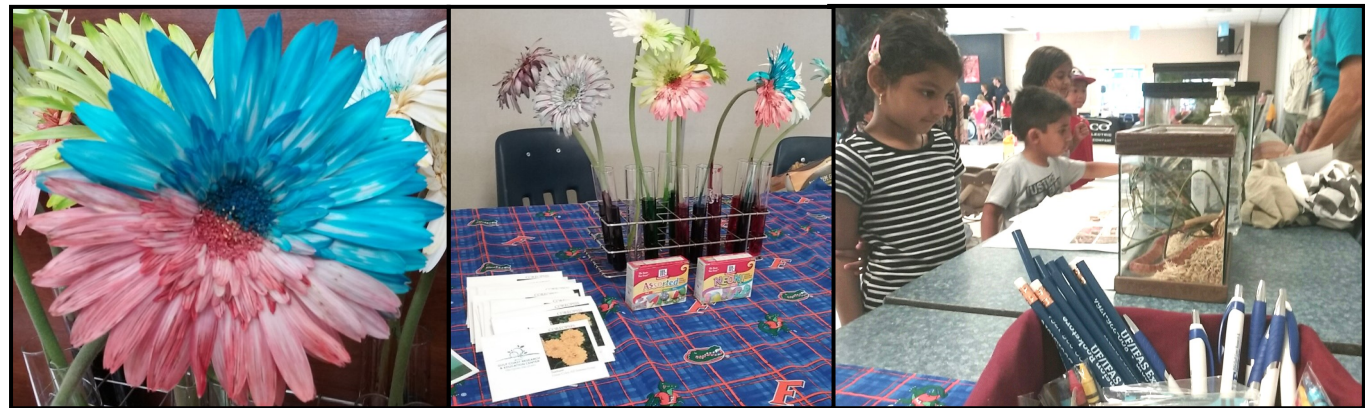


Lawton Chiles Elementary STEM Night—UF Flowers No Match for the Snake Man



Each Spring Christine Cooley takes the show on the road to Lawton Chiles Elementary School for their STEM Night to promote UF and science. This year our table was right by the Snake Man, so even though we had a fun, easy-to-do experiment for the kids, the Snake Man pretty much killed our vibe. It was actually fun to watch the students interact with him and his nice variety of slithering reptiles. Some would cower in fear, while others were loving the chance to drape a large snake over their shoulders. Our table featured some of our Gerber daisies, which had been placed in test tubes filled with color water. The stem draws the colored water up to the flower and the end result is shown in the first two photos above. To get the double colored flower, carefully split the stem in half placing each side in different colored water.



Safety First
The main campus has your best interest at heart if you work in the field. They really do care! Melissa Crowder is our EHS rep and she travels endless miles throughout the state visiting RECs testing respirators and conducting hearing tests. **Be sure to check your email for an important upcoming workshop focusing on required annual training to be held here at our center in July.**

Avoid Skeeter Syndrome this Summer—Yes, it’s a real thing

You may have "skeeter syndrome," a more extreme allergic reaction to a mosquito bite, if you notice excessive swelling of the bite site and the area feeling hot and hard to the touch. Sometimes the bite site can even blister and ooze. There are many repellents available as well as common essential oils that are taken from natural mosquito repellent plants and used in natural mosquito repellents include: Oil of lemon eucalyptus. Citronella. Cedar. Peppermint. Lemongrass. Geraniol (component of several different types of oils, like rose and geranium). Also preventative maintenance helps—remove any standing water is the BMP for your home and yard.



GCREC Employee News

June 2017

Research Matter Seminar Series
Continues Friday, June 16

Nematodes, covert operators in Florida’s farms
Presented by Dr. Johan Desaegeer, GCREC Nematologist



The Nematology lab at GCREC was established last year and is now a fully functioning lab working on several research and extension programs. The focus is on developing more sustainable nematode management options in primarily vegetables and strawberries, and increasing our knowledge and understanding of nematode biology in Florida. This includes building new nematology infrastructure at GCREC, evaluating new tools and products for nematode control, studying new emerging nematodes in Florida and providing support and advice to growers.

June Birthdays

- 1... Jeb Cofer
- 2... Debra Barry PC
- 6... Scott Hughes
- 11...Vance Whitaker
- 14...Johanny Zabala
- 14...Natalia Salinas
- 16...Catalina Moyer
- 16...Joel Parlin
- 17...Andrew Shirley
- 18...Radhika Rijal
- 30...Juliana Silveira Baggio

Hurricane Season is Here—

For the upcoming Atlantic hurricane season, which runs from June 1 through November 30, forecasters predict a 45 percent chance of an above-normal season, a 35 percent chance of a near-normal season, and only a 20 percent chance of a below-normal season.

Forecasters predict a 70 percent likelihood of 11 to 17 named storms (winds of 39 mph or higher), of which 5 to 9 could become hurricanes (winds of 74 mph or higher), including 2 to 4 major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5; winds of 111 mph or higher). An average season produces 12 named storms of which six become hurricanes, including three major hurricanes.

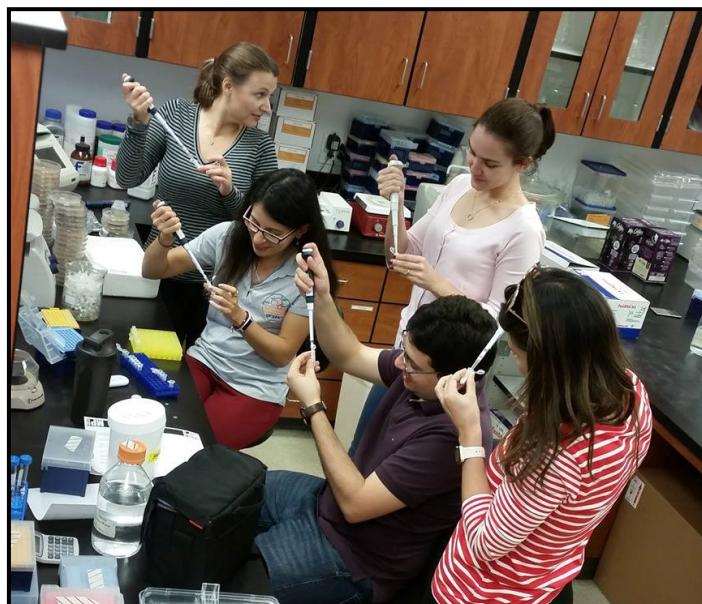
Pick up your GCREC Hurricane Guide at the front desk today and be ready to ride out the storm.

For Your Safety—



County Road 672 is becoming increasingly busy as more housing developments are constructed. This trend will not be slowing down in the near future. Since we have additional traffic on the road, we would like to remind all employees to be extra cautious while traveling to and from the center. Some of you many not know that a woman was killed on CR 672 just last week as she veered into oncoming traffic near Amber Sweet Farms subdivision. As a reminder, here are a few safety tips to follow while in your vehicle:

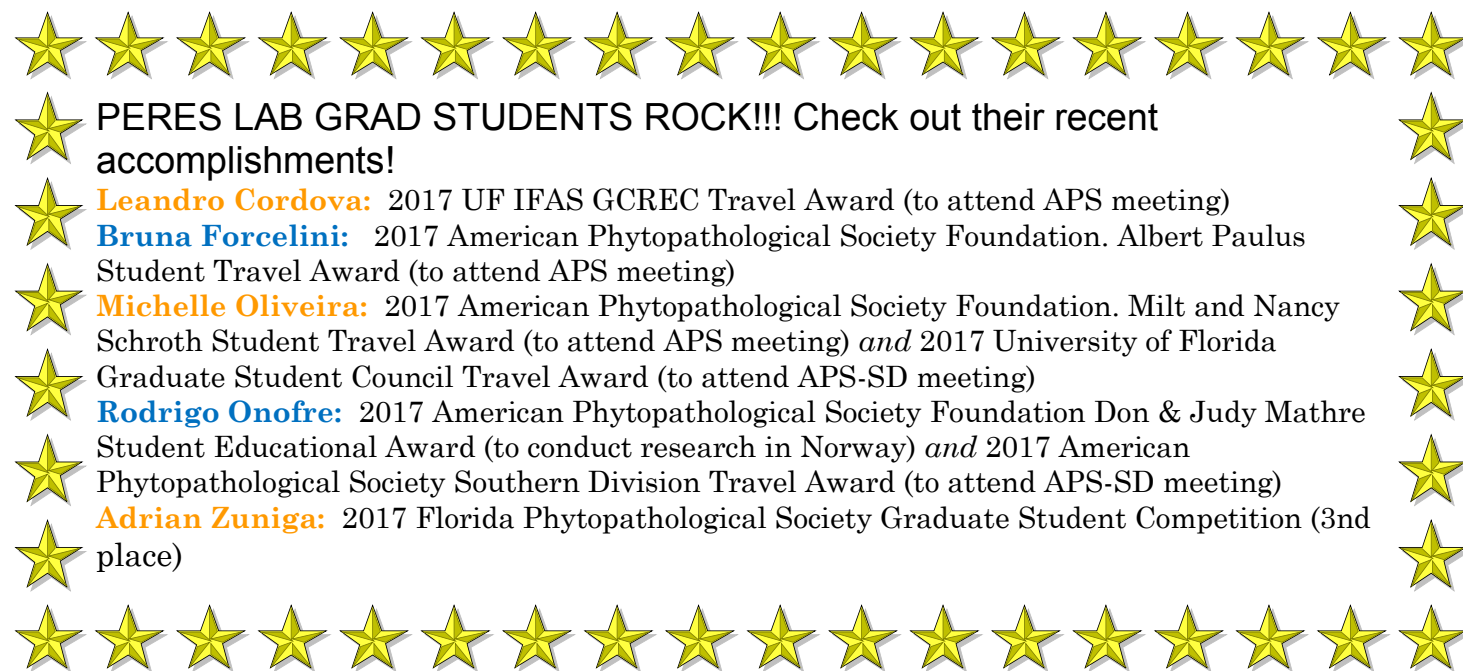
- 1) Do not under any circumstances text or dial your cell phone when driving. It only takes 5 seconds of looking down at your phone to be distracted enough to cause an accident.
- 2) The speed limit in front of our center is 55. However, that drops to 45 just before Carlton Lakes Drive and remains 45 past Balm Riverview Road. Watch your speed and be aware of speed traps, which are becoming more common.
- 3) Practice Patience. Excessive speeds or passing slower vehicles in no-pass areas can be deadly. Take a deep breath and slow down. Whoever is waiting for you wants you to arrive live.



T-E-A-M! Go TEAM!

Some times it takes a village and other times it just take a bunch of plant pathologists. As many of you know Dr. Peres' lab always has a lot of activity and a lot of employees/interns/grad students and more! Here we have from the top and then clockwise—Juliana Baggio, Rafaele Moreira, Bruna Forcellini, Marcus Marin and Michelle Oliveria.

“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.” *Henry Ford*



PERES LAB GRAD STUDENTS ROCK!!! Check out their recent accomplishments!

- Leandro Cordova:** 2017 UF IFAS GCREC Travel Award (to attend APS meeting)
- Bruna Forcelini:** 2017 American Phytopathological Society Foundation. Albert Paulus Student Travel Award (to attend APS meeting)
- Michelle Oliveira:** 2017 American Phytopathological Society Foundation. Milt and Nancy Schroth Student Travel Award (to attend APS meeting) *and* 2017 University of Florida Graduate Student Council Travel Award (to attend APS-SD meeting)
- Rodrigo Onofre:** 2017 American Phytopathological Society Foundation Don & Judy Mathre Student Educational Award (to conduct research in Norway) *and* 2017 American Phytopathological Society Southern Division Travel Award (to attend APS-SD meeting)
- Adrian Zuniga:** 2017 Florida Phytopathological Society Graduate Student Competition (3rd place)



GCREC welcomed another group of EPCOT Interns for a tour and lunch at our center. These interns are the “cream of the crop” in horticulture and we’re proud to host this event each year. Recruiting efforts are in the works to gain a few new grad students. We already have a few former EPCOT interns in-house and hope to have more in the future. Great partnership with a Florida landmark.

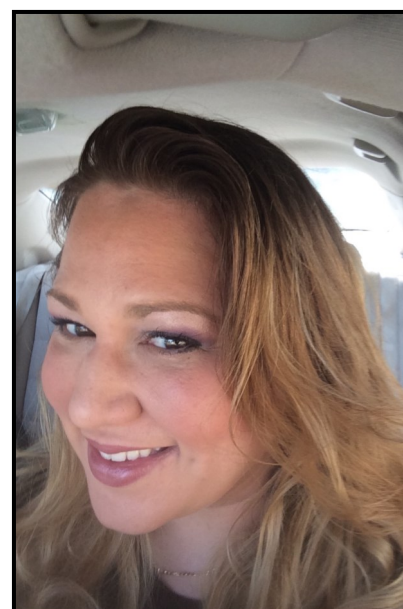


New Gators Roaming Our Halls



Meet Hannah Nguyen. She will be working in Dr. Seonghee Lee's lab on the strawberry tissue culture and transformation. We would also like to welcome David Moreira, a graduate from Zamorano College in Honduras. He will be working in the nematology lab until November. And you may have seen Andrew Benson in the halls. A student from New Zealand, Andrew will be working with Dr. Andrew Koeser on urban horticulture projects. Welcome to all our new Gators!

Plant City Updates for June 2017



Welcome Joan Cunningham to GCREC Plant City, our new office assistant pictured on the left. Joan is lifelong resident of Lithia, Florida. She has had many years of experience in customer service, as well as accounting. She has an 8 year old daughter. In her spare time, Joan enjoys going to the movies and reading. The GCREC, Plant City Campus is excited to have her on board!

We also have three new AEC-Communication & Leadership Development Spring 2017 graduates: Andi Butts, Evan Prosch, and Sean Doherty! Best of luck to you all!



Gator Perks Help You Have a “Funner Summer” so check it out at:
<http://hr.ufl.edu/benefits/other-benefits/gatorperks/travel/>

Discounts for Daytona International Speedway events, hotel discounts in the Disney World area up to 35%, Paddle Florida events, Ticket Monster Perks—exclusive discounts on hotels, sports, concerts, theater, movie tickets, and theme park tickets nationwide, Tickets at Work— offers exclusive Universal and Disney ticket discounts, special offers and access to preferred seating and tickets to top attractions, theme parks, shows, sporting events, movie tickets, car rentals, hotels and much more. Don't miss out on some discounted fun compliments of UF Human Resources!