

Spring Blueberry Field Day
Thursday, March 12, 2009
Hardee County Agric Civic Center
515 Civic Center Dr., Wauchula, FL

- 8:00 a.m. Late Registration (visit trade show)** - late registration at the door does not guarantee a meal. **See enclosed pre-registration form for early registration.**
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome – TBA**
- 9:10 a.m. Block grant funding for specialty crops in Florida –** Ms. Carole Strange, Program Administrator, Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Tallahassee, FL.
- 9:25 a.m. Mechanical harvesting research in Florida –** Dr. Jeff Williamson, extension horticulturist, Horticultural Sciences Dept., IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.
- 9:40 a.m. BMP’s for blueberry in Florida –** Ms. Jessica McCoy, environmental specialist II, Office of Agricultural Water Policy, SWFWMD, Tampa, FL.
- 10:00 a.m. Break - visit trade show.**
- 10:20 a.m. Considerations for organic blueberry production –** Dr. Gerard Krewer, extension specialist, Dept. of Horticulture, University of Georgia, Tifton, GA.
- 10:50 a.m. Food safety and the impact to our industry -** Mr. Keith Mixon, president, Sunnyridge Farms, Inc., Winter Haven, FL.
- 11:10 a.m. What you should be doing for food safety –** Dr. John Duval, technical services manager, Sunnyridge Farms, Inc., Winter Haven, FL.
- 11:25 a.m. The history of Florida blueberries -** Dr. Paul Lyrene, blueberry breeder, Horticultural Sciences Dept., IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.
- 11:45 a.m. FBGA business meeting –** Ms. Donna Miller, president, Florida Blueberry Growers’ Association, presiding.
- 12:05 p.m. Lunch and visit trade show –** provided for pre-registrants.
- 1:30 p.m. Depart for field tour of area blueberry farm -** Maps will be provided. Tour ends at approximately 4:00 p.m.