Florida Citrus Advanced Technology Program

QUARTERLY & FINAL REPORTS: Control of Citrus Greening, Canker & Emerging Diseases of Citrus

Instructions Complete the fields based on your project specs. When finished, save the form to your local disk using a unique name. Then, go to **http://research.fcprac.com**, and log in with your user name and password using Researcher Login in the lower left. Find this project title and click on **Submit a Report**. Update your profile information if needed, then upload this report as directed.

2009-2010 REPORT	CATEGORY (drop-down)	TODAY'S DATE (m/d/yr)
○ *Quarterly Report* ● *Annual Report* ○ *Final*	Other	7/28/10

WHAT IS THE "HEADLINE" FOR THIS REPORT (e.g. a one-sentence "newspaper headline" describing what you accomplished)

Maintaining existing research trials at the Mid Florida Citrus Foundation A.H. Krezdorn grove.

TITLE and CONTACT INFORMATION

Proposal Title Expand Research Plots and Maintain Existing Areas at Mid Florida Citrus Foundation

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Phone 352-343-4101	*Project Duration (years)* 3 *Year of Project* 1
Organization University of Florida	*Total Direct Funds (current year)* 50,000.00

REPORT UPDATE (650 words; provide details about your headline)

Mid Florida Citrus Foundation (MFCF) a 501c3 not for profit organization which has supported (past 22 years) and currently supports citrus research efforts of scientists from the University of Florida, USDA and private industry. The MFCF supports citrus research through the employment of a full time grove manager whom works closely with researchers to ensure that their projects are handled properly and that the grove is an excellent condition. The management of this grove requires extra financial commitment as grove care cost tend to be higher than a commercial grove due to the nature of many of the research projects. Current projects being conducted at the MFCF are Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) pesticide evaluation control trials, low volume applicator trials, windbreak evaluation, HLB nutritional programs, new and existing herbicide trials, variety and rootstock evaluation trials.

The MFCF recently installed fertilizer tanks, pumps, timers, microsprinkler irrigation, windbreaks and planted trees on an additional 17 acres of grove to allow more research work to be conducted at the facility. This was made possible due to the fact that the MFCF received grant support from the FCRPAC and an EQIP grant from the USDA NRCS. These federal dollar are cost share dollars which require the implementation of windbreaks around existing or planned citrus groves and for the conversion of water guns to micro-sprinklers before being reimbursed for fifty percent of the cost. The FCPRAC funds have been used to implement these practices which have resulted in a match of grant dollars from the EQIP grant. In essence every dollar of FCPRAC monies used to create additional research grove is matched with additional federal grant funds.

Expansion projects include an economic study of high density citrus rooted cuttings for early production of citrus in the presence of greening, remedial and preventive tests for HLB infection, new herbicide trials and new variety evaluation in Florida. This large planting of young trees also requires added young tree care expenses and an increase in grove care costs without any fruit to support continuing operations. Additional projects have included the upgrading of an irrigation system on a 20 acre block which is subdivided into plots giving the ability to perform state of the art replicated irrigation trials. Also the farm managers office which was in disrepair was repaired and painted.

Future expansion plans for 2011 with FCPRAC support include up to fifteen acres of new grove for ACP control trials. ACP control research requires young trees which flush more vigorously. Existing blocks used for ACP research are becoming more mature and less ideal of ACP research work. The newly planned planting would ensure the continued availability for researchers.

In this past year over twenty citrus research trials have been conducted at the MFCF. Additionally MFCF supports extension efforts and vice versa. These efforts included three citrus grower field days to relay research results, visits by international scientists and extension personnel, community outreach efforts such as 4-H and Master Gardener trainings.