

September 2024-Volume 2

Master Gardener Volunteer Birthdays & Anniversaries.....	1
Announcements Upcoming Webinars.....	2
Events, Trees, Plants.....	3
Moths, Bats.....	4.

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What we're talking about

Welcome!

How is your summer going? Have you done anything exciting? What have you been up to? Feel free to share your stories and thoughts with our MGTV Team Broward! We need your stories to help make the Newsletter a success. We have some interesting events happening on

Thurs Sep 19, 2024 at Flamingo Gardens. Don't forget to sign up for the Pot Luck dinner and a lecture on Invasive Species by Eric Suarez, our own member of the Croc Doc Team. **We are also getting ready for the 2024 Water Ambassador Short Course, starts Fri Oct 4** as well as the **Annual Recognition Awards luncheon on Sat Oct 19.** More on those to come via email very soon! I'll be hosting the Annual Recognition Awards as I did last year, so looking forward to seeing you all there! In the meantime, sit back and enjoy your Newsletter!

Featuring

MGV BIRTHDAYS

Vincent Newman	Sept 9
Bob Betz	Sept 30
Susan Mather	Oct 7
Gustavo Parra	Oct 15
Vivian Landix	Oct 31

ANNIVERSARIES

Chrystyna Salmon Oct 14

Needed: from MGVs , Your ongoing projects, email: lbravo1@ufl.edu Next issue: White blooms for pollinators; interesting berries

Help Wanted At the Help Desk. Contact Stephen.Deegan@ufl.edu 954-756-8517

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The White-tipped black or Snowbush Spanworm moth; family is Geometridae. Host plants are Florida friendly snowbush, edible vegetable amaranth also the fruit tree white sapote. It nectars on spanish needle & sunflowers



* Announcements*

Upcoming Webinars Local & State



Reminder don't forget to do your Education Hours; log those into the Better Impact system

MGV 2024 Broward Urban Horticulture Webinar Series

Location: Virtual

- ❑ **September 10** - Living Shoreline with Vincent Encomio
- ❑ **October 8** - Gardening with Limited Space with Dr. Norman Samuel
- ❑ **November 12** - Creating a Florida-Friendly Landscape with Tropical Fruit Trees with Tropical Fruit Agent Jeff Wasielewski
- ❑ **December 10** - Mulch in The Landscape with Dr. Chris Marble

Zoom links coming

MGV 2024 Webinar Series by Wendy Wilbur, Gainesville

Location: Virtual

- ❑ **September 26** - Hurricane Survivors: What Makes it Through the Storm with Stephen Brown
- ❑ **October 24** - Nematodes: Basics and Beyond with William Crow
- ❑ **November 14** - Honey Bees: What MGVs Need to Know with Amy Vu
- ❑ **December 12** - MGV Projects That Make Us Proud with Wendy Wilbur

Zoom links coming

For Past Webinars:
Scroll down to find "watch recording of the webinar" under each month's section

Past Webinars. June 2024: Great Southeast Pollinator Census; May 2024: Milkweed, Monarchs and OE in Florida; April 2024: Climate Change in Real Life with Larry Figart and Savanna Barry; March 2024: Turf and Soil Testing with Brian Unruh; March 2024: Special Pest Alert: Thrips Parvispinus with Dr. Lance Osborne and Nicole Brenda. Et al

LINK - PAST WEBINARS

[Webinars - Florida Master Gardener Volunteer Program - University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences \(ufl.edu\)](#)



The University of Florida is committed to providing universal access to all of our events. For disability accommodations such as sign language interpreters and listening devices, please contact Lorna Bravo at lbravo1@ufl.edu at least one week in advance. Advance notice is necessary to arrange for some accessibility needs.



Events for Everyone



Potluck dinner Thur Sept 19 6.30-8.00pm

Flamingo Gardens Learning Center,
3750 Flamingo Rd Davie, FL 33330.
Presentation 'Be on the lookout for
Invasive Species' by Eric Suarez,
Program Coordinator, UF Staff Croc
Docs UF Laboratory

Annual Recognition Event Sat Oct 19 for MGVs, 1-3pm

Place TBD. We'll send out
information via email

Reminder Complete Your Hours

Do 35 volunteer & 10 educational
hours by end of 2024. Log hours
into: Better Impact System by end
of 2024 as well; for info: Stephen
Deegan at: 954-756-8513,
stephen.deegan@ufl.edu

**Sat Nov 9. MGVs to get info on the MGV training
program. Time TBD; at UF/IFAS Broward County
Extension, 3245 College Ave. Davie, FL 33314.
Questions contact Stephen Deegan 954-756-8513.
email Stephen.deegan@ufl.edu**

Trees that are Useful

Sweetgum, *Liquidam styraciflua* is a large 75ft high long-lived tree which wood is made for furniture though the gum called styrax is used for chewing gum, and in medicine. The fruit helps with rheumatic pain. It's the host to several moths

Wild Cinnamon, *Canella winterana*, native to FL, small tree or large shrub, typically 15-20ft, to 29ft in FL, it's inner bark as well as leaves are used medicinally. The blooms and berries are beautiful and are eaten by birds, small mammals. Commercial cinnamon, a different species comes from Sri Lanka and Vietnam



Blooms L-R: Fiddlewood, Marlberry,
Panama Rose, SM Fleabane



Plants with Scents

These plants attract bees, butterflies, moths

Fiddlewood, *Citharexylum spinosum*; works as a native hedge though typically to 15-25ft and 39ft H in south Florida. Is host for fiddlewood leafroller moth. Has: very fragrant white flowers, which pollinators flock to, wood used to make musical instruments.

Marlberry, *Ardisa escallonioides*, a small native tree. grows to 20ft, likes sand, produces fragrant flowers that attract halictid bees, pollinators. Fruits eaten by animals, birds.

Panama Rose, *Rondeletia leucophylla* a small Florida Friendly shrub that can reach 12 or 15ft, the fragrance of pink flowers is better at night, though butterflies like to visit during the day.

Salt Marsh Fleabane or Sweetscent. *Pluchea odorata*. Found in south Florida, 1-4ft H. The flowers, leaves are fragrant, attractive to butterflies, likes moist or wet soils. Cultivated from seed.



Moths

One of the creatures we think of during the Halloween timeframe, it's nocturnal, loves getting meals then. Some though are seen in diurnal/daylight times, they are for e.g. the silk moths, or ones mimicking bees & wasps. Moths are part of the insect order of Lepidoptera; sharing the Order with butterflies although more species of moth exist. From Ask IFAS, <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>, submitted to iNaturalist - there are 1,960 species of moths in Florida. Whereas there are 187 species of butterflies that breed here, 200 migrate through the state-Florida Fish & Wildlife. There are more families of moths too. Some families are the Owlet cutworm from Noctuidae or Edwards Wasp moth from the Arctiidae families. The large green silk Luna moth of Saturniidae or the Sphingidae family where hawkmoths belong, all found in FL. Moths use our trees in forests or other plants including wildflowers as larval sources. Like butterflies, they have the same metamorphosis, egg to caterpillar and pupating. In the stage as caterpillar some moths will be destructive to crops. Normally they are night flyers, some will flutter about early morn, some mimic bar sonar with ultrasonic clicks to throw predators off as a food source, or some will move like hummingbirds or wasps, or be so colorful to mimic being distasteful and be mistaken for butterflies. The antennae of moths are feathery, while butterflies have a club-like tip on their antennae or proboscis.

Bats

Another night creature Halloween time. They are good for the environment, they help control insects, including mosquitos and they pollinate plants. These mammals operate at night, there are thirteen native species of bats in Florida. Eight are in south Florida. The Bonneted bat, endangered, 19-21in with wings open, the Evening bat, Northern Yellow bat, the Seminole, the Brazilian free-tailed bat, the Eastern Pipistrella is a small bat compared to the Eastern Red and Big Brown bats. All eat mosquitos, bugs, flies, flying ants, some moths or leafhoppers. They live in cliff crevices, tree cavities, on buildings, under bridges or bat houses. They grasp structures with feet and roost upside down.



Imperial Moth. There are two types of imperial moths, this is the *Eacles imperialis imperialis*, the family is Saturniidae, the giant silkworm & Royal moths family. <http://entnemdept.ufl.edu>. Beautiful. 3-7in. Host plants: Oaks, Maples, Sweet Gum, Sassafras



The unusual Giant Leopard moth. *Hypercompe scribonia*- BugGuide.net. Found in Southern Ontario, south to Florida, west to Minnesota & TX. 3.6in. Host plants in Florida incl: Bougainvillea, lemon, dandelion, sunflowers, banana. Trees willow, cherry



Pluto Sphinx moth. *Xylophanes pluto*- BugGuide.net. 2.26-2.96in. Caterpillar feeds on different species, though Firebush and Pentas plants are familiar

