since: 2018

Certifications/Education:
Bachelor of Science in Horticulture



Jeff Cole

Master Gardener Volunteer Since: 2017

Certifications/Education:
Bachelor of Science in Horticulture



Fred Ackerman

Master Gardener Volunteer Since: 2017

Certifications/Education:
Bachelor of Science in Horticulture



Julieta Ross

Master Gardener Volunteer Since: 2020

Certifications/Education:
Bachelor of Science in Horticulture



Amy Rielly

Master Gardener Volunteer Since: 2018

Certifications/Education:
Bachelor of Science in Horticulture



Jannine Griffiths

Master Gardener Volunteer Since: 2003

Certifications/Education:
Bachelor of Science in Horticulture



COMMUNITY IMPACT

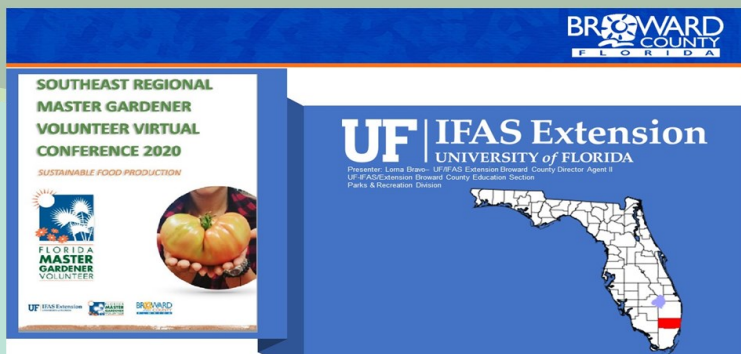
Urban Horticulture

2020 SOUTHEAST MGV REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Lorna Bravo –Urban Horticulture Agent
Anthony Gross- Urban Horticulture Training Specialist



UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



Success Stories

78 responders

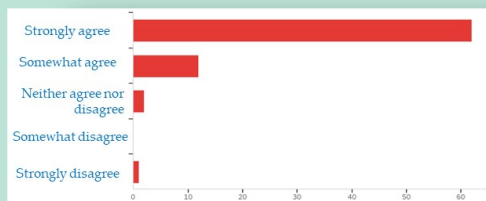
"Very interesting and informative."

"Fascinating."

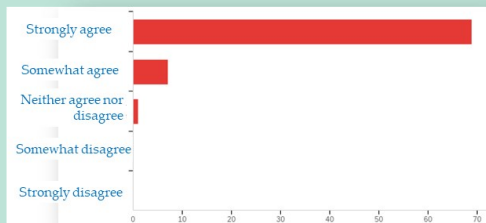
"good information"

"Excellent info"

81% Using Zoom Technology was convenient for this training



90% The conference registration was straightforward and convenient.



MGV REGIONAL CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Lourdes Rodriguez
Public Relations Specialist, UF/IFAS



Jeff Wasielewski
UF/IFAS Extension, Miami-Dade County, Commercial Tropical Fruit Crops Agent



Matt Krug
UF/IFAS Extension (SWFREC), Food Science, State Specialized Agent



Dr. Alvarez
UF/IFAS Extension (SWFREC), Citrus Horticulture, Assistant Professor



Lorna Bravo
UF/IFAS Extension Broward County Extension Director, Urban Horticulture Agent



Wendy Wilber
UF/IFAS, State Master gardener Volunteer Coordinator

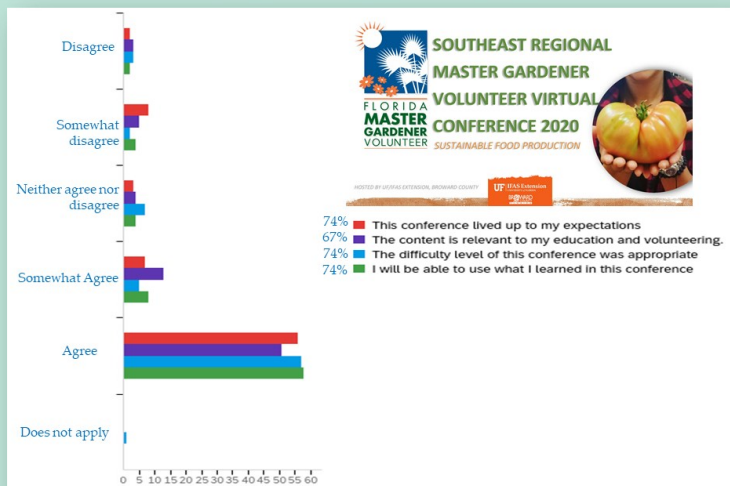
NEED A COPY OF OUR SPEAKER'S BIO?

visit



<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/media/sfylifasifl.edu/broward/docs/pdfs/urban-hort/documents-page/Speaker-Bios---2020-MGV-Conference.pdf>

MGV TRAINING SATISFACTION



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

MGV TRAINING SATISFACTION

74 % respondents felt the conference lived up to their expectations

67% respondents felt the content was relevant to their education and volunteering

76% respondents felt the difficulty level of the conference was appropriate

76% respondents felt they will be able to use what they learned in this conference

Report prepared by: Lorna Bravo –Urban Horticulture Agent

UF/IFAS Extension Broward County MGV New Scholarship Program

UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



BROWARD
COUNTY
FLORIDA

MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER SCHOLARSHIP Class of 2021

UF/IFAS Extension, Broward County Master Gardener Volunteer Program launches the first Master Gardener Volunteer Scholarship to join the class of 2021.

For more information please contact:

Lorna Bravo | lbravo1@ufl.edu

Anthony Gross | Anthony.gross@ufl.edu

Samuel Chillaron | Samuel.chillaron@ufl.edu

Interested in learning more about the Master Gardener Volunteer Program or our new Scholarship Opportunity?

Please visit us on the web:

<http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/broward/urban-horticulture/broward-master-gardener/>

SCAN ME!



You can read our new blog here: <http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/browardco/2020/11/08/broward-county-master-gardener-volunteer-scholarship-program/>

Florida-Friendly Landscape Plant of The Month

Florida-Friendly
Landscaping™ PROGRAM



IF YOU PLANT THEM THEY WILL COME



Aquatic Milkweed (*Asclepias perennis*)

- Family: Asclepiadaceae (Milkweed Family)
- Scientific Name: *Asclepias perennis*
- Common Name: Aquatic Milkweed
- Zone: 8a to 10B

Values to Beneficial Insects

Larval host to monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*), queen butterfly (*Danaus gilippus*) and soldier butterfly, (*Danaus eresimus*)
Special Value to Native Bees, Bumble Bees, Honey Bees. Supports Conservation Biological Control.

Did you know that Monarchs cannot survive without milkweed plants? The Monarch butterfly caterpillars only eat milkweed plants (Asclepias spp.), and monarch butterflies need Milkweed to lay their eggs and survive. With shifting land management practices, we have lost many milkweeds from the landscape. By planting native milkweeds in your yards, we can help bring back the monarchs. Monarch LOVE Native milkweeds. Did you know that in Florida, we have more than twenty species of Milkweed, almost all of which are native? A couple of these species are endemic, meaning they're found only in our state. One of Florida's native Milkweed is Asclepias perennis (Aquatic Milkweed). Check out this iconic, bright beauty that's a staple in every butterfly garden. It can be beautiful in your garden too! It likes Sun, Part Shade, and moist to wet soil. Aquatic Milkweed is an important nectar source for Monarch butterflies, and its leaves provide essential food for developing Monarch caterpillars. Expect to see a variety of pollinators making use of this plant—particular value to native bees. You'll be delighted you choose to add these unique native milkweeds 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 New You Tube Channel

➤ <https://tinyurl.com/urbanhortbcyoutube>



➤ [@facebook.com/urbanhortbroward](https://facebook.com/urbanhortbroward)



Follow US!



URBANHORT
TBROWARD

Scan this name tag on Instagram to follow urbanhortbroward.



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

Florida-Friendly Landscape Butterfly of The Month

UF | IFAS Extension
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

BROWARD
COUNTY
FLORIDA
Florida-Friendly
Landscaping™ PROGRAM



Amy Rielly

Picture Credit: MGV Amy Rielly

Florida-Friendly Landscape Principle # 5 Attract Wildlife

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

- **WATCH OUR VIDEO:** <https://youtu.be/wgwOo6zh69I>

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 [New You Tube Channel](#)

➤ <https://tinyurl.com/urbanhortbcyoutube>



Like

➤ [@facebook.com/urbanhortbroward](https://facebook.com/urbanhortbroward)



Follow US!



URBANHOR
TBROWARD

Scan this nametag on Instagram to follow
urbanhortbroward



twitter

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