fshs.org

Quarterly
FSHS Newsletter

July 2021 • Volume 30 Issue 2

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FSHS Annual Meeting: Get Ready to Mingle and Mango!

Thinking, learning and researching. What we discover does not go anywhere unless we share it.

The Florida State Horticultural Society is an excellent platform to share everything that is relevant to the horticultural industry in the state. Do not miss the opportunity to make connections, to stay informed, and to communicate your work and experience with colleagues. If you are a researcher, encourage your students and postdocs to participate in the society and attend our annual meetings.

We are just a few weeks away from the 134th Annual Meeting of the Florida State Horticultural Society. This meeting brings together not only science but also industry and government to advance horticulture in Florida. See more details on page 2.

New this year, FSHS will hold the Mango Grower's Summit, a separate one-day event, in association with the FSHS Annual Meeting. This is an opportunity to network with growers and to take an in-depth look at quality mango production. Separate registration is required.

2021 Conference Registration & Abstract Submissions

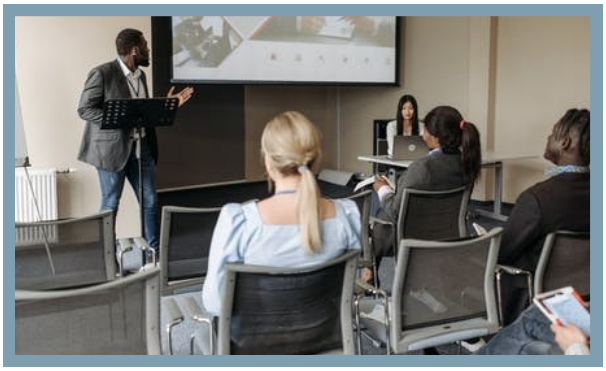
It's just around the corner... register and make your hotel reservations for the **134nd annual meeting of FSHS** that will be held at the **Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort** (100 N Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach FL 32118; (386) 254-8200) on **September 26 to 28, 2021.**

The 2021 Meeting of FSHS will feature presentations of applied research pertaining to horticultural and agronomic crops and products, and new developments and practices that have been put into use by growers, processors, allied industries, and other horticultural interests in Florida.

Don't hesitate — **renew your membership, submit your abstract,** and **register now**:

Register for the 134rd Florida State Horticultural Society Annual Meeting:
CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

FSHS Conference Registration			
	Early Bird	Sept 1 - Sept 24	On Site
Member Basic	$200	$250	$275
Member Full (includes 2 meals)	$300	$350	$375
Non-Member Basic	$300	$350	$400
Non-Member Full (includes 2 meals)	$400	$450	$500
Student Member	$125	$150	$175
Student Non-Member	$175	$200	$225



Abstract Deadline Extended: July 31, 2021

Share your work by presenting an abstract!

FSHS Abstract Submission Form

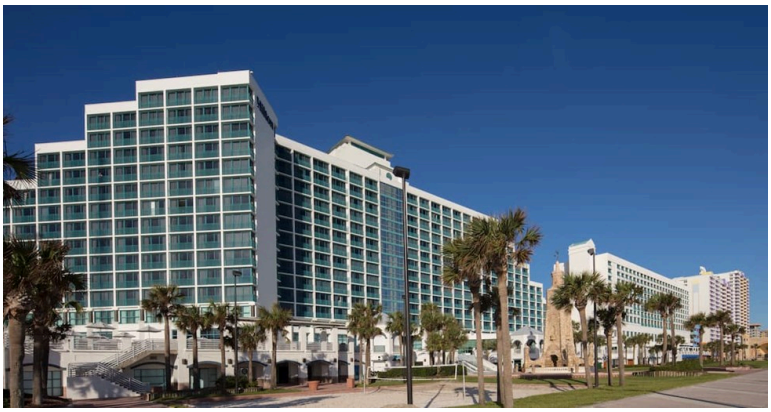
Guest Speaker: Suzanne Stapleton

Publishing Horticultural Research: Impacts of Open Access

The FSHS Board welcomes Suzanne Stapleton as our guest speaker for Sunday night's opening awards ceremony.

Suzanne will address the topic of Publishing Horticultural Research: Impacts of Open Access

Suzanne Cady Stapleton is Associate Librarian at the University of Florida George A. Smathers Libraries. As the Agricultural Sciences and Digital Scholarship Librarian she serves as liaison to eleven academic units in the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. She manages and facilitates access to specialized agricultural resources and provides leadership in digital publishing. Suzanne earned the M. S. from Cornell University, the B. A. from Carleton College and conducted agricultural research in the U. S., Mexico, and Central America. Her current research interests are scholarly communication literacy and publishing practices of agricultural scholars. She is President-Elect of the U.S. Agriculture Information Network and a member of the American Library Association, Association of College and Research Libraries, and the Library Publishing Coalition. Suzanne serves as the institutional representative to AgNIC.



The Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort...a very special destination

The venue for the upcoming FSHS conference held September 26-28, 2021 is this fantastic resort on Daytona Beach. We have negotiated great rates at this hotel from Saturday, September 25 through Wednesday, September 29, 2021 so that you may enjoy some fun in the sun on the beach while you're also learning a lot of important information at the conference.

The FSHS conference hotel package includes free wifi, NO resort fees, reduced parking charges, and access to all the great hotel amenities such as a fitness center, six bars and restaurants on the hotel property, and of course, easy access to Daytona Beach!

Be sure and reserve your stay at the hotel when you register for the conference. Remember, when you stay at the conference hotel you are also helping your society keep conference registration costs low. **Book now**, since rooms at our special rate are limited.

Choose from different rooms to meet your needs, and consider bringing the whole family for several fun days at Daytona Beach!

Miami's Backyard Mango Tree

By: Noris Ledesma, Ph.D.

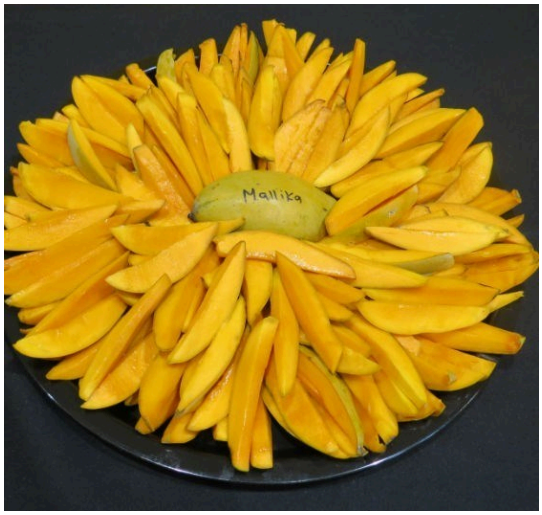
Florida State Horticultural Society President

There is the only one mainland area of the United States where this delicious and fragrant fruit can be properly grown. For years mangos have been of great value in South Florida, grown with pride in the garden - a fruit to eat when ripe and at all stages of growth. Fresh mangos are a privilege that Floridians can have. Nothing compares the delicacy of a fresh 'Angie' mango harvested directly from the tree.

Today we already have culminated in mango varieties with superior flavor, disease resistance growth habit, adaptability, and flavor. These mangos are grown using advanced horticultural techniques of selective pruning, size control and ultra-low water and fertilizer input. These new mangos represent South Florida – a new generation of mangos.

But if you still wandering what are the best mango to plant, and even better be able to extend the season and pick mangos from May to September. The answer is by planting the right varieties.

Until decades ago, there was but one answer to that question. It would have been, "Haden'. Today the answer is so different: Plant as many different ones as you have space for. There is not one best mango anymore. There are many good varieties to choose. Many of these new varieties are already available in local nurseries.



Don't hesitate to start planting your own trees. Every back yard in South Florida has an opportunity to grow mangos. Today we have small, manageable landscape trees that yield an ample harvest of beautiful and delicious fruit and disease tolerant cultivars provide unprecedented opportunities for organic production to provide vital nutrition to our families.

There is only one mainland area of the United States where this delicious and fragrant fruit can be properly grown.

'Cogshall'

Cogshall was selected on Pine Island, Florida in the 1940s for its small tree size, good production, eating quality and beauty. The fruit weigh from 10 to 18 oz. The color is yellowish orange, overlaid with a brilliant crimson blush. The fibreless flesh has an excellent, spicy and aromatic flavor. The fruit and trees have good tolerance to fungal diseases. The Cogshall tree remains small and compact and with minimal pruning can be maintained at a height and spread of 6 ft or less. Such a tree will easily produce 30 to 40 lb (3 to 4 boxes) of fruit while retaining health and vigor.

'Rosigold'

'Rosigold' is a local selection of Southeast Asian heritage. It is a very early season. The fruit ripen from middle to late March. It weigh 11 oz and are a bright yellow, with crimson and red highlights on the sun-exposed shoulders. The skin is thick, tender and adhesive to the soft, melting and juicy deep-orange flesh. The flavor is rich, aromatic and sweet, with a hint of the Asian Tropics. The tree is small, manageable and highly productive. It is often a multi-harvest fruiting season.

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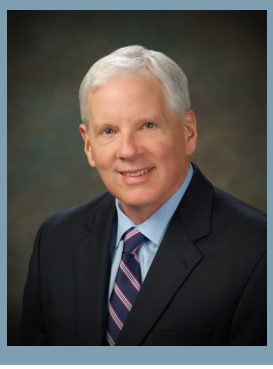
Angle on New Hort Sciences Chair for UF/IFAS



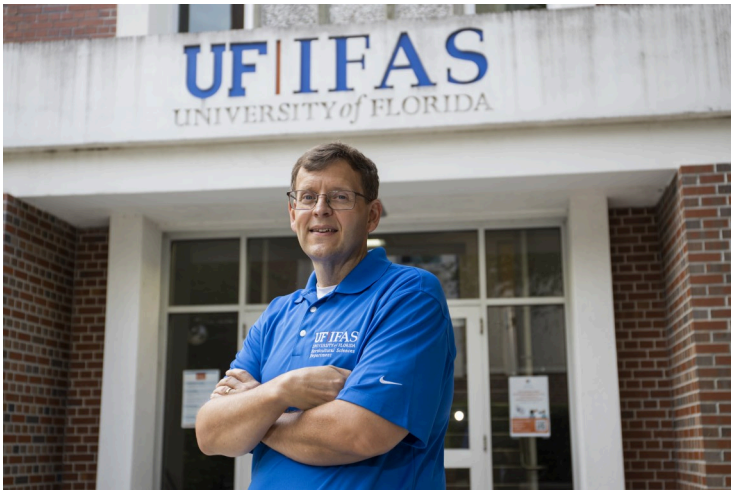
By J. Scott Angle, Ph.D

Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources
University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

Dr. J. Scott Angle
jangle@ufl.edu
@IFAS_VP

I'm not sure how to improve your horticultural sciences team's top-10-in-the-world ranking. My first major hire as vice president is going to help figure it out.

Chris Gunter starts as chair of the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Department of Horticultural Sciences in June. It was an easy choice, in part because a panel of stakeholders who interviewed Gunter reported to me, "We recommend highly and without reservation."



Now the hard part begins. I have to borrow from 4-H to describe my marching orders to Gunter: To make the best better.

He inherits a department (well led by outgoing interim chair Jackie Burns) that is somehow still on the rise. Just this year we built a new on-campus greenhouse for our horticulturalists and cut the ribbon on 15 new growth chambers they will share with several other departments. We're renovating our lettuce breeder's lab in Belle Glade.

The research and teaching grove on campus has a new lab, a three-bay psyllid-proof quarantine greenhouse for citrus, equipment shed and pole barn, not to mention a go-getter farm manager, Zack Black, who's quickly proven adept at preventing rather than reacting to problems.

Horticultural Sciences is among the departments cooperating to launch a plant breeding Ph.D. program in the fall. It's planning to add plant breeders at the Gulf Coast Research and Education Center and the Citrus Research and Education Center this summer, which is central to our search for the next big alternative crop around which an entire new industry could sprout.

So what's left for Gunter to do? He aims to connect his faculty even more extensively with industry. Like me, Gunter is a big believer in the power of technology to improve your bottom line while reducing your environmental footprint.

He'll seek opportunities to build teams of horticulturalists and engineers to find ways to capitalize on the artificial intelligence (AI) initiative at UF. He also expects our team of plant breeders to work directly with commodity associations and individual growers to understand what traits and characteristics are needed in new varieties to help industry succeed, and then make use of AI to refine the search.

Gunter wants to connect faculty and students to Florida's high-tech sector to enhance research and job opportunities in the future. He envisions connecting startups with faculty members working in the same field to boost the department's programs.

As an Extension vegetable specialist for the past 20 years, Gunter has organized daylong grower trainings, helped plan growers' off-season annual meetings and delivered presentations on food safety and other subjects.

In Florida, he has partnered with UF/IFAS food safety expert Michelle Danyluk on a pilot project with a South Florida tomato grower/packer to test out a tool to help producers prepare for produce safety inspections.

He and Danyluk are also on a team that recently received federal grant funding to develop a training course for packinghouse supervisors in how to manage the

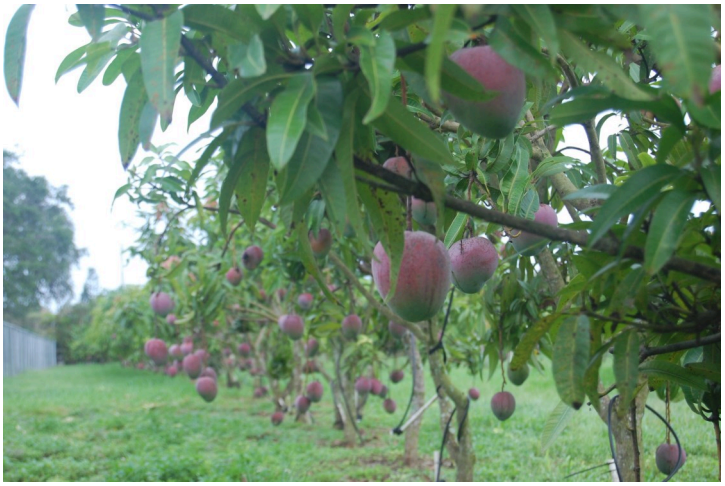
(Continued on page 7)

Miami's Backyard Mango Tree...continued from page 4

'Neelum'
Neelum is a South Indian dessert mango. The fruit weigh 9 oz, with a ovate-oblique shape. The fruit ripen from middle to late August, considerable late season. They are smooth-skinned and bright yellow upon ripening and have no blush. The flesh is deep yellow or orange. There is no fiber and a rich, aromatic flavor that is over-powering to the unaccustomed palate. Neelum is best eaten out-of-hand, or used as slices or cubes in mixed fruit salads, as the firm flesh holds its shape. Neelum is a dwarf.

'Angie'
'Angie' was selected by Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden for home garden and estate agriculture in South Florida due to its compact growth habit, disease tolerance and overall fruit quality. The fruit are 400 g, oblong and saffron yellow with Indian orange blush on the sun-exposed shoulders. The flesh is tangerine orange and without fiber with a deep sweetness and sophisticated profile rich in apricot. The disease tolerance is excellent and given its early season it often can be harvested before the rainy season in South Florida. The tree is semi-dwarf and highly manageable with annual pruning.

This year we will dedicate a mango chapter in the Krome section. Mango farmers can attend sponsored by National Mango Board for the Mango Grower's Summit, the mango growers have the benefit to attend to all the lectures during the FSHS meeting. This is an opportunity to network with growers and to take an in-depth look at quality mango production. For more information please link: https://www.mango.org/news-events/25716/



Citrus Section Highlights

Section VP: Davie Kadyampakeni

Assistant Professor, Citrus Research and Education Center (UF/IFAS)

The Florida State Horticultural Society (FSHS) Citrus section will have more than 18 presentations at the 2021 Florida State Horticultural Society featuring University scientists, USDA researchers, graduate students and postdoctoral researchers. The presentations will focus and highlight on horticultural management, rootstock selection and performance, citrus nutrient and irrigation management, citrus pest and disease management. The FSHS Citrus Section will also provide an opportunity for networking and collaboration among participants. Highlights of the topics to be presented include:

1.Water Use Assessment for Citrus Trees Affected by Huanglongbing (HLB) in Florida by graduate student Samuel Kwakye et al.

2.A Review of the effect of Magnesium on Performance of Huanglongbing (HLB)-affected and Non-HLB-affected Citrus Trees by former graduate student Eduardo Esteves et al.

3.Root growth and micro-nutrient uptake in HLB-affected grapefruit on Florida Flatwood soils by graduate student Lukas Hallman et al.

4.Developing Neutral Electrolyzed Water for pest management 2020 update by postdoctoral associate Tim Elbert et al.

5.Evaluation of varied fertilization rates on root growth and distribution of HLB-affected Valencia orange trees by former graduate student Tanyaradzwa Chinyukwi et al.

6.Efficacy and effects of trunk injection for delivering imidacloprid and oxytetracycline to HLB-affected sweet orange trees by graduate student Leigh Archer et al.

7.Oak mulch applications improved soil characteristics in an HLB-affected citrus grove by graduate student Lukas Hallman et al.

8.Diagnosis Of Nutrient Deficiencies, Pest And Disease Disorders On Citrus Leaves Using Deep Learning Machine Vision by graduate student Perseveranca Mungofa et al.

9.Fertilizer inputs effect grapefruit root health by graduate student John Santiago et al.

Angle on New Hort Sciences Chair...continued from page 5

pandemic in their operations and position themselves to respond with science-based knowledge to customer requests and questions.

Gunter has also worked hours from a main campus serving stakeholders through research and Extension. He understands that some of the most important work for some commodities occurs away from Gainesville, whether it's German Sandoya's work on lettuce in Belle Glade, Josh Freeman's work on vegetable cropping systems in Quincy, Fernando Alferez's citrus research in Immokalee, or the hunt for HLB solutions in Lake Alfred.

Like me, Gunter is committed to getting out of Gainesville and going to where the stakeholders are.

Please invite Gunter—and me—to your events. I, too, am still in my first year and look forward to meeting many more of you. You can reach out directly to me, to Gunter at cc.gunter@ufl.edu, or to any member of the Department of Horticultural Sciences to whom you're connected. You, too, have a role to play in making the best better.

J. Scott Angle is the University of Florida's Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources and leader of the UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS).

How to Sponsor the FSHS

Our activities and meetings would not be possible without sponsor support.

Sponsor our organization and network with other horticultural professionals in Florida! The FSHS welcomes sponsors for it's annual meeting.

If you're interested in being an FSHS sponsor, please contact Dr. Gene McAvoy at **gmcavoy@ufl.edu** for an explanatory letter.

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