



First Detector Network News

A newsletter for the NPDN First Detector Community

Volume 6 Number 4

Highlights.....		Fruit Flies and APHIS Regulation	
<p>NEW! April 29 a mated female Mexican fruit fly (Mexfly) was detected in Brooks County Texas. More...</p> <p>NEW! The Florida DOACS-Division of Plant Industry has posted information on the Argentine ant and its ability to become a serious pest of commercial honey bee hives. More...</p> <p>See more Highlights on page 2!</p>		<p>Fruit flies pose some of the greatest risks to fruits and vegetables around the world. The larva of the fruit fly feeds on over 400 host varieties causing monetary damages in crop loss, and also in the implementation of strategic control responses. USDA APHIS cites California and Florida as the states most prone to be at risk from fruit fly establishment. APHIS bases this on the historical records of outbreaks, favorable climatic conditions and the large amounts of host material at the ports of entry.</p> <p>USDA APHIS uses an integrated response system to combat risks from exotic fruit flies. This system encompasses surveillance, control programs and regulatory</p>	
In this issue....		<p>activities. This integrated response system can be seen currently in Texas. On April 29, 2009 a Mexican fruit fly (Mexfly) was confirmed in Texas. By May 5 a quarantine was in effect that currently encompasses 81 miles of Brooks county Texas. Fruit fly traps have been spread for detection purposes, spinosad foliar bait spray treatments are being applied to all host trees within 500 meters of the detection site, and population control measure have been implemented.</p> <p>To view all the quarantine information about the Mexfly please see the APHIS fact sheet here</p> <p>To see the 'Review of Fruit Fly Surveillance Programs in the US' please click here</p>	
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Controlling chilli thrips with mites



Photo by Andrew Derksen

The USDA reports that researchers at Ft. Pierce and the University of Florida have turned to two mites, *Neoseiulus cucumeris* and *Amblyseius swirskii* as biological controls for chilli thrips with success. To read this article in it's entirety please click [here](#).

The researchers have also set up a website for gardeners and commercial growers. That website can be reached by clicking [here](#).

Para la versión española del sitio web hace clic [aquí](#) por favor.

WPDN's [quarterly newsletter](#) also features chilli thrips. The newsletter has a lot of information and links to other websites of interest.

Agriculture Department warns growers about California rice seed



Bakanae Disease of Rice/ Cotton boll rot,
Photo by DPI

The Missouri Department of Agriculture is warning farmers not to purchase medium grain rice seed from California over concerns of *Bakanae* infection. *Bakanae* is a fungus that is common in other countries but was first introduced into the US in 1999. To read the news release from the Missouri Department of Agriculture please click [here](#).

Continued from page 1... **NEW!** Montana State University has published an invasive pest calendar . It was distributed to interested parties. It is a great model for other states who would like to do their own calendar. Click [here](#) to get yours!

NEW! U Mass Extension "IPM Scouting for Insects & Weeds of Woody Ornamentals Walkabout". Event held June 11, 2009 5-7pm rain or shine at the Heritage Museums & Gardens Sandwich, MA. Click [here](#) for registration and more information. Information is also available on page 5 under IPM news.

NEW! Call for abstracts for the [Global Bio-security conference](#) to be held 2/28/10– 3/3/10 Brisbane, Queensland Australia.



Training and other updates...

Continuing Education Courses (with Natalie Goldberg & Jason French)

- Albuquerque, NM 6-2-2009 [registration](#). To see a description of class please click [here](#).
- Corrales, NM 6-3-2009 [registration](#). To see a description of class please click [here](#).

Scale Insect Identification Workshop: Advanced Entomology Training (with Amanda Hodges)

- Mayaguez, PR 6-2-2009 [registration](#)

Please join Dave Clement, Karen Rane, and Mary Kay Malinoski as they host 2 upcoming webinars. They will cover problems of woody ornamentals reflecting samples that are currently being received, and the webinars will also feature live demonstration of sample diagnosis. For more information or to register please click [here](#)

Webinars will be held...

- June 3, 2009
- July 15, 2009

Multi-site Pest update via Poly com in Florida July 21. 2009

- To learn more click [here](#)
- Get registered and learn more click [here](#)

Soybean Short Course in Quincy, Florida at NFREC. August 26-27. 2009. CEU's available.

- See agenda [here](#), and get registered [here](#).

On the web...

Join us for the **second annual NPDN meeting in Miami 12/2009**. [More...](#)

2009 Plant Board Meetings. [More..](#)

WPDN quarterly newsletter [here](#).

For Southern gardeners, a new educational TV program for gardeners of all levels. Join Walter Reeves for 'Your Southern Garden'.

USDA Select Agent [list](#) updated 2008

Just a thought... The summer is upon us and for me that means my mind turns to 'the island', and to summer campfires. The island is [Ft George island](#). It's a barrier island off the coast of Florida with a lovely bit of history and gorgeous old Florida woods that include *Persea borbonia* (redbays). I spent a summer living there on an archaeological dig and I enjoyed every minute spent there. So imagine my surprise when in the course of my job here pictures and articles about Ft. George started popping up. I was saddened to learn that the articles and pictures referenced a new fungus *Raffaelea lauricola* that is deadly to redbays and to other members of the Laurel family. This fungus is vectored by a tiny non-native beetle called an Asian ambrosia beetle. The fungus plugs the water conducting cells causing the tree to wilt hence its common name [Laurel wilt \(LW\)](#). The mortality rate is very high and it is spreading quickly. My interest was piqued when I viewed the [distribution map](#) of LW and found that it had 'jumped' counties here in Florida. How did that happen? I spoke with Carrie Harmon from UF/IFAS plant pathology and the SPDN about it and she pointed out something that had never crossed my mind. Transportation of firewood is one way to introduce pathogens or exotic insects into a new environment. I am now asking all my friends and family to think about this when they camp this summer and I challenge you to as well. When you carry firewood with you, you may not just be transporting your firewood you just may be introducing non-native insects and diseases that can kill trees. Its just a thought. ~rLb



Photo by R.Brown, Ft George Island summer 2007

JOBS

- **DIRECTOR**, Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture Employing Department Iowa Agriculture and Home Economics Experiment Station, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Appointment
- **Biological Scientist** University of Florida Biological Control Research and Containment Laboratory in Fort Pierce, Florida
- **Research Ecologist / Invasive Species Team Leader** for the USDA Forestry Service. Duty Location: Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry Hilo, Hawaii
- **PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT REPRESENTATIVE** Location: Florida / Southeastern USA.
Requirements : Ph.D. or M.S. degree in agronomy, plant pathology, entomology or weed science
B.S degree will be considered

For more information on these jobs and application instructions please click [HERE](#).

Click [here](#) if you would like to receive the newsletter via email or to submit articles for inclusion in the next newsletter.

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The NPDN is a network of state and federal officials, land grant universities, and first detectors whose mission is to detect, diagnose, and disseminate information regarding high consequence plant disease or pests. The five regions that make up the NPDN are: NEPDN, SPDN, NCPDN, GPDN, and WPDN.



IPM news

- Southern Exposure, the Southern IPM Center newsletter [here](#)
- View the CDM PIPE for the North American continent [here](#)
- The objective of the Pecan PIPE is to familiarize you with arthropods associated with pecans. View the belt-wide Pecan PIPE [here](#)
- View the Soybean Rust PIPE [here](#)
- [Learn how to put IPM practices to use effectively.](#) Join Massachusetts extension specialists Bob Childs, Randy Prostack, Deborah Swanson, and Roberta Clark for a walk through the landscape for demonstrations of IPM tools and techniques, as well as a close look at some of the most common insect, weed and cultural problems of woody ornamentals. Workshops held rain or shine. 2 Pesticide contact hours for categories 29, 36, and Applicators License available. Association credits: 2 ISA, 1/2 SAF, 2 CFE, 1/2 MCA, 1 MCH, and 1 MCLP credits available.