

LANDSCAPE NEWS
BY LINDA B. LANDRUM
JULY-AUGUST 2004



Gardening, Florida Style Course

DeLand: August 4, 11, 18 and 25
Ag Center – DeLand 1-4 p.m.

Port Orange: September 23, 29, Oct. 6 and 13
Library - Port Orange 1-4 p.m.

This four class course will cover techniques and tips for successful gardening in Central Florida. Topics include planning a Florida style yard, selecting plants, container gardening, edible landscaping, propagation, plant maintenance and pest control.

Cost is \$20.00 (which covers supplies).

Pre-registration is required by July 1 for both classes.
Each class is limited to 30 participants.



Practical Vegetable Gardening

Wednesday, August 18, 25, September 1 and 8
8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Pioneer Settlement for the Creative Arts
Barberville

This hands-on gardening class will feature class time and provide opportunity for participants to get their hands dirty with outdoor activities. Topics to be covered are planning, crop selection, maintenance, pest control and harvesting. Come join in the fun.

Cost is \$20.00 (which covers supplies.).

Pre-registration required by July 15, Limited Seating Available

Persons in need of special accommodations should call a week in advance of the program.

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**Sunscreen and
Herbicides**

**Special Thanks to Garden Gate
Magazine- June 2004**



A recent study at the University of Nebraska suggests that wearing sunscreen can increase the rate at which your skin absorbs 2,4-D, a common herbicide. So your best bet to protect yourself is to wear long sleeves and a hat to avoid exposure to both sun and the chemicals.

A REMINDER: NEW CEU REQUIREMENTS

Thanks to Frank Melton Manatee Co. Ext. Service

Be aware that the CEU requirements for license recertification are changing. Starting January 1, 2005 licensees must earn 4 Core CEUs to renew their license. This is in *addition* to the CEUs required for each category.

However, you will only need to earn 4 Core CEUs regardless of the number of categories on your license. For example, beginning January 1, 2005, Private applicators must earn 8 CEUs in the Private category *plus* 4 Core CEUs for a total of 12. If you are an applicator licensed in the Aquatic and Right of Way categories you'll need 16 Aquatic CEUs, 8 Right of Way CEUs and 4 Core for a total of 28 CEUs. This means that anyone who has a license that expires in January 2005 or later will have to meet the new requirements.

So, plan ahead and get your CEUs early during your license period to avoid problems later. Don't forget, you can still retake exams at your county extension office to renew without having to earn any CEUs.

EUGENIA PSYLLID – BE ON THE WATCH

Dr. Lance Osborne was asked by Florida Department of Agriculture/Division of Plant industry to send out an alert on the Eugenia psyllid (*Trioza eugeniae*) and ask for help to prevent the introduction and spread of *Trioza eugeniae*.

According to Dr. Susan Halbert (FDACS-DPI), “This psyllid pest was eradicated in 1993 and has not been found again until recently, when it was detected at several nurseries on material shipped this year from California. Probably the only Florida host is *Syzygium paniculatum*, a plant that is popular for hedges and topiaries. *Syzygium paniculatum* is also called Australian brush cherry or Eugenia. The topiaries are sold in discount stores, so the potential for distribution is high if

infested material leaves the original nurseries. We would like to prevent *T. eugeniae* from becoming established in Florida.

Please notify your local county extension agent or an inspector from DPI if you find an insect that looks like this particular pest.

There are very few photographs of this psyllid but those that I could find were taken by Jack Kelly Clark who is, without question, the very best photographer I know.”

Adult photo at:

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/T/I-HO-TEUG-AD.009.html>.

Photo nymphs at:

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/T/I-HO-TEUG-NM.010.html>.

Photo of eggs at:

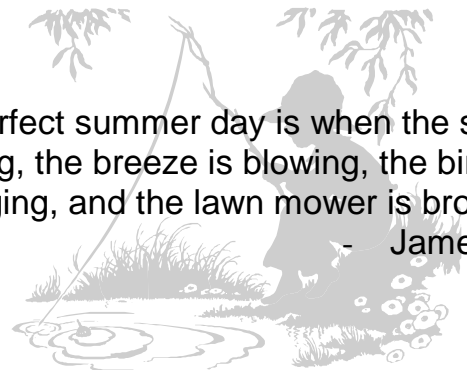
<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/T/I-HO-TEUG-EG.002.html>.

NEW PRODUCT

KT Industries, LLC has announced the availability of DeckSTRIP Child SAFE, an adhesive-backed deck carpeting that can substantially reduce exposures to arsenic in pressure-treated wood. The carpet sits on a layer of foil that is sandwiched between layers of adhesive. The foil keeps the chemicals from leaching up through the carpet and prevents water and sun from penetrating and degrading the wood. The material comes in five shades, dark and light gray, dark and light brown, and sage green. The company said that product applied ten years ago is still working. More information is available at: DeckSTRIP.com. (*Pesticide & Toxic Chemical News*, 4/12/04).

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.

- James Dent



Looking Good From Your Front Windows to the Back!



The front door says a lot about your business and is often ignored in the “first impression” campaign. First order of business is to hang up a welcoming message such as “Please Come in and Browse” or “Through These Doors Walk the Nicest People in the World”. Next is to use the door as a continuation of your window(s), by displaying seasonal decorations or additional signage such as “Sale”. What’s on the back side of the door? A “Thank-you for Shopping Here” or something similar goes a long way in letting your customers know you appreciate their business. And finally, be sure the front door glass is clean and offers a clear view into the store to entice passersby to stop and shop!

Fourth in a series based on the book “1001 Ideas to Create Retail Excitement” By Edgar A. Falk

UNFRIENDLY HOMESTEADER

by Raymond Zerba Clay Co. Ext. Service

Cicadas are sometimes called locusts but that name is more properly applied to grasshoppers that live in Africa and the Middle East. They belong to the family Cicadidae and are a large to medium insect 1+ inches long. They have a large beak, short bristlelike antennae, and transparent wings held peaked over the body when at rest. They are usually dull or dark colored with lighter markings. There are several species but in Florida, for the most part, belong to the genus *Magicicada*.

Characteristic of all that occur in Florida is the loud, shrill buzzing sound produced by the male popping in and out reed-like bands associated with a large resonating air sac at the base of its abdomen. It does this during the day to attract females.



The female lays her eggs in slits she makes in small twigs of hardwood trees with her saw-like ovipositor. When these eggs hatch, the small antlike nymphs drop to the ground where they enter the soil and feed on plant roots for up to 17 years (depending on the species).

Fully mature, the nymph crawls out of the ground and, attaching itself to the side of a building or tree trunk, molts out of its skin and forms the winged adult. These hollow skins are often seen still attached to trees long after the cicada has emerged.

Adult cicadas live only one summer during which they mate, lays eggs, and then die. We list them as an “Unfriendly Homesteader” rather than a pest, because while they do feed on roots, and can injure small twigs with their egg laying habits, they do little damage to mature trees. Their real impact is that shrill noise the males make to attract their female partners – to some it’s the daylight equivalent of the wail from a male alley cat.

PUBLICATIONS

“St. Augustinegrass – Made for the Florida Shade?” – Trenholm & Nagata ENH 967 Oct. 2003

“Definition of Terms in the National Organic Program” – Ferguson HS 963 Jan. 2004

“Guide to Using Rhizomal Perennial Peanut in the Urban Landscape” – Rouse, Miavity & Roka HS 960 March 2004

“Homeowner Best Management Practices for the Home Lawn” – Trenholm ENH 979 Spring 2004

“Terrestrial Amphipods or “Lawn Shrimp”, - (Crustacea: Amphipoda) – Fasulo EENY-220 Nov. 2001





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Dates To Remember



Aug. 4, 11,
18 & 25

Gardening, FL Style DeLand (See front page for details)

Aug. 18, 25,
Sept. 1 & 8

Practical Vegetable Gardening Barberville (see front page for details)

Aug. 27,
28 & 29,

Caladium Festival Lake Placid, Call (863) 465-4331 or website www.lpfla.com

Sept. 21,

Designing “YOUR” Landscape Seminar DeLand, Call LBL for details

Sept. 23, 29,
Oct 6 & 13

Gardening, FL Style DeLand (See front page for details)

Sept. 30 –
Oct. 2

FL Nursery & Allied Trades Show (FNATS) Orlando Call (800) 375-3642

If you would like more information on upcoming programs or want to receive publications please call, fax, or e-mail me.
All Extension Service programs and information are free and open to the public regardless, of race, color, sex,
disability, religion, or national origin.

Sincerely,

Linda B. Landrum

Linda B. Landrum – Extension Agent IV- Horticulture