UF/IFAS Harvesting and Abscission Research Program Overview

48th Annual International Citrus & Beverage Conference
September 19, 2008
Clearwater, FL

Jackie Burns
CREC - Lake Alfred

Fritz Roka
SWFREC - Immokalee
Program Areas

• Abscission
• Machine Enhancement
• Horticulture
• Processor Issues
• Economic Studies
• Industry Education
Abscission
Jackie Burns, Bob Ebel

• Management
  – application parameters
  – decision model
  – screening for new compounds
Abscission

• Late season ‘Valencia’
  – recover orange
  – leave green
  – application parameters
  – machine operation
Abscission

• Registration (CMNP) support
  – Handle technical CMNP
  – Test efficacy of formulations
  – Interact AgroSource & DOC

CMNP registration:
EUP for 2010/11
Section 3 (full) 2012/13
Machine Enhancements
Reza Ehsani, Tom Burks

- Yield Monitoring
- Variable rate shaking
- Automated guidance
Horticulture
Jim Syvertsen, Bob Rouse, Bill Castle, Kelly Morgan

• Tree health
• Delay bloom
• Drought stress
• Grove design

Mid-June

Drought treatment

Rain+irrigation trtmnt

Drought stress delayed flowering

Well irrigated, full flowering

Tyvek
Processor Issues

• Microbial evaluations – Michelle Danyluk
• Fruit splitting – Kelly Morgan
• Abscission effects – CMNP registration
Processor Issues

• Harvest debris – Tim Spann
  – mechanical v. hand
  – with v. without de-stemer
  – with v. without abscission

How much trash in a hand-picked load?

184 lb/trailer
Processor Issues

- Harvest scheduling/ load allocation – Fritz Roka, Tom Burks
  - 24-hr harvesting
  - logistical coordination
Economic Studies
Fritz Roka

- Harvest Decision Tool
- Gleaner Productivity
- Commercial Yield Analysis
- Abscission Cost/Benefit Analysis
Industry Education Program
Everybody

Website: http://citrusMH.ifas.ufl.edu
- Videos & Photos
- Outline of IFAS MH research
- Publication Catalog (current and historical)

Trade journal articles
- Citrus Industry series
- Florida Grower

Field Days – next April 2009
focus on processor topics
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Thank You

Questions