



Commercial Clippings

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



October/November 2015

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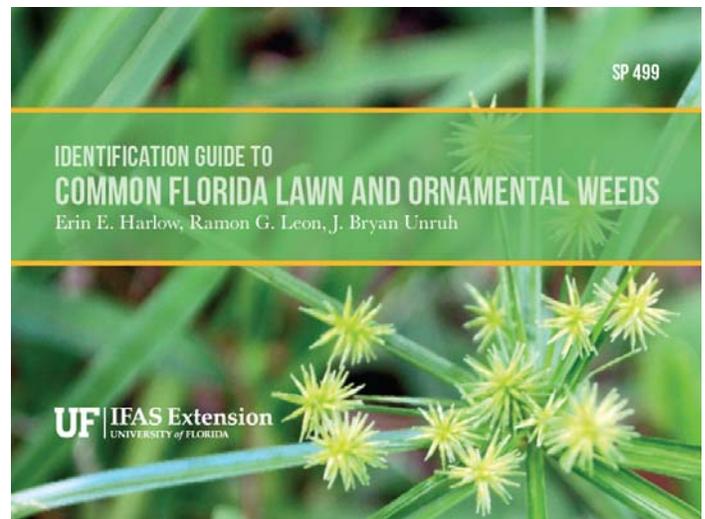
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New Weed Deck Released by UF

Checkout the newest weed deck available at the UF bookstore. Written by Erin Harlow, Dr. Bryan Unruh and Dr. Ramon Leon the deck focuses on common weeds in FL and will supplement the study material for the pest control operators exam in the lawn and ornamental category. It is also great for studying for both limited exams. The deck is easy to read, built for the field and focuses on identification, classification, and includes grasses, sedges, and broadleaf sections. This is a great resource for professionals new to the industry or for those who want to brush up on their weed identification and is a must for those taking their exams. The deck is available at the UF/IFAS bookstore for \$12.00 at their website: <http://ifasbooks.ifas.ufl.edu/p-1269-identification-guide-to-common-florida-lawn-and-ornamental-weeds.aspx> or by calling 352-392-1764, Toll Free Phone: 800-226-1764.



<http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu>



FALL WORKSHOPS

2015

**November 4, 2015
December 2, 2015
Wednesday
(Duval)**

Pesticide Testing

9:15 am and 11:30 am

Please pre-register at <https://aesecomm.freshfromflorida.com> for restricted-use (commercial, public, or private) and limited exams. For public health exams please call 904-255-7450 or email Erin Harlow at erine@coj.net or Belinda Peeples at peeplesb@coj.net.

**Nov 5, 2015
Thursday
(Lake City)
386-752-5384 to
register**

Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance Workshop

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.

**Dec 16, 2015
Wednesday
(Duval)**

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 consider attending a different class that offers those CEUs. There are many to choose from throughout the year.

**October 29, 2015
Thursday
(Gainesville)
352-955-2402 to
register**

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.

**Nov 17, 2015
Tuesday
(Lake City)
386-752-5384 to
register**

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.

**Dec 14, 2015
Monday
(Clay)
904-284-6355 to
register**

**December 3, 2015
Thursday
(Yulee)**

Advanced Landscape Training

Details to Come

4 CEUs in L&O, LCLM and LL&O

All classes require pre-registration

Unless stated will be held at the
Duval County Extension Office, 1010 N McDuff Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32254
To register visit us at <http://duval.ifas.ufl.edu> and click Commercial Horticulture/Calendar
or call 904-255-7450

Come spend the day with UF Extension on St. Simons Island!
Lots of GA pesticide and ISA CEUs.

Erin Harlow will cover
Nuisance Ants and Larry
Figart will focus on Texas
Phoenix Palm Decline.

UCA Extension, Claym County and UCA Griffin Continuing Education present

 **UGA extension** **Pesticide Safety & Handling Training**
Georgia Commercial Pesticide Applicator Recertification

 Earn 5 Georgia Commercial Pesticide Applicator
Re-certification Credits in Multiple Categories
Cat. 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 31, 32, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 41
Also earn 5 International Society of Arboriculture CEUs!

For more info see www.tinyurl.com/SSII0-23
Or call 770.229.3477 or Email conteduc@uga.edu

Friday, October 23 — St Simons Island
Earn pesticide credits & visit the beach!

Cost: \$55 until Thursday October 15 & \$65 after
(Space is limited—register early!)

See how many credits you need for recertification — <http://tinyurl.com/bcioduw>

 UGA is committed to providing access for people with disabilities and will provide reasonable accommodations if notified in advance. Call 770.229.3477.
An Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Institution

Josephine Elizabeth Harlow



Born August 14, 2015 at 3:53 pm, 6 lbs 14 oz, 20 inches, Jacksonville, FL

Thank you everyone
for the well wishes
and support!

- The Harlow Family

Lawn Conversions by Amy Morie

Reducing the size of lawn areas for more bedding plants is a growing trend. There are many reasons to replace turf areas with new or expanded beds:

Time: Increased shade occurs in the landscape as trees and shrubs mature. This effect greatly reduces the area available for healthy turf growth. Client's activities can change over time too: kids leaving for college, new grandchildren, pets and new social activities can all warrant a refresh use of space. Developing a plan to adjust the landscape design will accommodate changing conditions.



Beds provide variety and interest in the landscape).

Image credit: UF/IFAS

Interest: Beds allow for varied plantings, which provide visual interest. Considerable interest can be added when using variation in plants. Height, form or shape, color, and texture can all help your clients improve their 'armchair view' of the landscape. Work with areas where turf will thrive best over time and incorporate turf as a foreground for new areas.

Intrigue: Clients who are avid gardeners may have a particular passion in the landscape. New layouts for the garden can provide room to grow for almost any interest: edibles, cut flowers, succulents, water gardens and more can all be incorporated into areas reclaimed from turf.

When planning a conversion, call 811 first to have the property marked with any utilities that may exist underground. Most of the work required for simple bed conversions is up-front in time spent planning. You'll need to develop a plan and communicate the proposed changes to the client – be sure to document discussions and decisions throughout the process. Communication can be done in a variety of ways: oral, written, sketches and more. Discussing ideas from pictures is a great way to start – ask clients to clip favorites from magazines or research design books and develop a library of reference images for job proposals.

Basic shape drawings on trace paper can be another effective means of showing change – photograph and print the area, then use trace paper to add proposed changes. Keep drawings simple – a line for a new terrace, a triangle for a conifer – and use the scale of the house for reference on height and width of plants (the typical door opening is 6'9" in height but be sure to measure a few reference points just in case).



Photo credit: UF/IFAS

Continued on page 7

American Dog Tick, *Dermacentor variabilis* By Erin Harlow

Last edition we looked at the Brown Dog tick, so I thought it was appropriate to cover the American Dog tick. The American and the brown dog tick are two separate species and should not be confused. The American dog tick is found throughout the United States as its name would indicate. This tick is normally more of a nuisance outside as compared to the brown dog tick.



American Dog Tick, male (left) and female (right)
Photo: J.F. Butler, UF

Description and Life Cycle

The American dog tick is brown to reddish-brown in color and has silver-gray markings. This tick is considered a 3-host tick. This means as it moves through its life cycles it will first feed on a small rodent or mammal then twice more move to larger mammals to complete its life cycle. The life cycle is completed between 54 days and two years depending on the availability of hosts.

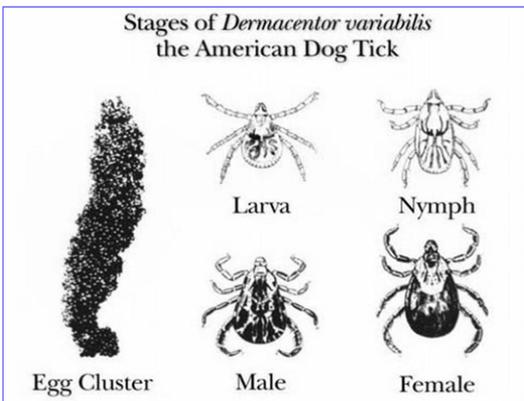


Photo: CDC

Female American Dog Ticks lay between 4,000 and 6,500 eggs on the ground at a time. Eggs typically take around 40 days to hatch depending on the temperature. The larval stage of this tick has six legs, so if you are trying to identify, don't get tripped up. Once they move into the nymph stage then they become 8-legged.

Diseases

The American Dog Tick is a vector for Rocky Mountain spotted fever (RMSF). In the Eastern part of the US, it may be reported as *Rickettsia rickettsia*, which is the causal agent of RMSF. Symptoms include rashes that develop within days of a tick bite, usually around the wrists and ankles and then move to the rest of the body. It can then cause fever, nausea, vomiting and sometimes death if untreated. The tick must be attached to the host for longer than 6 hours in most cases for transmission to occur. The American dog tick can also transmit tularemia and cause canine tick paralysis. Paralysis can also occur in small children if the tick is left on the host. The tick is usually found at the base of the skull or neck on both dogs and humans when this occurs.

Management

The American Dog Tick is normally found in grassy or wooded areas. Reducing vegetation around properties, removing clutter and managing ticks on pets are some of the best options for control of tick populations.

Reference:

Chan, W.H. and Kaufman, P. (2014). *American Dog Tick, Dermacentor variabilis*. Accessed on July 28, 2015. <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/in781>

How to Kill the Tree You Just Planted

by Larry Figart

The average life span for an urban tree is only about 15 years. The greatest factor in the successful outcome of a young tree is whether or not it is planted correctly. There are lots of articles out there that help you plant a new tree correctly. Yet poorly planted trees are very common. This article will try a new approach. Perhaps if we concentrate on what not to do, we may actually end up planting correctly.

#1 Plant the tree too deep

If you want the tree you just planted to fail, plant it too deep. Deep planting suffocates roots by restricting their oxygen supply. We plant our trees too deep by doing the following. Make the planting hole deeper than the



Putting a watering bag on a tree but not filling it up is a common practice when killing a tree.

container the tree is growing in and pile soil on top of the root ball to even things out. Even better, if we make sure our topmost root is below the soil surface we can be sure the tree will be too deep. As the planting media the tree has been growing in decomposes, the tree will sink even farther. You know you have successfully planted your tree too deep when after planting there is no sign of a root flare and the trunk of the tree looks like a fencepost when it has been planted.

#2 Don't provide enough water

One of the most important steps you can



The planter of this tree have ensured its untimely death by digging the planting hole too deep.

overlook in order to kill your tree is to not water it. Just rely on natural rainfall and irrigation from your client's pop-up sprinkler. That should be plenty to kill it. We don't want to waste the initial 4-6 gallons of water per day to get a typical 2" caliper tree established. After all, the most drought tolerant trees are the dead ones.



Notice that there are no roots growing out of this root ball and the tree blew over in the wind. NOT cutting circling roots made sure this tree would fail.

Continued on page 7



Big mulch volcanoes create a great place for roots to grow assuring that circling or girdling roots will be formed. Photo Credit: Ed Gilman

How to Kill Your Tree...(Continued from Page 6)

#3 Don't worry about that pot-bound tree

Killing a tree is easy when you do not worry about roots circling the outside of the container. Just pull it out of the container and stick it right in the hole. Ensure that the roots will continue to grow as if they were still in the container by not removing or shaving the circling roots. The tree will either never become established or it will blow over in the next wind storm.

#4 Make the mulch volcanoes big and tall

Most folks agree that adding mulch around the rootball of a tree is a good thing. However, if you want to see your tree fail,

you can make a good thing bad by piling more mulch around the base of the tree every few months and never removing any of the old mulch. The higher the mulch volcano the better. This way moisture is held close to the trunk allowing disease and decay to take hold. An added bonus is that new roots will find the mulch volcano a great place to grow. These roots will spiral upward in the mulch pile creating girdling roots that will strangle the tree later, that is, if it survives the mulch volcano.

Now before you decide to call the office wondering if I have lost my mind, I must admit that I am using a little bit of satire in order to make a point. My reason for writing this way is perhaps to use a little bit of humor to make us think a little differently. We often times do things out of habit or because someone tells us to do it without thinking if it is good for the tree or not. To read about how to plant a tree correctly go to: <http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/woody/planting.shtml>.

Lawn Conversations *continued from page 5*

Aim for a design that will leverage your cut and fill by incorporating dug areas into elevation changes. Edges along existing paving areas, for example, will be susceptible to spill from new bed areas if the edge is not excavated first. Plan to use this material in a raised bed or mound area elsewhere in the landscape which can improve design flexibility while reducing costs for disposal and imported material.

If your crews can dig, roll, and rough grade, then you can complete simple bed additions quickly with minimal training. Sheet mulching uses existing soils and sheet cardboard to reduce the need for herbicide and is a quick and easy method; read up on step-by-step instructions in the "Rethinking the Lawn" article listed in the references.

References:

"Rethinking the Lawn" <http://thefield.asla.org/2012/03/30/rethinking-the-lawn/#more-169>

"Adopting a Florida-Friendly Landscape: Steps for Converting a Traditional Landscape to a Florida-Friendly Landscape" <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/EP/EP39600.pdf>

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For individuals requiring special accommodations, please contact our office (904/255-7450) within a minimum of 5 working days of the program. For persons with hearing or speech impairments, when contacting our office, please use the Florida Relay Service at 1-800-955-8771 (TDD). Your comments and input are necessary for this to be a useful tool for all of us.

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