

BOTANY SECTION
Compiled by Richard E. Weaver, Jr., Ph.D.

For this period, 216 specimens were submitted to the Botany Section for identification, and 1,198 were received from other sections for identification/name verification (total 1,414). Also during this period, 181 specimens were added to the herbarium. Some of the specimens not previously discussed are described below:

Aeschynomene fluitans Peter. (A genus of about 150 species widely distributed through the tropical and warm temperate regions of the earth.) Leguminosae-Papilionoideae. **Giant sensitive plant, floating sensitive plant, Botswana wonder.** A robust, perennial aquatic plant with swollen or inflated floating stems and pinnately compound leaves that fold up when touched. The showy yellow "pea-like" flowers are held erect above the surface of the water. Native to lakes and swamps of southern and central Africa, this plant is occasionally cultivated as an ornamental in the southeastern United States (Volusia County; B2003-779; Stacey S. Simmons; 22 October 2003.) (Mabberley 1997.)

Alternanthera sessilis (L.) R. Br. ex DC. (A genus of about 100 species found throughout the warm regions of the world, with a concentration in the New World tropics.) Amaranthaceae. **Sessile joyweed.** A terrestrial or semi-aquatic perennial herb with sprawling stems and opposite, often reddish leaves, in the axils of which are borne 1-3 sessile, whitish, densely capitate, spherical to ovoid, chaffy inflorescences. Because this species can become an aggressive pest, it is included on both the federal and Florida noxious weed lists. It is often confused with the very similar *A. reineckii* Briquet, differing primarily in rather technical pubescence characters. Both species are grown as aquarium plants, although they are more popular in Europe than in the United States. *Alternanthera sessilis* is pantropical in distribution and has become established in scattered localities throughout Florida. (Hillsborough County; B2003-823; Karen Etchells; 27 October 2003.) (Kasselmann 1995.)

Anredera vesicaria (Lam.) Gaertn.f. (A genus of 10-15 species native to the warm regions of the Americas.) Basellaceae. **Texas madeiravine.** A vigorous high-climbing vine growing from a perennial, tuberous rootstock. The vine can be quite showy with alternate, ovate, petiolate leaves that are fleshy, succulent, and abundant slender spike-like racemes of small, white flowers. Growing rampantly, this species can completely cover small trees and has the potential to become a serious pest. It is native throughout much of tropical America, with a northward extension into Texas. Although apparently not native in Florida, it has become well established in the central and southern portions of the state. (Hillsborough County; B2003-725; James R. Martin; 30 September 2003.) (Correll and Johnston 1970.)

Commelina gambiae C. B. Clarke. (A genus containing about 170 species native mostly in tropical and warm-temperate regions.) Commelinaceae. **Gambian dayflower.** A number of *Commelina* species have been introduced into the United States and have become widespread weeds. This species is still limited to the areas surrounding Tampa and Miami, Florida. It is a sprawling annual herb with alternate leaves, the petiole base forming a sheath around the stem. The flowers of most other species of the genus have blue petals, but *C. gambiae* have peach or apricot-colored petals. The species is native to western and southern Africa and has

not been reported to be a serious pest anywhere in the world to my knowledge. The specimen reported on here was collected in a hayfield. (Manatee County; B2003-643; Ruth DeSear; 7 September 2003.) (Faden 2000.)

Eleocharis dulcis (Burm.f.) Trin. ex Henschel. (A cosmopolitan genus of about 120 species.) Cyperaceae. **Chinese water chestnut.** Perennial herb to 12 dm tall, with terete, jointed, green and photosynthetic, essentially leafless stems. The flowers form a dense terminal spike to 4 cm long. During the growing season, under flooded conditions, the plants produce a series of stolons, each one terminating in a fleshy tuber. These tubers, growing to 5 cm in diameter and resembling the corm of a gladiolus, have a crunchy texture and delicate sweet taste and are the water chestnuts of commerce. Most of the water chestnuts sold in the United States are imported from China. Commercial production in Florida, California and Hawaii has not generally been successful, due in large part to the high cost of the labor involved. The plant is native in the Asian tropics, but is seldom cultivated there. The Chinese have grown it for centuries and have selected superior forms. (Hillsborough County; B2003-771; Amy C. Simington; 15 October 2003.) (Stephens 2003.)

Hibiscus cannabinus L. (A genus of about 300 species, native mostly in tropical and warm-temperate regions; many are cultivated for ornament or utility.) Malvaceae. **Kenaf, Deccan hemp, Indian jute.** A vigorously colonial and fast-growing perennial herb to 5 m tall, the stems and palmately lobed leaves covered with a rough pubescence, with beautiful pale yellow flowers to 10-12 cm in diameter. This is truly a utilitarian plant. The bast fibers in the stems substitute for jute in the manufacture of ropes and sacking. Oil pressed from the seeds has numerous uses from soap making to illumination, and the residue is fed to cattle. The stems are used commercially for bean poles and to make pulp for paper. The plant is also grown as an ornamental, but should be done so with caution. It is native to tropical Africa, but most commercial cultivation is in India and southeastern Europe, with limited acreage in Florida. (Lake County; B2003-672; Tom L. Phillips; 23 September 2003.) (Mabberley 1997.)

Magnolia virginiana L. (A genus of about 100 species of ornamental trees or shrubs, centered in the Himalayas, eastern Asia and eastern North America, with extensions into the tropics in both hemispheres.) Magnoliaceae. **Sweetbay.** Generally a medium-size tree, but occasionally to nearly 30 meters tall, evergreen in Florida, but less so further north. The alternate, narrowly elliptic leaves are aromatic when crushed and distinctly silvery gray beneath. The cup-shaped, extremely fragrant, cream-colored flowers are borne in May or June. This is one of a group of evergreen trees commonly referred to as "bays" from the resemblance of their leaves to the bay laurel of the Mediterranean (*Laurus nobilis* L.); other such trees are known as "laurels." The fine-grained, easily worked wood is occasionally used for veneers and to make decorative boxes and containers, and the tree is an exceptionally fine, but underutilized ornamental. It is native to wet woods and swamp forests from Massachusetts along the Coastal Plain to eastern Texas and then north in the Mississippi Valley to western Tennessee. (Pasco County; B2003-666; Osmond O. Baron; 26 September 2003.) (Godfrey 1988.)

Quercus pumila Walt. (The oaks, a genus of perhaps 400 species, including many economically important trees, mostly in the northern temperate zone with extensions into the tropics in both hemispheres.) Fagaceae. **Running oak.** Unlike most oak species, this is not a tree, but

rather a shrub to 1 m tall, often forming large clumps from horizontal underground stems. If it is not periodically burned to the ground, it may reach a height of 2 meters. The mostly deciduous leaves are short-petiolate, usually narrowly elliptic or oblanceolate, and without teeth or lobes. The small acorns, which mature in one season, are about 1 cm long and broad. The similar and also shrubby **dwarf live oak**, *Quercus minima* (Sarg.) Small, often grows intermixed with the running oak. This species differs by having evergreen leaves with longer petioles and at least a few teeth or lobes on their margins. The running oak is native to sandy, well-drained pinelands on the Coastal Plain from southeastern North Carolina through central peninsular Florida to southeastern Mississippi. (Bay County; B2003-642; Larry W. Smith; 9 September 2003.) (Godfrey 1988.)

Solidago odora Aiton. (A genus of 80 species mostly in North America, but with a few in South America and one in Eurasia.) Compositae/Asteraceae. **Sweet goldenrod**. Clump-forming perennial to 16 dm tall, but usually shorter. The leaves are alternate, sessile, narrowly elliptic to lanceolate, with entire margins, and numerous minute translucent dots; they usually smell like anise when crushed, a feature unique in the genus. The flowers are much like those of many other goldenrods--the small golden-yellow heads are arranged one-sided on the branches of a panicle. Goldenrods make fine garden plants, and this is a particularly neat and attractive species. It grows best in full sun and tolerates poor, dry soil. The fragrant foliage is an added attraction and can be used to brew a flavorful tea. The species is widespread in the eastern United States. The variety *chapmannii* (A.Gray) Cronq., with broader leaves and stems with more evenly distributed pubescence is restricted to Florida. (Suwannee County; B2003-809; David Serrano; 24 October 2003.) (Cronquist 1980.)

Ulmus americana (L.) (An arborescent genus of 25-30 species, found nearly throughout the northern temperate zone.) Ulmaceae. **American elm**. A large, deciduous tree often with an exceptionally handsome vase-like form, having graced many urban streets and country lanes until decimated by the Dutch elm disease. This is a disease caused by the fungus *Ophiostoma ulmi* (*Ceratocystis ulmi*) and spread by bark beetles and root grafts. It was first identified in the Netherlands in the late 1800s, but was widespread before that date and perhaps originated in the Himalayas. In the United States, it was first detected in Cleveland, Ohio in 1930, and traced to crates made of elm wood. The disease has wiped out countless elms around the world. Of all the species in this genus, only the weedy and not particularly ornamental Siberian elm (*Ulmus pumila* L.) is resistant. A few clones of the American elm are relatively tolerant of the disease, and two, 'Valley Forge' and 'New Harmony,' have recently been released by the United States National Arboretum. The natural range of the species includes the area from Newfoundland to Manitoba south to Florida and Texas. The Florida plants have been classified as a distinct species (*U. floridana* Chapm.). They are most commonly found in bottomlands and wet hammocks. The national champion American elm grows (for now) in Grand Traverse County, Michigan; it is 112 feet tall with a trunk circumference of 282 inches. (Brevard County; B2003-676; Clark Lake; 28 September 2003.) (Godfrey 1988; Stack *et al.* 1988; <http://www.usna.usda.gov/Newintro/american.html> .)

Valeriana scandens (A genus of perhaps 200 species, widely distributed in the northern temperate zone, with a few species reaching into the Andes and others, curiously, in South Africa.) Valerianaceae (or Caprifoliaceae). **Florida valerian**. This is an unusual little plant, a perennial vine with trifoliolate or deeply trilobed leaves and panicles of tiny flowers with a

white five-lobed corolla. The calyx is composed of ten hairlike segments which are inrolled and almost invisible at anthesis. As the plant goes to seed, the calyx segments unroll and form a pappus on the fruit, strongly reminiscent of a Compositae. The foliage has a disagreeable odor, reminding me of dirty socks; other valerians have similar odors. An extract from the roots of the Eurasian *V. officinalis* L. has been used as an attractant for cats, Canidae, and rats. *Valeriana scandens* is widespread in tropical America, but in mainland United States, the plant is found only in Florida, usually in floodplain forests or other moist places. (Marion County; B2003-656; Yvette Ogle; 19 September 2003.) (Mabberley 1997.)

Zeuxine strateumatika (L.) Schlechter (A genus of 26 species native to the Old World tropics.) Orchidaceae. **Lawn orchid, soldier orchid.** This is one of the very few annual orchids. It grows to 25 cm tall, with narrow grasslike leaves held erect against the stem. The small flowers are borne in December and January in a dense terminal spike. The lip is bright yellow, contrasting sharply with the crystalline white of the remaining segments. The species is native to Asia, from Japan to India. It was first noticed in Florida in Indian River County in 1936, and since then has spread through most of Florida into southeastern Georgia, Louisiana and Texas. It is believed that the seeds were included in a shipment of centipede grass seed from China. It is still commonly found as a weed in lawns, but grows in a variety of other habitats from dense swamps to sidewalk cracks. This “weedy” orchid can go from seed to flower in as little as 10 months. Like all annuals, it dies after blooming and maturing its fruit, although a small percentage of plants send up a new shoot from the old roots. (Alachua County; B2003-719; Doug Brogan; 1 October 2003.) (Luer 1972.)

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ENTOMOLOGY SECTION

Compiled by Susan E. Halbert, Ph.D.

For the month of September, there were 764 samples consisting of 46,213+ specimens. In October, there were 631 specimens, consisting of 50,923+ specimens. Some of the samples are listed below:

ORNAMENTALS – WOODY PLANTS AND PALMS:

- Bamboo* -- *Palmicultor lumpurensis* (Takahashi), **bamboo mealybug**: A slight infestation was found on eight plants at a residence in Clermont (Lake County; E2003-4979; Stephen P. Beidler; 8 October 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. This mealybug is not native to Florida. It was first found in August 2002 (Dr. Greg S. Hodges).
- Calophyllum antillanum* (Santa Maria, mast wood, Alexander laurel, beauty leaf) -- *Dysmicoccus bispinosus* Beardsley, **a mealybug**: A slight infestation was found on one of 85 plants at a nursery in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-4634; Lynda F. Davis; 24 September 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Capparis cynophallophora* (Jamaica caper tree) -- *Hypogeococcus pungens* Granara de Willink, **a mealybug**: A slight infestation was found on a plant in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-4986; Haydee L. Escobar; 6 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Chamaedorea erumpens* (bamboo palm) -- *Aleurocerus flavormarginatus* nr. Bondar, **a whitefly**: A moderate infestation was intercepted from Costa Rica at a nursery in Seville (Volusia County; E2003-4995; Stacey S. Simmons; 7 October 2003). This species is not established in Florida (Dr. Greg S. Hodges).
- Aleurocerus palmae* Russell, **a whitefly**: A slight infestation was found on two of five plants intercepted from Guatemala in Okahumpka (Lake County; E2003-4532; Stephen P. Beidler; 19 September 2003). This species occurs on *Chaemaedorea* throughout South and Central America. It has been reported in Florida on *Chaemaedorea* from a few counties, but is not one of our common species of whitefly (Dr. Greg S. Hodges).
- Ischnaspis longirostris* (Signoret), **black thread scale**: A slight infestation was intercepted from Costa Rica at a nursery in Seville (Volusia County; E2003-5103; Stacey S. Simmons; 14 October 2003). This scale is currently present in Florida, but is not common. It is considered very common in Central and South America (Dr. Greg S. Hodges).
- Clusia rosea* (cupey, balsam apple) -- *Aspidiotus destructor* Signoret, **coconut scale**: A slight infestation was found on three plants at Miami International Airport (Miami-Dade County; E2003-4523; Edward T. Putland; 19 September 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Dypsis lutescens* (areca palm, yellow butterfly palm, golden cane palm, Madagascar palm)-- *Dysmicoccus neobrevipes* Beardsley, **a mealybug**: A severe infestation on ten plants was found at a nursery in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-4924; Melba A. Otero; 1 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Ferrisia* sp. nr. *terani* Williams & Granara de Willink, **a mealybug**: A slight infestation was intercepted from Trinidad at a nursery in Seville (Volusia County; E2003-4603; Stacey S. Simmons; 23 September 2003). This species is not listed as being established in the United States; however, there was a sample from Miami-Dade County earlier in 2003 (Dr. Greg S. Hodges).

Ravenea rivularis (majesty palm) -- *Rhizoecus hibisci* Kawai & Tagaki, **a root mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found on four plants at a discount store in Milton (Santa Rosa County; E2003-4264; Laura L. Ooms; 10 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

ORNAMENTALS–FOLIAGE PLANTS:

Acorus gramineus (grassy-leaved sweetflag) -- *Dysmicoccus brevipes* (Cockerell), **pineapple mealybug**: A severe infestation was found on 50 of 150 plants at a nursery in Hawthorne (Alachua County; E2003-4149; Christine A. Zamora; 8 September 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Agave (agave) -- *Paracoccus* sp. nr. *solani* Ezzat & McConell, **a mealybug**: A slight infestation was found on 40 of 100 plants at a nursery in Hawthorne (Alachua County; E2003-4145; Christine A. Zamora; 8 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Ficus (fig) -- *Ceroplastes rusci* (Linnaeus), **fig wax scale**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at a discount store in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2003-4143; Christine A. Zamora and Greg S. Hodges; 6 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Hamelia patens (fire bush) -- *Paratachardina lobata* (Chamberlin), **lobate lac scale**: A moderate infestation was found on a plant at a residence in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-5034; Haydee L. Escobar; 7 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Ilex crenata (Japanese holly) -- *Helminthoglypta* sp., **a snail**: A slight infestation was intercepted from California on one of six plants at a nursery in Winter Garden (Orange County; E2003-4633; George D. Warden; 23 September 2003). This species does not occur in Florida. It is a plant feeder, but is not considered much of a pest species (Dr. Lionel A. Stange).

Myrica cerifera (wax myrtle) -- *Paratachardina lobata* (Chamberlin), **lobate lac scale**: A severe infestation was found at a residence in Palm City (Martin County; E2003-5265; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 21 October 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Psychotria sp. (psychotria) -- *Icerya purchasi* Maskell, **cottony cushion scale**: A moderate infestation was found on a plant at a library in Pine Island (Lee County; E2003-5181; JoAnn Pate; 14 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Rhaphiolepis umbellata (yeddo hawthorn) -- *Icerya purchasi* Maskell, **cottony cushion scale**: A slight infestation was found at a drugstore in Ft. Myers (Lee County; E2003-4731; JoAnn Pate; 19 September 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

ORNAMENTALS – FLOWERING PLANTS:

Allamanda cathartica (common allamanda, golden trumpet) -- *Coccus capparidis* (Green), **capparis soft scale**: A slight infestation was found at a residence in Palm City (Martin County; E2003-4670; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 26 September 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Amaranthus sp. (amaranth) -- *Lygus hesperus* Knight, **a Western lygus bug**: A specimen was intercepted in a box of cut flowers from California at a wholesale florist in Orlando (Orange County; E2003-5482; Terrence D. Williams; 29 October 2003). This species does not occur in Florida (Dr. Susan E. Halbert).

Bauhinia sp. (bauhinia) -- *Planococcus citri* (Risso), **citrus mealybug**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at an amusement park in Lake Buena Vista (Orange County; E2003-5074; George D. Warden; 7 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

- Calotropis gigantea* (mudar, bowstring hemp, crown plant, giant milkweed) -- *Planchonia stentae* (Brain), **euphorbia pit scale**: A severe infestation was found on two of over 50 plants at a nursery in Marathon (Monroe County; E2003-5378; Lynn D. Howerton; 22 October 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Cuphea hyssopifolia* (false heather) -- *Pinnaspis strachani* (Cooley), **lesser snow scale**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at a nursery in Palmetto (Manatee County; E2003-5155; Mark L. Runnals; 17 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Duranta erecta* (golden dewdrop, pigeonberry, skyflower) -- *Aleurothrixus floccosus* (Maskell), **woolly whitefly**: An infestation was found at George S. Gerber Memorial Park in Coconut Creek (Broward County; E2003-5527; J. Keith Harris; 31 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* (hibiscus) -- *Dysmicoccus neobrevipes* Beardsley, **a mealybug**: A severe infestation was found on one of two plants at a residence in Naples (Collier County; E2003-4667; Lynn E. Zellers and Scott D. Krueger; 23 September 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD; NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Phenacoccus parvus* Morrison, **a mealybug**: A severe infestation was found on all of five plants at a residence in Naples (Collier County; E2003-4736; Scott D. Krueger and Lynn E. Zellers; 24 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Phenacoccus solenopsis* Tinsley, **solenopsis mealybug**: An infestation was found at a residence in Naples (Collier County; E2003-4585; Meru Morse, USDA and Janet L. Young; 23 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Rudbeckia* sp. (black-eyed susan) -- *Phenacoccus madeirensis* Green, **Madeira mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found on a plant at a nursery in Micanopy (Alachua County; E2003-4573; Christina A. Zamora; 22 September 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Tabebuia* sp. (tabebuia) -- *Rabela tabebuiae* (Dozier), **tabebuia leafhopper**: A moderate infestation was found on a plant at a residence in Naples (Collier County; E2003-4834; Scott D. Krueger; 30 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Viburnum odoratissimum* var. *awabuki* (mirror-leaf viburnum) -- *Pseudococcus oedermtti* Miller & Williams, **a mealybug**: A slight infestation was found on 20 of 138 plants at a nursery in Lake Worth (Palm Beach County; E2003-4570; Ellen J. Tannehill and Gregg D. Farina; 22 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. This mealybug already occurs in Florida, but it is not encountered commonly (Dr. Greg S. Hodges).

FOREST AND SHADE TREES:

- Bischofia javanica* (bishopwood tree, Java wood; toog) -- *Eucalymnatus tessellatus* (Signoret), **tessellated scale**: A moderate infestation was found on one tree at a residence in Lehigh Acres (Lee County; E2003-4691; David L. Renz; 26 September 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Leucaena leucocephala* (leadtree) -- *Icerya purchasi* Maskell, **cottony cushion scale**: A moderate infestation was found on a plant at a professional building in Pine Island (Lee County; E2003-5183; JoAnn Pate; 15 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

FOOD AND CROP PLANTS:

- Antidesma bunius* (bignay chinalaurel) -- *Paratachardina lobata* (Chamberlin), **lobate lac scale**: A moderate infestation was found at Chapman Field in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-5113; Michael Winterstein, USDA; 15 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Antidesma dallachyanum* (herbert river cherry) -- *Paratachardina lobata* (Chamberlin), **lobate lac scale**: A slight infestation was found at Chapman Field in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-5112; Michael Winterstein, USDA; 15 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Arachis hypogaea* (peanut, groundnut, cacahuete, mani) -- *Euschistus quadrator* Rolston, **a stinkbug**: A slight infestation was found in a 500-acre field in Malone (Jackson County; E2003-3979; Susan E. Halbert and Stefanie L. Krantz, CAPS; 3 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Neopamera bilobata* (Say) and *Pseudopachybrachius vinctus* (Say), **seed bugs**: Specimens were found in a 30-acre field in Altha (Calhoun County; E2003-5587; Stefanie L. Krantz, CAPS, and Susan E. Halbert; 19 September 2003). Both finds are NEW DPI COUNTY RECORDS.
- Oebalus pugnax* (Fabricius), **rice stink bug**: A specimen was found in a peanut field in Greenwood (Jackson County; E2003-4207; James W. Walker, CAPS; 2 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Colocasia* sp. (taro) -- *Vinsonia stellifera* (Westwood), **stellate scale**: A slight infestation on one of eight plants was found at a nursery in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-4206; Edward T. Putland and Lynda F. Davis; 9 September 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Dimocarpus longan* (longan) -- *Anastrepha suspensa* (Loew), **Caribbean fruit fly**: A severe infestation was found on fruit on one plant at a residence in Marco (Collier County; E2003-5033; Scott D. Krueger; 5 September 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD. This is a new host record for caribfly and apparently the first record for any species of the genus *Anastrepha* attacking longan. A study of observations and experiments on caribfly in both laboratory and field conditions demonstrated that caribfly does not attack commercial plantings of Kohala variety longan in Miami-Dade County. The variety attacked in the residential setting in Marco is unknown. (Dr. Gary Steck).
- Glycine max* (soybean, da dou) -- *Euschistus quadrator* Rolston, **a stinkbug**: A moderate infestation was found in a 200-acre field in Clarksville (Calhoun County; E2003-4178; Susan E. Halbert and Stefanie L. Krantz, CAPS; 3 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Halticus bractatus* (Say), **garden fleahopper**: A slight infestation was found in a field in Clarksville (Calhoun County; E2003-3975; Stefanie L. Krantz, CAPS; 3 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Sitona lineatus* (L.), **a weevil**: A moderate infestation was found in a field at Altha (Calhoun County; E2003-4342; Susan E. Halbert and Stefanie L. Krantz; 4 September 2003). This is a European exotic weevil. It was known to be in Florida, but this is the first DPI record. It is a pest (Dr. Michael C. Thomas).
- Ipomoea batatas* (sweet potato, boniato, camote, batata) -- *Ceroplastes floridensis* (Comstock), **Florida wax scale**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at a nursery in St. Augustine (St. John's County; E2003-4533; Mark A. Wheldon; 19 September 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Lactuca sativa (lettuce, Romaine lettuce, leaf lettuce) -- *Nasonovia ribisnigri* (Mosley), **lettuce aphid**: A moderate-severe infestation was found on organic romaine lettuce at a grocery store in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2003-5423; Susan A. Wineriter; 11 October 2003). This is a serious lettuce pest that is not established in Florida. It is native to Europe, Asia and the Middle East, and is introduced into California, the northeastern United States and western Canada. Colonies form inside developing lettuce, where they are difficult to see (Dr. Susan E. Halbert).

Lathyrus sativus (English pea) -- *Liriomyza huidobrensis* Blanchard, **pea leaf miner**: A severe infestation was intercepted at a produce business in Tampa (Hillsborough County; E2003-4242; Amy R. Simington and James R. Martin; 11 September 2003).

Lycopersicon esculentum (garden tomato, tomate, ajitomate) -- *Neortholomus jamaicensis* (Dallas), **a seed bug**: A slight infestation was found in a field in Quincy (Gadsden County; E2003-5270; James W. Walker, CAPS; 20 October 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. This is the northernmost record for this species. The species is widespread in the neotropics (Julieta Brambila).

Spanagonicus albofasciatus (Reuter), **a plant bug**: A specimen was found in an 80-acre field in Gretna (Gadsden County; E2003-5272; James W. Walker, CAPS; 21 October 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Psidium guajava (common guava, apple guava) -- *Pseudococcus elisae* Borchsenius, **banana mealybug**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at a residence in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-4547; Antonio I Perez; 19 September 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Synsepalum dulcificum (miracle fruit, miraculous berry) -- *Phenacoccus solenopsis* Tinsley, **solenopsis mealybug**: A severe infestation was found on all of six plants at a nursery in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-4600; Melba A. Otero; 23 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

CITRUS:

Citrus sp. (citrus) -- *Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama, **Asian citrus psyllid**: A moderate infestation was found at a discount store in Tallahassee (Leon County; E2003-3974; Susan E. Halbert, and Stefanie L. Krantz, CAPS; 4 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Clausena lansium (wampee, wampi) -- *Myllocerus undatus* Marshall, **a weevil**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at a residence in Opa-Locka (Miami-Dade County; E2003-5174; Lynda F. Davis; 13 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

WEEDS AND GRASSES:

Bidens alba (beggarticks, romerillo) -- *Orthezia insignis* Browne, **greenhouse orthezia**: A moderate infestation was found at a nursery in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-5053; Lynda F. Davis; 8 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Cyperus papyrus (papyrus) -- *Ceroplastes rusci* (Linnaeus), **fig wax scale**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at a residence in Orlando (Orange County; E2003-4815; Terrence D. Williams; 29 September 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Emilia fosbergii (tasselflower, Flora's paintbrush) -- *Phenacoccus madeirensis* Green, **Madeira mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found at a nursery in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-5054; Lynda F. Davis; 8 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

"Flag grass" (host plant material insufficient for identification)-- *Duplachionaspis divergens* Green, **an armored scale**: A moderate infestation was found on all of 50 plants at a nursery in Green Cove Springs (Clay County; E2003-4220; Sol F. Looker; 9 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Muhlenbergia sp. (muhly grass) -- *Stemmatomerinx acircula* Howell & Miller, **a mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found at a nursery in Citra (Marion County; E2003-5050; Floyd J. McHenry and William L. 'Robbie' Robinson; 9 October 2003). Another slight infestation was found at a residence in Green Cove Springs (Clay County; E2003-5097; Raymond H. Zerba, Jr., Clay County Extension Agent, University of Florida; 5 October 2003). A moderate infestation on all of over 60 plants was found at a nursery in Lithia (Hillsborough County; E2003-4432; Karen 'Lea' Etchells; 16 September 2003). All finds are NEW DPI COUNTY RECORDS.

Paspalum setaceum (thin paspalum) -- *Geocoris uliginosus* (Say), **big-eyed bug** and *Pseudopachybrachius vinctus* (Say), **a seed bug**: Two specimens of the predaceous big-eyed bug were found foraging for prey on paspalum at Jonathan Dickinson State Park in Hobe Sound (Martin County; E2003-5511; Susan E. Halbert and Julieta Brambila; 14 May 2003). A specimen of the phytophagous seed bug also was found in the same location. Both finds are NEW DPI COUNTY RECORDS.

Phyllostachys sp. (bamboo) -- *Antonina pretiosa* Ferris, **noxious bamboo mealybug**: A moderate infestation on one clump was found at a residence in St. Cloud (Osceola County; E2003-4988; Terrence D. Williams; 6 October 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

NATIVE AND NATURALIZED PLANTS:

Agalinis setacea (threadleaf false foxglove) -- *Aphis astericola* Tissot, **an aphid**: An infestation was found at the DPI office in Tavares (Lake County; E2003-4880; Harry L. Morrison; 30 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. *Aphis astericola* is a rare native Florida aphid. This is the first collection since the late 1960s (Dr. Susan E. Halbert).

Bursera simaruba (gumbo-limbo, West Indian birch, tourist tree) -- *Paratachardina lobata* (Chamberlin), **lobate lac scale**: A moderate infestation was found at a nursery in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-5067; Keith J. Richardson; 8 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Pseudophacopteron sp., **a psyllid**: An infestation was found on plants at Chapman Field in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-3561, E2003-3841, E2003-4610; Gwen H. Myres; 7 August, 2003, 28 August 2003, 22 September 2003). This undescribed species probably is native to Florida. Dr. Daniel Burckhardt, Naturhistorische Museum, Switzerland, has specimens that may be the same species, but this is the first DPI find for the genus in Florida. The genus ranges throughout the tropics (Dr. Susan E. Halbert).

Rhus copallinum (winged sumac, flameleaf sumac) -- *Ceroplastes dugesii* Lichtenstein, **duges wax scale**: A slight infestation was found along a roadside in Gainesville (Alachua County;

E2003-4918; Christine A. Zamora and Greg S. Hodges; 3 October 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Symplocos tinctoria (common sweetleaf, horse-sugar) -- *Pseudaonidia duplex* (Cockerell), **camphor scale**: An infestation was found at San Felasco Hammock State Park in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2003-4928; Christine A. Zamora; 7 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Sagittaria lancifolia (bulltongue arrowhead)-- *Vinsonia stellifera* (Westwood), **stellate scale**: A moderate infestation on all of 20 plants was found at a residence in Hialeah (Miami-Dade County; E2003-5508; Haydee L. Escobar; 30 October 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Sideroxylon tenax (tough bumelia, Clark's buckthorn, silver buckthorn)-- *Mycetaspis defectopalus* Ferris, **defecto scale**: A severe infestation was found on a plant at the County Parks Department in Clearwater (Pinellas County; E2003-5238; David M. Mooney; 17 October 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

INSECT DETECTION:

Boreioglycaspis melaleucae Moore, **melaleuca psyllid**: A specimen was collected in the suction trap at Chapman Field in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-5336; Gwen H. Myres; 16 October 2003). This psyllid has been released for biological control of *Melaleuca quinquenervia*, a noxious weed tree that has invaded thousands of acres in South Florida. The suction trap collection indicates that the insects are doing very well (Dr. Susan E. Halbert).

Dinoderus bifoveolatus (Wollaston), a **false powderpost beetle**: A moderate infestation was found in furniture purchased in Brazil and moved to Lakeland (Polk County; E2003-5093; homeowner; 10 October 2003). This is an exotic wood-destroying pest (Dr. Michael C. Thomas).

Euwallacea fornicatus (Eichhoff), a **scolytid beetle**: A specimen was collected in a Lindgren funnel trap in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-3743; Gwen H. Myres; 21 August 2003). This specimen is the first re-collection of the Asian pest found for the first time in the United States on this property in April 2002 (Dr. Michael C. Thomas).

Halticus brachtatus (Say), **garden fleahopper**: A specimen was collected in Malone (Jackson County; E2003-3977; Stefanie Krantz; 3 September 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Lyctoxylon sp., a powderpost beetle: Specimens were found emerging from furniture purchased in South Africa and moved to Gainesville (Alachua County; E2003-4852; homeowner; 5 October 2003). This is an exotic powderpost beetle. It is new to the FSCA (Dr. Michael C. Thomas).

Mormidea cubrosa (Dallas), a **stinkbug**: A specimen was collected in Key Largo (Monroe County; E2003-4682; Vince Golia, FSCA Research Associate; 6 June 2003). NEW DPI STATE RECORD. This species is known from Colombia to Mexico, California, New Mexico and Texas. It is not reported as a major pest, but it appears to be a minor pest of rice in Puerto Rico (Dr. Joseph E. Eger, Dow, and Julieta Brambila).

Nerthra sp., a **toadbug**: A specimen was found at a restaurant in Brandon (Hillsborough County; E2003-4441; Gabrielle Gamester, USDA/APHIS/PPQ. NEW USA RECORD; 7 August

2003). Nothing much is known about this bug. Toad bugs are predaceous hemipterans that look (and often act) like tiny toads (Dr. Susan E. Halbert).

Perigenes similis Barber, **a seed bug**: A specimen was found in a sweep sample in Lutz (Hillsborough County; E2003-5564; Amy R. Simington and James R. Martin; 30 October 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

NEMATOLOGY SECTION

Compiled by Janete A. Brito, Ph.D., and Renato N. Inserra, Ph.D.

A total of 3,489 samples (3,229 for morphological and 260 for molecular identifications) were processed in September and October 2003. Details are shown below:

Certification and Regulatory Samples:	Other Samples:
Multistate Certification for National and International Export 2,083	Identification (Invertebrate) 1
California Certification 614	Plant Problems 97
Pre movement (Citrus Nursery Certification) 196	Intrastate Survey, Random 197
Site or Pit Approval(Citrus Nursery and Other Certifications) . 41	Molecular Identifications* 260
.	*The majority of these analyses involved root-knot nematode species.

NEMATODES OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

Nematodes of special interest detected and/or identified during September-October 2003:

Buxus microphylla (boxwood) -- *Meloidogyne incognita* (Kofoid and White, 1919) Chitwood, 1949, **southern root-knot nematode:** Extracted from roots of declining plants of this ornamental. (Citrus County; N2003-1370; Robert W. Dudley; 12 September 2003).

Clerodendrum sp. (tubeflower) -- *Aphelenchoides besseyi* Christie, 1942, **bud and leaf nematode:** Extracted from leaves of this flowering ornamental (Pasco County; N2003-1325; Osmond Berry; 10 September 2003). Infected leaves showed discolored and brownish spots which became necrotic in time.

Myrica cerifera (wax myrtle) -- *Meloidogyne mayaguensis* Rammah and Hirschmann, 1988, **a root-knot nematode:** Extracted from roots of declining seedlings of this landscape ornamental bush (Alachua County; N2003-710; Christine A. Zamora; 6 May 2003). This finding is a NEW HOST and COUNTY RECORD.

Stenotaphrum secundatum (St. Augustine grass) -- *Meloidogyne graminis* (Sledge and Golden, 1964) Whitehead, 1968, **a root-knot nematode:** Extracted from roots of a declining stand of this turf (Brevard County; N2003-1357; Dave Faneuf; 12 September 2003).

COLLECTORS SUBMITTING FIVE OR MORE SAMPLES THAT WERE PROCESSED FOR NEMATOLOGICAL ANALYSIS DURING SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2003:

Anderson, James L 275	Podris, Flewellyn W 22
Crosby, Jonathon 5	Qiao, Ping 253
Jarrett, Raymond C 9	Robinson, William L 198
Jones, Cheryl A 8	Salisbury, Thomas L. 165
LeBoutillier, Karen W 162	Stone, Carrie S. 172
Ochoa, Ana L 248	Zamora, Christine A 13
Pate, JoAnn 21	

PLANT PATHOLOGY SECTION Compiled by Robert M. Leahy

For this period the Plant Pathology Section received and processed 3,563 specimens. These included 1,849 pathology, 20 miscellaneous and 12 soil samples. Full pathogenicity tests for citrus canker were performed on 1,385 samples from southeast Florida, 221 from central gulf coast Florida, 34 from southwest gulf coast Florida, 42 from central Florida and 2 from north Florida.

ORNAMENTALS, WOODY PLANTS AND PALMS:

Chamaerops humilis (European fan palm) -- *Annelophora phoenocis* S. J. Hughes, **leaf spot**: Collected at a nursery in Plant City (Hillsborough County; P2003- 6178; Terri L. Gater; 28 October 2003). NEW HOST RECORD.

ORNAMENTALS, FLOWERING PLANTS:

Heliconia augusta (heliconia) -- *Cordana musae* (Zimm.) Hohnel, **leaf spot**: Collected at a nursery in Fellsmere (Indian River County; P2003-5820; Richard H. Stoll; 29 September 2003). NEW HOST RECORD.

Glandularia canadensis (rose mock vervain) -- *Clover Yellow Mosaic Potexvirus*, **virus**: Collected first in 2002 at a nursery in Gainesville (Alachua County; P2002-5142; Kevin Hansen; 25 September 2003). NEW STATE RECORD.

Warea amplexifolia (clasping warea) -- *Cercospora* sp., **leaf spot**: Collected at a dooryard in Tavares (Lake County; P2003-5786; Harry L. Morrison; 25 September 2003). NEW HOST RECORD.

FOREST AND SHADE TREES:

Eucalyptus cinerea (eucalyptus) -- *Coleophoma* sp., **fungus**: Collected at a nursery in Yulee (Nassau County; P2003-5857; Flewellyn W. Podris; 2 October 2003). NEW HOST RECORD.

Pachira aquatica (Guiana chestnut) -- *Phytophthora palmivora* (E. J. Butler) E. J. Butler, **leaf spot**: Collected at a dooryard in Orlando (Orange County; P2003-5811; Terrence D. Williams; 29 September 2003). NEW HOST RECORD.

Ulmus alata (winged elm) -- *Phleospora ulmi* (Fr.:Fr.) Wallr., **leaf spot**: Collected at a nursery in Monticello (Jefferson County; P2003-5994; Jim R. Wigelsworth; 14 October 2003). NEW STATE RECORD.

WEEDS AND GRASSES:

Cyperus papyrus (papyrus) -- *Stagonospora* sp., **leaf spot**: Collected at a nursery in Yulee (Nassau County; P2003-5860; Flewellyn W. Podris; 2 October 2003). NEW HOST RECORD.

Miscanthus sinensis (Chinese silver grass) -- *Pseudocercospora* sp., **leaf spot**: Collected at a nursery in Yulee (Nassau County; P2003-5855; Flewellyn W. Podris; 2 October 2003). NEW HOST RECORD.

OTHER DETECTIONS OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

Gossypium sp. (cotton) -- *Sclerotium rolfsii* Sacc., **southern blight**: Collected at a dooryard in Greenwood (Jackson County; P2003-4456; Stefanie Krantz; 2 September 2003).

Licania michauxii (gopher apple) -- *Pappimyces hastatus* Sutton & Hodges, **secondary fungus**: Collected at a dooryard in Tavares (Lake County; P2003- 4611; Harry L. Morrison; 9 September 2003). NEW STATE RECORD.