



Broward County Farm Bureau Newsletter

October 2018

Annual Meeting Notice

The annual meeting of Broward County Farm Bureau will be held on Thursday, November 8, 2018. **All members** are invited and encouraged to attend. The meeting will be held at the Davie Woman's Club, 6551 Orange Drive, Davie, FL 33314. It will begin at 6:00 p.m. and will last for about 1 hour. Food will be served, and there is no charge to attend. Please RSVP so adequate food is available to Bonny Hajducko at the Farm Bureau office: 954-972-2525 or via email bcfbbonny@yahoo.com. As an added incentive to RSVP early, the first 50 reservations will receive a FREE ticket to the Davie Rodeo for that evening. To ensure enough space for all, please limit attendance to two people per membership.

President's Message

I want to take this opportunity to welcome our members to the new Broward County Farm Bureau (BCFB) newsletter. We hope to utilize this as a way to keep our members updated on issues of interest, special events, and new member benefits. As the President of BCFB I encourage you to give us your feedback on how we are doing in meeting your expectations of service and benefits as a member. If you have suggestions on how we can improve on anything we provide, please let me know.

Florida Farm Bureau Federation was conceived and nurtured by a group of dedicated people in agriculture who recognized a need for a general farm organization in the state which could serve as a collective voice for its members. In 1942, the Broward County Farm Bureau was established. For over 75 years, the Broward County Farm Bureau has been an integral part of the agricultural community, bringing farmers, ranchers and nurserymen together to solve issues collectively.

We provide a voice in local, county, state, and federal government. BCFB studies and promotes better cultural and research practices, product quality improvement, improved marketing methods, and market stabilization. We also provide educational programs in schools and to the general public about agriculture. BCFB sponsors mini-grants for 20 school educational gardens each year. In addition, we provide speakers on agriculture related topics for various community organizations.

Our associate members, whose dues help support our organization, can benefit through taking advantage of our many membership benefits. Some of these include a discount on the purchase of a new Ford or Lincoln vehicle, savings on travel, ie: car rental & hotels; discounts on services and other discounts. We are trying to always add more local programs, so if you have any suggestions or know anyone that would like to offer a discount to our members please let me know. Currently we are finalizing discount programs with BJ's wholesale club, You Fit fitness centers, and Anytime Fitness. Make sure to check our website www.browardfarmbureau.com for updates on benefits. If you take advantage of just a few of our discount programs they can more than pay for the cost of membership.

I want to thank you for your membership and support since without this we would not be able to exist.

Sincerely,
Fred Segal
President, Broward County Farm Bureau

Agricultural Pest Update

by Mark Fagan

Giant African Land Snails: Last live snail found 12/19/2017. Every snail found since was dead. The good news is the treatments are working. Many zones in the cores, Miami-Dade and Broward, have been decommissioned and don't need regular detection surveys. To date since 9/2011 168,407 have been detected.

In November 2017 *Plaagiolepis alluadi* or **Little Yellow Ant** was found in the Riverland area of Broward. Detection is difficult because of their size (2 mm), so until the population reached a high density they generally went unnoticed. This is the first detection in Florida. They are native to Madagascar and are considered invasive. Like most invasives they reproduce in large numbers. The University of Florida is handling this. The ants are very difficult to eradicate and are threats to Florida's agriculture including citrus.

The **Oriental fruit fly** has reappeared near original areas from 2015/16. The good news is that no females have been detected and only four males. Keep your eye out though!

Conehead termite: The termite was originally discovered in a marina on Anglers Way in Dania in 2002. It was thought to have been eradicated, but a detection survey was continued until 2007. When nothing showed up it was discontinued. It reappeared nearby in 2015, and because of movement by man it was found in an industrial waste area in Pompano Beach near Copans Road. They are considered a threat to ornamentals, fruit trees, and others.

Just a reminder that equine sores from flies and mosquitos are at their highest at this time of year. The skin around the eyes are the most susceptible. Many people use horse masks, but just remember not to leave it on 24 hours per day. Daytime use is recommended as flies are dormant at night.

Broward County Fair

The Broward County Fair will be held November 16 - December 2, at the Big Easy Casino on Pembroke Road. Broward County Farm Bureau will be organizing the Agriculture and Education Tent. If anyone would like to help with this or has suggestions for displays, please contact Fred Segal at 954-849-0745.

Agricultural Tips

by Mark Fagan

Agricultural pest movement by man is a serious problem. Many pests will aestivate including neo-nates in the soil. Some will stay in the soil for months or longer before they emerge. So check the soil on plants before putting them in the ground. If you're not sure, contact your local agricultural extension office. Example: How did Miami's Giant African land snail get from Miami to Davie? If on their own it would take years, not to mention safely passing through traffic.

Getting The Younger Generation Interested In An Agricultural Career

by Mark Fagan

Over the past few decades I have attended many industry events and one thing was glaring. That is the fact that I see few young people showing any interest in agriculture as a career. The blame for this should go to the internet. The internet introduces young people who might otherwise see the family working together in the family business going off to the big city for white collar jobs. There are plenty of white collar jobs in agriculture. There are scientists, attorneys, spokes-people, executives of all types and many more, including politicians. Lets work together to promote interest. Not everyone in agriculture comes home at the end of the day with dirty hand and a sunburn!