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Citrus Leaves

Dr. Ed Etxeberria Receives Award for Outstanding Cross-Commodity Publication

Dr. Ed Etxeberria, University of Florida Professor of Horticulture Sciences, specializing in plant cell physiology, and his co-authors Pedro Gonzales and Dr. Javier Pozueta-Romero, will be presented with an award for Outstanding Cross-Commodity Publication for 2005 by the American Society of Horticultural Sciences. The publication "Sucrose transport into citrus juice cells: evidence for an endocytic transport system. JASHS 130(2):269-274" was selected in the Outstanding Cross-Commodity Publication category.

The ASHS Board of Directors and the ASHS Awards Committee will present the recognition at the Awards Ceremony on July 27, 2006 during the ASHS 2006 Annual Conference. In an effort to enhance the recognition and ASHS Member awareness of the Society's honorees, a special area featuring the Hall of Fame, the Fellows, the Career Award recipients, and the Outstanding Publications will also be set up at the conference.



Dr. Ed Etxeberria
photo by Gretchen Baut

UF/IFAS 2005 Image Award Winners

On May 10, 2006, Dr. Mark McLellan announced the winners of the 2005 Image Awards. Awards ranged from Gold to Honorable Mention with 83 entries and 156 participants. CREC's Steve Futch and team members Masoud Salyani, Pete Timmer, Clay McCoy, Jim Graham, Larry Duncan, and Herb Nigg won a Gold award for their entry "Using Trade Journals and EDIS to Provide Educational Materials to Citrus Growers" in the Written Word category. In addition, Dr. Brian Scully and team members, Dr. Harold Browning, Tom Nordlie, and Robin Koestoyo, won a Gold award for their entry "Citrus Canker Crisis Communications" in the Media Kit category.

Lab Highlight - June 2006 Dr. Arnold Schumann's Lab

Members of Dr. Schumann's Lab include: Kevin Hostler, Laura Waldo, Sherrie Buchanon, and Margie Cody. Recently joining Dr. Schumann are Dr. Radha Lakshmanan, a visiting scientist from India, and his student, Kiran Mann.

The April-June 2006 (Vol. 16, No. 2) issue of HortTechnology, a journal of the American Society for Horticultural Science <http://www.ashs.org/horttech/current.html> featured a paper on precision farming research conducted at the CREC. "Rapid Estimation of Citrus Tree Damage from Hurricanes in Florida Using an Ultrasonic Tree Measurement System" was authored by Qamar Zaman (currently with the Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology), Arnold Schumann, and Kevin Hostler. The article



Schumann in his office at CREC
photo by Gretchen Baut

describes a rapid automated method for surveying damage to tree canopies with ultrasonic sensors. The devastating hurricanes of 2004 in Polk County offered an ideal opportunity to test this new technique in a commercial 40-acre grove near Fort Meade. Tree canopy volume loss measurement after hurricanes may be valuable for crop insurance and fruit yield



estimation, but visual estimation of the tree damage in each grove is laborious, time consuming and difficult to quantify. The authors estimated tree damage by comparing canopy volumes measured with automated ultrasonic equipment before and after the hurricanes of 2004 in Florida. More than 50% of trees in the grove were damaged and generally larger trees were more affected than small or medium size trees. The ultrasonic system rapidly identified missing trees and estimated partial tree canopy volume loss after hurricanes.

A new modern ultrasonic sensor array, pictured on the front cover of the journal, was re-engineered from the ground up to replace an older system. Using modern compact, low-power circuitry, the new system is small enough to mount on the back of a pickup truck and can scan up to 20-foot high trees four times faster than the old system. Typical driving speeds of 6 mph can collect canopy data from two rows of trees at a 2x1 foot resolution. Eleven embedded microprocessors in the control box are networked together to control and read the 20 ultrasonic sensors. The tall mast with equally spaced sensors is designed to maintain the direction of ultrasonic pings perpendicular to the tree trunk, thus avoiding errors of parallax which would occur from a point source sensor, such as a spinning mirror laser system. Most of the superstructure was designed and built by Kevin Hostler, using readily available components from hardware stores.

Living with Windbreaks Short Course a Success!

Windbreaks for citrus was the subject of a one-day short course held at the CREC on April 19. The comprehensive program was organized and hosted by Drs. Bill Castle, Ron Muraro, Steve Futch, and Gene Albrigo. Notebooks containing information from speaker presentations were provided to help growers and others attending the short course to make informed, sensible decisions about living or artificial windbreaks. The teachings of Plato (philosophy trumps rhetoric) were invoked at the start to set the tone for the program. Approximately 75 registered attendees were presented subjects that included windbreak overviews (such as a perspective

from Argentina), insights about various plants, ideas about artificial windbreaks, windbreak design, economics, and various financial support options. Steve Gilly, Manager of Andrews Nursery, FDACS, Division of Forestry brought numerous tree sapplings as examples of trees commonly used as windbreaks. Several of the attendees had the good fortune at the end of the program to leave with "door-prize" sapplings to start their own living windbreak. For those interested in purchasing a copy of the course book (\$26.75 includes tax) you may contact either Bill Castle (x1259) or Jane Wilson (x1309).

St. Joseph's Catholic School Visits CREC

On April 24, Molly Grosser, daughter of Dr. Jude Grosser, and her 8th grade science classmates from St. Joseph's Catholic School, Winter Haven, with their Science teacher Carol Haas and some of the parents, took a lab tour which included 5 stops within Dr. Jude Grosser's Lab. The first was the tissue culture room with Dr. Grosser, followed by ploidy/chromosome number determination by-flow cytometry with Julie Gmitter, DNA isolation with Dr. Gemma Pasquali, the use of the jellyfish green fluorescent protein gene to select genetic engineered citrus with Dr. Ahmad Omar, and finishing with a tour of the plant improvement greenhouse with Julie Gmitter instructs one of the visiting students Dr. Grosser.



Photos by Gretchen Baut

CREC Picnic 2006: Food, Fun, and Fellowship

Thankfully this year's picnic, held on May 5, did not start with the usual afternoon thunderstorm. The organizing committee this year was headed by Dr. Ed Etxeberria. Other members of the committee were Drs. Russ Rouseff, Renee



"I should have coached him more" appears to be Dr. Reyes' thought as he watches over the orange relay race. Goodrich, Jose Reyes, Bob Braddock and Jackie Burns. About 130 faculty, staff and family members attended. Dr. Reyes, the pied-piper of the children's games, coordinated activities including hoola hoop contests, bobbing for oranges, twisler sticks in flour, and orange-gathering relay racing. The evening ended with smashing a piñata made by Dr. and Mrs. Reyes. Thank you to all for efforts and an evening of food, fun and fellowship. (more pictures will be in the employee breakroom). Photos by Tonya Thompson



Library News

with Marcia Alden

Where are the books?

You may have noticed that our library is only half-filled these days. In preparation for BHG remodeling, a library "annex" was created in Room 1 to temporarily store the older journals during the roof removal and library renovations.

Photos by Gretchen Baut

Annex: Journals through 2005 (alphabetical by title); photocopier; 3 computers, 2 scanners, library printer, and study carrels.

Library: Journals, 2006 and later, (alphabetical by title) are on shelves near the window; books by call number: (the Proceedings of the Florida State Horticultural Society have been cataloged and are now on the book shelves under SB1.F55); soil surveys, climatological references, Citrus Summary & Commercial Citrus Inventory; study carrels and typewriters.

The Library remains open and unrestricted, but once construction starts, this may change. CREC will be notified by email, any time there will be restricted or limited access to the Library and/or Annex. Regular hours of operation for the Library and the Library Annex are Monday through Friday, 8am – 5pm.

Need help finding what you need? Just as Marcia. If you remove any item from either the library or annex, please write the date and your name on the card in the back of the book and turn it in at the library office.

Thanks to the CREC faculty, students, and staff who helped in the very successful move. GREAT TEAMWORK! Your efforts helped guarantee that the journals will remain accessible during this renovation time.

Next month: Library sessions on using library resources.

Public Relations

with Melanie Watts

The Public Relations Dept. presented at the May Faculty meeting the preliminary goals established for 2006-2007. The Goals are as follows: *Establish the Most Effective Organizational Structure of PR Dept.; Establish a Public Relations Plan; Design and Produce Promotional Materials; Increase External Public Relations; Improve Internal Public Relations; Increase Educational Outreach; Develop a Standardized Quality Tour.* Ideas for logos were presented and a draft for the new brochure as well. A sign-up sheet was distributed asking faculty to provide information regarding their availability to participate in a Speaker's Bureau. The response to the Speaker's Bureau was overwhelming! To date, 62% of faculty have signed up! The feedback regarding logos was very positive and greatly appreciated. The consensus seems to be an interest in a simple text logo with some possible variations—such as adding an orange, dropping the tagline or making the tagline larger. We have also been working on updating bulletin boards. Students and post-docs are encouraged to send in a picture and information to be posted via email to mawatts@ufl.edu. You may have noticed a new recognition board located outside the mailroom. We welcome submittal of your accomplishments so we may share with all of CREC! Interested in seeing the draft of the new brochure or offering suggestions for the finished product? Stop by and see Kathy Snyder in Public Relations. We are interested in hearing from you!



Human Resources

with Dale Price

Year End Schedule for New Payroll Distributions

On June 10 the University Payroll Department will rollover payroll distributions for the new fiscal year that begins July 1. When the rollover occurs, the University will use the same Earnings Account Code from which the employee is currently being paid. Distributions for state-funded employees will not be affected. Personnel Forms have been distributed to supervisors requesting information regarding distribution at the beginning of the year for those employees not paid from state funds. Supervisors are reminded to complete the forms and return them to the CREC Human Resources Office no later than June 12.

Photo by Kathy Snyder

Questions regarding this required information can be directed to the CREC Human Resources Office at extensions 1210 or 1322.

Business Office

with Jill McDonald

Quick Tips

Pcards: Please make sure the Pcard forms are filled out completely, the cardholder signature is there and the Professor or Budget Head has signed off on the expenses. Please print the name of the cardholder below the signature.



Photo by Gretchen Baut

Purchasing: When filling out a requisition under suggested sources please list the vendor information. Please completely fill out the requisition form and attach all relevant information to the requisition.

Here's a tip for travel: On international trips please make sure you attach your daily itinerary.

Year end tips: Please make sure all state monies are spent out by June 1, 2006.

CREC Public Relations Team Volunteers at Agri-Fest 2006. For the past several years, during the month of April, the Polk County Agricultural Center in Bartow has hosted Agri-Fest for the 4th grade children of Polk County. As in previous years, the Public Relations Team volunteered their time to participate in the event. Melanie Watts created a table display for the 2 week event as well as helping in the kitchen area. Perry Love, Linda Murphy, Jane Wilson and her husband Jimmy, Karla Flynn, and Barbara Thompson were on hand to help with the tours and in the kitchen area for orange juice squeezing. Thanks to all of you for your outreach efforts. (More pictures will be in the employee breakroom)



CREC EMPLOYEE NEWS



On May 2, 2006, **Pam Holderman** retired from CREC's Business Office. Her co-workers helped get Pam off to a great start with her retirement with a small celebration in the Business office. The open-door celebration received well-wishers throughout most of the day. Pictured left to right: Alta Church, Meredith Pretzie, Pam, Shelby Graham, Jill McDonald, Lorraine Jones and Dr. Clay McCoy.

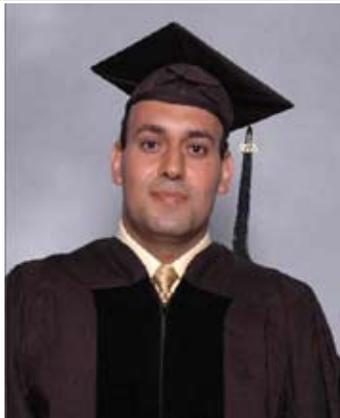


Congratulations to **Nancy "Nana" Burke** on her latest family addition. **Brayden Layne Burke** (above and sporting some Gator colors) arrived April 21 to join his dad, Shannon, and mom, Kathy Burke. The little bundle weighed 9 lb. 8 oz. and was 21 inches long. Brayden is Nana Burke's 11th grandchild and she has 1 great-grandson. Sources leaked out that there is another grandbaby and great-grandbaby on the way!



Henrique Valim

Two graduations took place this year in the Valim household. **Gabriel Valim**, son of Marcos and Filomena Valim (FDOC), graduated from Lake Region High School and will be attending Florida State University this fall. Congratulations Gabriel!! **Henrique Valim** graduated 8th grade from Saint Joseph's Catholic School, Winter Haven. He will attend the new International Baccalaureate School in Haines City. Prior to graduation, Henrique was one of the 100 state finalists of the National Geographic Bee. He placed 9th in the State of Florida. Great job Henrique!!



Ahmad Omar

Congratulations to **Ahmad Omar** (Grosser Lab, above). He graduated at the UF Campus in Gainesville on May 6, receiving his Ph.D. His Ph.D. study was in "Biotechnology and Its Uses in Improvement of Canker Resistance in Citrus Trees." In addition to his degree, Omar was selected to receive a travel grant from ASHS to attend the next annual meeting in 2006.



Jennifer Tuzzolo

Congratulations to **Jennifer Tuzzolo**, daughter of **Dan Tuzzolo** (CREC Safety and Security) for graduating from USF, with a Bachelors in Criminology on May 6, 2006.

Holly Chamberlain recently joined the Citrus Research and Education Center as coordinator for citrus canker, greening, and other exotic disease education. She received her B.S. in Plant Science and Natural Resource Management from Rutgers University, Cook College. She completed her M.S. degree in Plant Pathology at Pennsylvania State University on the taxonomy of wood-



decaying Ascomycetes. She joined the University of Florida in 2002 as the IFAS Citrus Canker Extension Coordinator and worked out of the Southwest Florida REC in Immokalee. More recently, she has been working as IFAS Citrus BMP Coordinator out of the DeSoto County extension office in Arcadia providing education on pest, nutrient, water, and sediment best management practices for citrus growers. She has now moved to CREC with responsibility for the exotic disease extension program under the supervision of Pete Timmer. Her program will greatly expand our ability to serve the needs of the Florida citrus industry in dealing with these new challenges. Holly is located in Building 35, Room 10 and her extension is 1302.



Gabriel Valim