



Commercial Clippings

FOR THE NORTHEAST FLORIDA GREEN INDUSTRY
Serving Clay, Duval, and Nassau County

June/July 2013

Issue 26, Page 1



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Mosquito Season is Here

By Erin Harlow

You may have heard about a mosquito known as a “gallinipper” that it is supposed to be seen in large numbers this year. The gallinipper, *Psorophora ciliata* is a floodwater mosquito. Females will lay eggs at the edge of ponds, streams, and water bodies that overflow with heavy rain. The eggs can remain dormant in dry areas for years until the rainy season arrives. This mosquito is native to the Eastern half of North America. Its body is about 1/2” long with a black and white color pattern. Be careful you don’t confuse the gallinipper with the invasive Asian tiger mosquito that is smaller but, has similar coloring.



The females are blood-feeders while the males survive on nectar of flowers. The larval stage of gallinippers are more interesting than most. Gallinipper larvae are omnivores and will feed on other mosquito larvae and sometimes tadpoles.

If you are looking for a helpful resource for mosquito identification, control, and other resources then check out the Florida Medical Entomology Lab’s website at <http://fmeal.ifas.ufl.edu/>.

For more information about gallinippers visit UF’s publication *A Mosquito Psorophora ciliata* at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in967>.



All classes require pre-registration and will be held at the Duval County Extension Office, 1010 N McDuff Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32254 unless otherwise stated. To register visit us at <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu> and click Commercial Horticulture/Calendar or call Becky Davidson at 904-255-7450. You can now pay online with a credit card.

July 30, 2013
Tuesday
 (Gainesville -
 352-955-2402)

Best Management Practices for the Protection of Water Resources by the Green Industries (GI-BMPs)

8:30 am – 3:30 pm
 \$25.00

4 CEUS: 2 CORE & 2 L&O, 2 LCLM, 2 LL&O, 2 O&T or 2 Pvt, 4 LA CEUs, Technician Training Hours also available.

Sept 12, 2013
Thursday
 (Duval)

To register, download the brochure, or for more information about the workshop, please visit: <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu/GI-BMPs.shtml>.

This is the pre-requisite class for the Urban Fertilizer License. Everyone who works with fertilizers for-hire is required to have this license by Jan 1, 2014, even if you are licensed in another category including pest control operators. You will complete your GI-BMP test the day of the class, if you pass, you can then apply to get your Limited Urban Fertilizer License through the State of Florida.

June 12, 2013
Wednesday
 (Duval)

Worker Protection Standards: Train-the-Trainer

9:00 am - 11:30 am
 \$5.00

This workshop is for farms, forests, nurseries, and greenhouses that apply "Ag Use Products". We will go over how to comply with the law and provide most compliance materials for workers and job sites.

July 10, 2013
Wednesday
 (Clay)

IFAS CEU Round-Up presented by UF/IFAS and FTGA

9:00 am - 4:00 pm
 \$25 pre/\$37.50 on-site for municipal; \$50 pre/\$75 on-site for industry
 Pre-registration is July 6th

Register at www.ftga.org or call Heather at 863-688-9413

So MANY CEUS!

Up to 4 Ag Row or Ag Tree Crop

Up to 5 Pvt, Aerial, Aquatic, D&R, Forestry, Natl Areas, O&T, Reg, ROW, LCLM, LL&O, L&O

Also CCA, FNGLA, GCSAA PDI, and ISA

All classes require pre-registration and will be held at the Duval County Extension Office, 1010 N McDuff Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32254 unless otherwise stated. To register visit us at <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu> and click Commercial Horticulture/Calendar or call Becky Davidson at 904-255-7450. You can now pay online with a credit card.

July 17, 2013
Wednesday
(Duval)

Right-of-Way Herbicide Exam Prep Class and Exam

9:00 am - 2:00 pm
 \$15.00, includes lunch and snacks
 Optional exam beginning at 2:15 pm

ROW and CORE CEUs have been applied for.

If you want to register to take a computer-based exam beginning at 2:15 pm you must register online prior to the class. Instructions for registration can be found at our website at <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu/PesticideTesting2012.shtml>. Paper tests will also be provided if you prefer the traditional format.

July 26, 2013
Friday
(Duval)

Branching Out Landscaping Series

Pesticide and Fertilization Application Methods for Trees and Laws and Licenses that Govern these Applications

8:30 am - 9:30 am
 FREE
 ISA, FNGLA, and FL pesticide CEUs have been applied for

Topic will change each month, so check out each month.

NEW!

August 15, 2013
Thursday
(Duval)

Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance Workshop

Sept 24, 2013
Tuesday
(Clay)

8:15 am - 3:00 pm - Full Day; 8:15 am – 12:00 pm - Half Day
 \$30.00 for either full or half day

6 CEUs Total: 3 CORE & 3 LCLM, 3 LL&O, or 3 L&O
 Lunch included, textbooks not included
 Optional LCLM or LL&O Exam at 3:00 pm
 You must have all required paperwork to take the exam.

To register, download the brochure, or for more information about the exam or books, please visit: <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu/LCLM2012.shtml>.

This class is designed for people who do not have their license yet. If you are re-certifying your LCLM or LL&O you should attend a class that offers those CEUs. There are many to choose from throughout the year.

Sodding Off

By Amy Morie, Clay County Horticulture Agent

A number of recent calls regarding failed sod installations prompts this look at the low-down on laying turf. UF/IFAS research stresses the importance of good site preparation - weeds, weedy grasses and old turf all need to be removed from the area. One or more applications of non-selective herbicides should be applied per label instructions. Have a soils test done and follow any recommendations on lime or sulfur for adjusting pH. Grade and rake soil smooth to ensure good root contact with the ground. All this prep ensures a healthy start for sod – above all don't install new sod over the top of old sod or weeds because the roots won't touch the soil and the turf could become compromised or die. New sod is likely to have been recently fertilized pre-harvest, so don't fertilize new sod for 30-60 days after planting. Water the turf right away with a light, uniform spray – proper water management is crucial to good establishment of turf. Apply often enough to keep the new turf moist until good root contact is achieved. For a detailed irrigation schedule for turf establishment visit UF's publication *Fertilization and Irrigation Needs for Florida Lawns and Landscapes* at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ep110>. Good preparation will get your customer's lawn off to the best possible start and help gain a loyal client for years to come. For more information on proper installation visit <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/lh012>, *Preparing to Plant a Florida Lawn*.



Do you know what this is?

By Amy Morie, Clay County Extension

Tank Bug?

It may be built like a tank, but this camo-colored bug is so tiny you may overlook it. It's unusual enough that it should catch your eye if it happens to land on you (as this specimen landed on me). This tiny pest is a potential new invader that's seriously hungry for beans of all sorts – it feeds on ornamentals such as wisteria, as well as, vegetable beans including soy, pigeon pea, green beans and limas. Like our last feature creature, these insects also feed on a notorious invasive vine and are known to congregate on houses in the fall. This photo was taken just west of Gainesville. If you find one in the landscape please let us know so we can track it across the state.



Jadera Bug - *Jadera haematoloma*

By Amy Morie, Clay County Extension

Last month we took a look at these insects with very distinctive red and black coloring. Did you guess that it was the Jadera bug? Also known as the red-shouldered bug, golden rain tree bug, boxelder bug or soapberry bug, *Jadera haematoloma* is an insect that only eats the seeds of Golden Rain trees. While the swarms of Jadera bugs may seem creepy they are harmless.

For all their help against the rain trees they are still an invasive species that puts out thousands of seeds. Rain trees are considered invasive because they disrupt native (and horticultural!) plants here in Florida, so it's a good opportunity to educate clients on removing these pesky trees. Eradicate them from the client's landscape, and the Jadera bugs will move on.



If your client just can't let go of their invasive tree, then get out the insecticidal soap and know that the Jadera bugs will be back next year – along with a new round of golden rain tree seedlings! These insects don't normally require chemical control, but if they are really pestering in the landscape then pyrethroid products (bifenthrin, cyfluthrin, deltamethrin) or carbaryl products may provide control.

Systemic insecticides can be used also. Always follow the label and only treat these pests when really needed, otherwise ignore them and eventually they will go away until next year.

Information for this publication came from the University of Florida publication, *Scentsless Plant Bugs, Jadera Sp.* at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in287>.



Creating Storm Resistant Trees

By *Larry Figart*

As afternoon storms are starting to become common, many thoughts turn to the trees around homes. Your clients may be wondering if they are safe, or if they can hold up against the wind of a thunderstorm, tropical storm, or even a hurricane. There is no "risk free" tree however; there are strategies that we can undertake that can create a more wind resistant tree canopy. They are plant more wind tolerant trees, prune properly, and routine tree inspections.

Wind Tolerant Trees

Research by the University of Florida performed in communities that received hurricane force winds from 1992-2005 identified several trees that appeared to be somewhat resistant to wind damage. It is thought that the growth form of the trees helped them resist wind better. The trees that appear to do better are: Live oak, Southern magnolia, Sweetgum, Holly, Sycamore, Swamp chestnut oak, Baldcypress, Sabal palm and Blackgum. There were also several trees that were identified as trees with poor wind resistance. Those trees include Laurel Oak, Water Oak, Red Maple, Pine, Southern Red Cedar, and Queen palm. Creating a wind resistant tree canopy includes planting more of the wind tolerant trees and removal of the wind intolerant trees if they are likely to cause property damage.

Pruning Trees:

Branch failure is easiest type of failure to prevent. This is done through proper pruning beginning when the tree is young. When you are out in the landscape, look up. Take note of any large dead branches. Major deadwood over any structure is an immediate concern and should be removed.

The type of branch attachment is also important. Take a look at how the major branches are attached to the trunk. If the attachment of the branch looks like a "V" rather than a "U", it is a weaker branch attachment. The reason V-shaped branch attachments are a problem is because bark gets imbedded in the joint as the branches grow together and weakens the attachment. This condition can be even more of a risk when the tree has more than one trunk. Multi-trunked trees are especially prone to splitting apart because of poor branch attachment.



Lions -Tailed Tree

How trees are pruned is important. A recent study by the University of Florida showed that properly pruned trees had considerably less damage than unpruned and improperly pruned trees. Improper pruning by overlifting (lionstailing) the crown through the removal of large lower limbs and interior branches resulted in more damage to the tree during windstorms. Properly pruning trees by using reduction cuts and structural pruning resulted in trees that resisted wind and therefore received less damage. (Continued on page 7)

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Tree Inspection:

A periodic tree inspection of the branches, trunk, and root area can reveal problems before they become major ones. Trunk and root defects are harder to detect than branch defects. The most obvious type of trunk defect is a cavity. Large cavities with decay should be inspected. Any vertical crack in the trunk of the tree that goes deep into the wood of the tree is a warning sign of structural problems and any horizontal crack is a sign of imminent trunk failure. Any mushroom or mushroom like fruiting structure coming out of the trunk of the tree is a sign that the tree has internal decay and should be inspected more thoroughly by a tree professional. There is no way of knowing how much of the tree structure has been lost to decay without some further testing. The arborist inspecting the tree may recommend pruning or cabling to relieve stress on the trunk, however if the defect in the trunk is serious, removal of the tree may be the only means to solve the problem.



Even though most roots are underground, many root defects can be detected with a little inspection. The part of the root system that bears most of the load in holding the tree up is the root plate. If you picture the tree as a wine glass, the root plate is the base of the wine glass. The root plate should be readily visible for inspection. Many trees have had their roots covered by soil during construction activities. Mulch volcanoes are formed when mulch is piled over the root flare and against the trunk of the tree. Both situations are

bad for the tree because it buries the roots and promotes disease. It also makes inspection of the root flare difficult. If the root flare of a tree has been covered by soil, or mulch, it is important to uncover it for a proper inspection. As with trunk defects, look for any cavities at the base of the tree, or mushrooms originating from the base or roots of the tree as a sign of possible root decay. Any damage to the root plate by construction, or other means, is a cause for alarm. Recall the wine glass analogy and imagine how unstable the wine glass would be if part of the base were gone. Finally, the last step in inspecting the roots is to step back away from the tree and look at the uppermost branches of the tree. If they are bare, or not as full as the rest of the tree crown, it may indicate root problems. A certified Arborist should be called in to inspect the tree if any problems with the root system are suspected. More information of trees and storms can be found on the University of Florida Environmental Horticulture Website <http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/woody/stormy.shtml>.

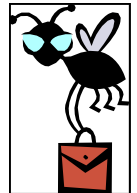
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