



**BUREAU OF PLANT & APIARY
INSPECTION**

ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

Tyson R. Emery, Chief

**FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE
AND CONSUMER SERVICES**
Charles H. Bronson, Commissioner

DIVISION OF PLANT INDUSTRY
Richard D. Gaskalla, Director

**BUREAU OF PLANT AND APIARY INSPECTION - ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2007 – JUNE 30, 2008**

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BUREAU OF PLANT AND APIARY INSPECTION PERSONNEL

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------|
| Tyson R. Emery | Bureau Chief | Gainesville |
| Sheila McMahon | Staff Assistant | Gainesville |
| Vacant | Asst Chief, Plant Inspection | Gainesville |
| Robert S. Wester | Distributed Computer Sys Specialist | Gainesville |
| Glenda J. Anderson | Senior Word Processing Sys Operator | Gainesville |
| Amber Totten | Secretary Specialist | Gainesville |
| Bryan K Benson | Environmental Specialist III | Gainesville |
| L. Wayne Clifton | Environmental Specialist III | Palmetto |
| Cathy Daniels | Sr. Word Processing Systems Operator | Gainesville |
| Donna Pons | Fiscal Assistant I | Gainesville |
| | | |
| | <u>REGION I</u> | |
| Stephen A. Hildebrandt | Environmental Supervisor II | Gainesville |
| Kelly Douglas | Administrative Assistant | Gainesville |
| | | |
| Christine A. Zamora | Environmental Supervisor I | Gainesville |
| William L. Robinson | Environmental Specialist I | Milton |
| Michael Bentley | Environmental Specialist I | Monticello |
| M. Janie Echols | Environmental Specialist I | Lake City |
| Cheryl A. Jones | Environmental Specialist I | Gainesville |
| Sol Looker | Environmental Specialist I | Palatka |
| Larry W. Smith | Environmental Specialist I | Panama City |
| W. Wayne Bailey | Environmental Specialist I | Trenton |
| | | |
| James R. Holm | Environmental Supervisor I | Tavares |
| Shelly M. Wayte | Environmental Specialist I | Ocala |
| Corrine Hermle | Environmental Specialist I | Inverness |
| Mary C. Sellers | Environmental Specialist I | Tavares |
| Harry L. Morrison | Environmental Specialist I | Tavares |
| Lori Rigby | Environmental Specialist I | Tavares |
| Charlie L. Spriggs | Environmental Specialist I | Tavares |
| Tommie R. Powers | Environmental Specialist I | Tavares |
| | | |
| Tracy L. Wright | Environmental Supervisor I | Deland |
| Isabelle James | Environmental Specialist I | Jacksonville |
| Flewellyn W. Podris | Environmental Specialist I | Jacksonville |
| Stacey S. Simmons | Environmental Specialist I | Deland |
| VACANT | Environmental Specialist I | South Daytona |
| Karen J. Coffey | Environmental Specialist I | South Daytona |
| Kevin S. Loadholtz | Environmental Specialist I | Deland |

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| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Jess V. Smith | Environmental Specialist I | South Daytona |
| | | |
| | <u>REGION II</u> | |
| Leo M. Sansoucy | Environmental Supervisor II | Apopka |
| Aniela St. Laurent | Administrative Assistant | Apopka |
| | | |
| Serena Stornaiuolo | Environmental Supervisor I | Apopka |
| George A. Warden | Environmental Specialist I | Apopka |
| Lance A. Brown | Environmental Specialist I | Apopka |
| Leslie J. Wilber | Environmental Specialist I | Apopka |
| Jesse M. Krok | Environmental Specialist I | Apopka |
| Kathy A. Gonzalez | Environmental Specialist I | Apopka |
| Anthony Puppelo | Environmental Specialist I | Apopka |
| Ping Qiao | Environmental Specialist I | Apopka |
| Charles Leggett | Environmental Specialist I | Apopka |
| Edgardo Vargas | Environmental Specialist I | Apopka |
| Wayland (Chuck) Smith | Environmental Specialist I | Apopka |
| | | |
| Helen A. Smith | Environmental Supervisor I | Dade City |
| Daniel Merced | Environmental Specialist I | Dade City |
| Albert L. Wright | Environmental Specialist I | Winter Haven |
| John P. Tice | Environmental Specialist I | Winter Haven |
| Susan Distleberg | Environmental Specialist I | Winter Haven |
| Karen Destafano | Environmental Specialist I | Dade City |
| Diana E. Bozeman | Environmental Specialist I | Dade City |
| | | |
| Ralph E. Muekeley | Environmental Supervisor I | Clearwater |
| Richard White | Environmental Specialist I | Clearwater |
| Thomas S. Lastrapes | Environmental Specialist I | Clearwater |
| Bobbie A. Rose | Environmental Specialist I | Clearwater |
| Gabriella M. Bernard | Environmental Specialist I | Clearwater |
| Linda G. McRay | Environmental Specialist I | Clearwater |
| Ralph J. McNeill | Environmental Specialist I | Clearwater |
| Mark A. Spearman | Environmental Specialist I | Clearwater |
| | | |
| Christine J. Frere | Environmental Supervisor I | Ft. Pierce |
| Richard T. Bloom | Environmental Specialist I | Avon Park |
| J. Brooks Shelley | Environmental Specialist I | Cocoa |
| Angelina M. Toral | Environmental Specialist I | Cocoa |
| Carlos Averhoff | Environmental Specialist I | Vero Beach |
| Dagne A. Vazquez | Environmental Specialist I | Ft. Pierce |
| Carrie S. Edenfield | Environmental Specialist I | Avon Park |
| | | |
| Dave Mooney | Environmental Supervisor I | Bradenton |

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| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| VACANT | Environmental Specialist I | Bradenton |
| Amber Roux | Environmental Specialist I | Bradenton |
| Susan Youngblood | Environmental Specialist I | Bradenton |
| Karen L. Etchells | Environmental Specialist I | Bradenton |
| Victor Reaume | Environmental Specialist I | Bradenton |
| Ethel C. Hatfield | Environmental Specialist I | Bradenton |
| | | |
| Howard L. Wallace | Environmental Supervisor I | Tampa |
| Jason B. Sharp | Environmental Specialist I | Tampa |
| Jim R. Martin | Environmental Specialist I | Tampa |
| William Stokes | Environmental Specialist I | Tampa |
| Sara P. Danley | Environmental Specialist I | Tampa |
| Joseph Hawk | Environmental Specialist I | Tampa |
| James L. Anderson | Environmental Specialist I | Tampa |
| | | |
| | <u>REGION III</u> | |
| Louis T. Lodyga | Environmental Supervisor II | Miami |
| Elsie Aviles | Administrative Assistant | Miami |
| | | |
| Ray T. Buchholz | Environmental Supervisor I | West Palm Beach |
| Jorge P. Gomez | Environmental Specialist I | Palm City |
| B. Marie Clark | Environmental Specialist I | West Palm Beach |
| John Tomaz DaFonseca | Environmental Specialist I | Bell Glade |
| Thomas S. Everett | Environmental Specialist I | West Palm Beach |
| LeAnn M. West | Environmental Specialist I | Palm City |
| James C. Lee | Environmental Specialist I | West Palm Beach |
| Michael L. Cartrett | Environmental Specialist I | Belle Glade |
| Lane M. Smith | Environmental Specialist I | Boynton Beach |
| Antonio I. Perez | Environmental Specialist I | Boynton Beach |
| Eduardo Solis | Environmental Specialist I | West Palm Beach |
| | | |
| Scott Shea | Environmental Supervisor I | Pompano Beach |
| Sallie H. Simmons | Environmental Specialist I | Boynton Beach |
| Gregg D. Farina | Environmental Specialist I | Pompano Beach |
| J. Keith Harris | Environmental Specialist I | Pompano Beach |
| Nury M. Marrone | Environmental Specialist I | Davie |
| Rita J. Carpenter | Environmental Specialist I | Davie |
| Gangadai Azore | Environmental Specialist I | Davie |
| Frank A. Burgos | Environmental Specialist I | Davie |
| Ellen J. Tannehill | Environmental Specialist I | Boynton Beach |
| VACANT | Environmental Specialist I | Boynton Beach |
| | | |
| Charles Gonzalez | Environmental Supervisor I | Hialeah |

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| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Haydee I. Escobar | Environmental Specialist I | Hialeah |
| Olga Garcia | Environmental Specialist I | Hialeah |
| Rebecca Sanders | Environmental Specialist I | Hialeah |
| Raul Santillan | Environmental Specialist I | Miami |
| Keith J. Richardson | Environmental Specialist I | Hialeah |
| VACANT | Environmental Specialist I | Miami |
| Misael E. Igarza | Environmental Specialist I | Hialeah |
| | | |
| Rosamaria M. Quinones | Environmental Supervisor I | Miami |
| Eduardo G. Camero | Environmental Specialist I | Miami |
| Maria Acosta | Environmental Specialist I | Miami |
| Mario J. Hernandez | Environmental Specialist I | Miami |
| VACANT | Environmental Specialist I | Miami |
| Duraid I. Hanna | Environmental Specialist I | Miami |
| Cheryl L. Lichkai | Environmental Specialist I | Florida City |
| Melba A. Otero | Environmental Specialist I | Miami |
| Lynn D. Howerton | Environmental Specialist I | Florida City |
| Ana L. Ochoa | Environmental Specialist I | Florida City |
| Karen W. LeBoutillier | Environmental Specialist I | Florida City |
| | | |
| Matt W. Brodie | Environmental Supervisor I | Naples |
| Walter W. Golden | Environmental Specialist I | Ft. Myers |
| Lori A. Richards | Environmental Specialist I | Labelle |
| Scott D. Krueger | Environmental Specialist I | Naples |
| Lorrie Rigby | Environmental Specialist I | Ft. Myers |
| Leonora J. Coleman | Environmental Specialist I | Ft. Myers |
| Richard J. Nanneman | Environmental Specialist I | Naples |
| Richard L. Blaney | Environmental Specialist I | Ft. Myers |
| Jo Ann Pate | Environmental Specialist I | Labelle |
| | | |
| | Commercial Citrus Nurseries | |
| Justin T. Ezell | Environmental Supervisor II | Winter Haven |
| Jason A. Johnson | Environmental Supervisor I | Winter Haven |
| Donald G. Taylor | Environmental Specialist I | Winter Haven |
| Peter Carbon | Environmental Specialist I | Winter Haven |
| Nouc V. Dang | Environmental Specialist I | Winter Haven |
| Johnny J. Yates | Environmental Specialist I | Winter Haven |
| Craig J. Landress | Environmental Specialist I | Winter Haven |
| Randall Dean | Environmental Specialist I | Winter Haven |
| | | |
| | <u>CITRUS TREE SURVEY</u> | |
| Warren J. Dowling | Environmental Supervisor II | Dade City |
| Kathy D. Morgan | Environmental Specialist I | Palmetto |

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| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Carrie Karppe | Environmental Specialist I | Winter Haven |
| VACANT | Environmental Specialist I | Clermont |
| Lavinia Hancock | Environmental Specialist I | Avon Park |
| Charles D. Wolfe | Environmental Specialist I | Dade City |
| Janet L. Young | Environmental Specialist I | Vero Beach |

APIARY INSPECTION

| | | |
|------------------------|---|--------------|
| Gerald W. Hayes | Assistant Chief, Apiary Inspection | Gainesville |
| Cathy Deweese | Administrative Secretary | Gainesville |
| Thomas B. Dowda | Agriculture and Consumer Protection Supervisor | Gainesville |
| Richard L. Dunaway | Agriculture and Consumer Protection Supervisor | Winter Haven |
| John L. Bastianelli | Agriculture and Consumer Protection Specialist | Sebring |
| Jerry A. Crews | Agriculture and Consumer Protection Specialist | Vero Beach |
| Harry E. Grant | Agriculture and Consumer Protection Specialist | Palm City |
| D. Fred Howard | Agriculture and Consumer Protection Specialist | La Belle |
| Jeffrey D. Pippin | Agriculture and Consumer Protection Specialist | Bristol |
| William I. Langston | Agriculture and Consumer Protection Specialist | Bristol |
| David Westervelt | Environmental Specialist I | Tavares |
| Carl D. Corbin | Agriculture and Consumer Protection Specialist | Milton |
| Eric Jameson | Agriculture and Consumer Protection Specialist | Dade City |

CARIBBEAN FRUIT FLY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM PERSONNEL

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Laird Weaver | Environmental Specialist III | Ft. Pierce |
| Denise Marshall | Certification Specialist | Ft. Pierce |
| Marilyn Quigley | Administrative Secretary | Ft. Pierce |
| Barbara Scher | Senior Clerk | Ft. Pierce |
| Open | Ag. & Con. Protection Insp. Supv. | Ft. Pierce |
| Open | Ag. & Con. Protection Insp. Supv. | Ft. Pierce |
| Carol McKenzie | Ag. & Con. Protection Insp. Supv. | Vero Beach |
| Joyce Willis | Ag. & Con. Protection Insp. Supv. | LaBelle |
| Paul Sinnott | Ag. & Con. Protection Inspector | Vero Beach |
| Ted Phillips | Ag. & Con. Protection Inspector | Winter Haven |
| Open | Ag. & Con. Protection Inspector | Ft. Pierce |
| Open | Ag. & Con. Protection Inspector | LaBelle |
| Lisa Whiteman | Ag. & Con. Protection Inspector | Ft. Pierce |
| Mike Schlueter | Ag. & Con. Protection Inspector | Ft. Pierce |
| John Quigley | Ag. & Con. Protection Inspector | Vero Beach |
| Earnestine Grier | Agricultural Technician III | Ft. Pierce |

INTRODUCTION

The Bureau of Plant and Apiary Inspection is responsible for protecting Florida's agricultural industry and the public from the introduction and spread of serious plant and honeybee pests. This is accomplished by conducting regular inspections and surveys for the early detection of these pests. This bureau enforces Florida statutes and departmental rules pertaining to the movement of plants, plant products, honeybees, and honeybee products.

The bureau compiles an annual report following the close of each fiscal year. This report contains statistical information on Florida nurseries, nursery stock dealers, nursery stock, beekeepers, honeybee colonies, export certification, and other activities relating to the bureau's responsibilities.

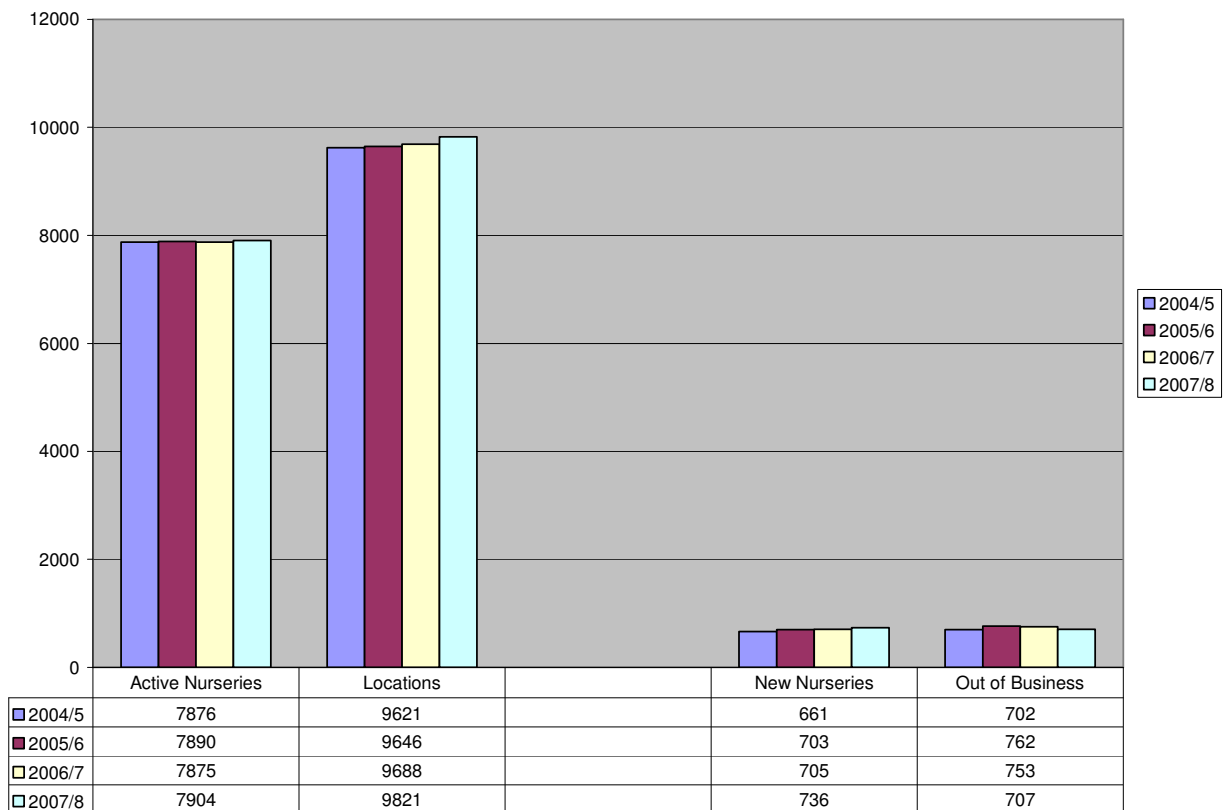
This report is used as an organizational tool for planning bureau activities and budgetary needs. It is available to the public and the industry, and it provides frequently requested information concerning the plant and apiary industries in Florida.

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NURSERIES

The total number of active, registered nurseries reported under inspection for the 2007-2008 fiscal year was **7,904** compared to 7,875 active registered nurseries last year. Some nurseries have more than one location or block. With **1,917** additional locations or blocks, the total number of nursery blocks is **9,821**. This compares to last year's total of 9,688 nursery locations and blocks.

During the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year, **736** new nurseries were registered, compared to the 705 new registrations last year. During the same period, **707** nurseries were marked out-of-business. A total of **16,527** inspections were made at nurseries and blocks this fiscal year. This compares with 20,623 inspections of nurseries and blocks reported in 2006-2007 fiscal year. Plant Inspection personnel spent **45,407** hours working on nursery related issues.

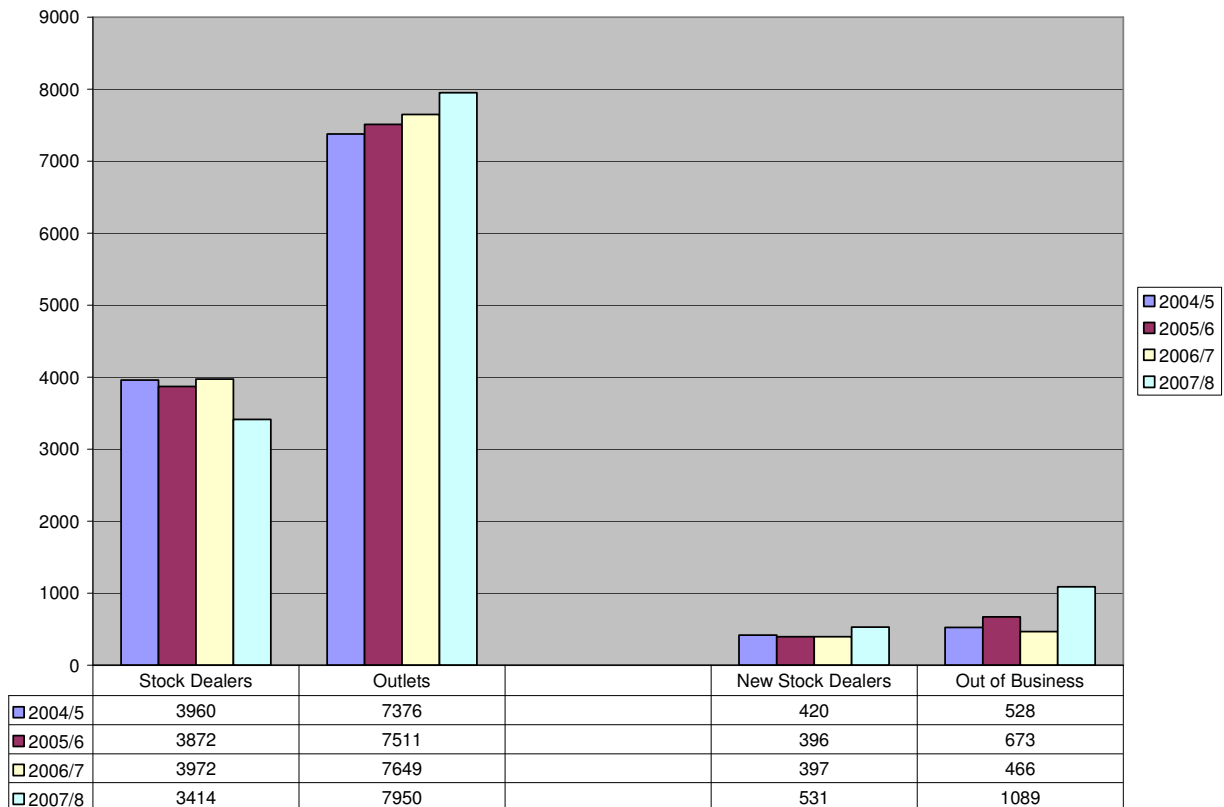


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NURSERY STOCK DEALERS

There were a total of **3,414** nursery stock dealer establishments with active registration at the end of fiscal year 2007-2008. This compares with **3,972** registered nursery stock dealer establishments last year. Some nursery stock dealers have multiple locations or outlets. With an additional **4,598** locations or outlets, the total number of registered nursery stock dealer outlets is **8,012** at the end of fiscal year 2007-2008. This compares to **7,649** registered outlets reported last year.

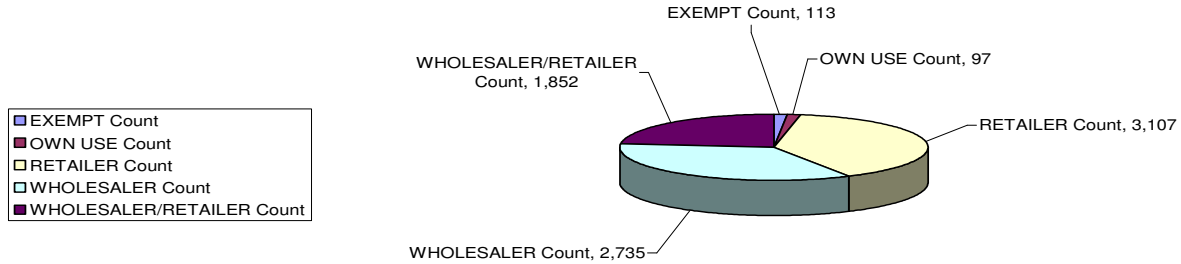
During this period of time, **531** new nursery stock dealers were registered and **1,089** nursery stock dealers were marked out-of-business. This compares to 397 new registrations and 466 nursery stock dealers marked out-of-business during FY 2007-2008. Plant Inspection personnel made **11,344** inspections of nursery stock dealer outlets that sell plants in the State of Florida this fiscal year. This compares with 9,805 inspections of stock dealer last year. Plant Inspection personnel spent **16,477** hours working on stock dealer related issues.



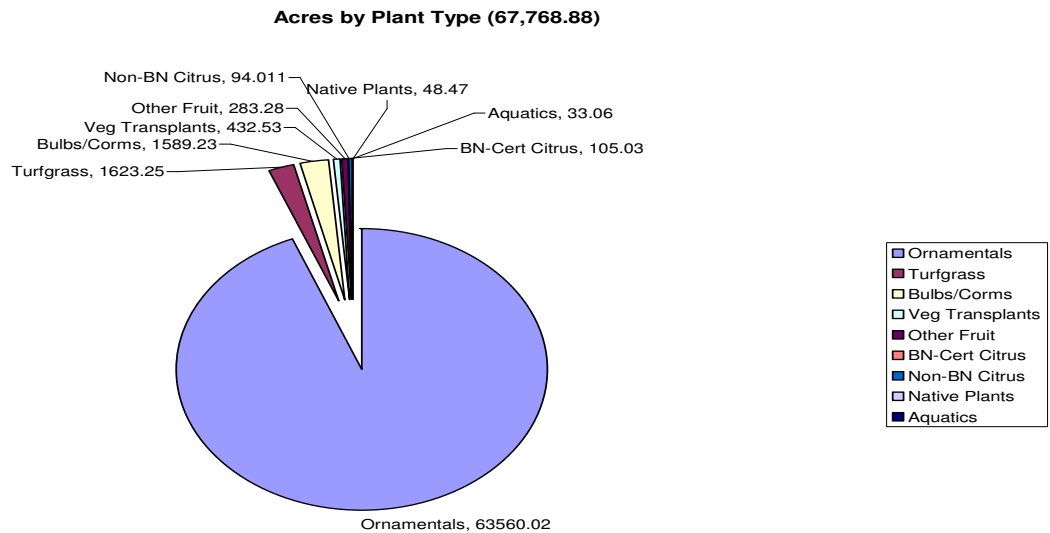
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The majority of nurseries (3,107) were retailers selling directly to the public. Wholesaler nurseries numbered 2,735 selling only to other nurseries while nurseries that sell to both markets represented 1,852.

Nursery Types by Business FY-2007-2008



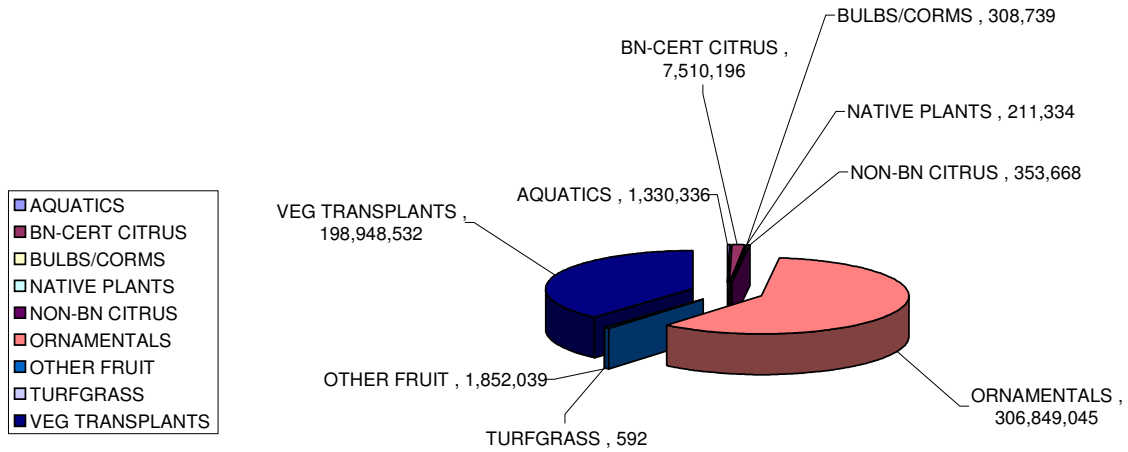
Ornamentals represented the vast majority of acreage in term of inventories with bulbs and corms, vegetable transplants, other fruits and nuts, and citrus being the remaining acreage:



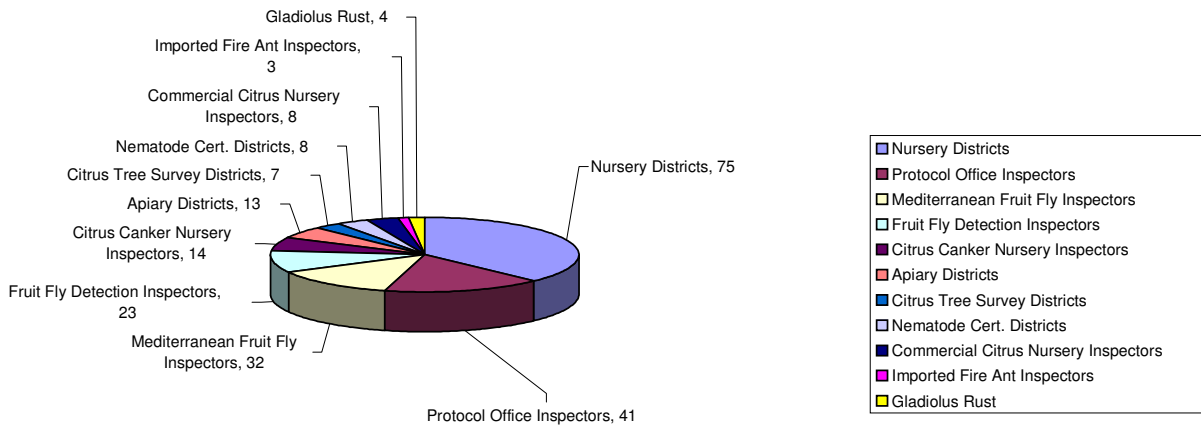
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Ornamentals and vegetable transplants dominated the plant inventory categories for the period:

**Plant Categories & Amounts
FY2007-2008
(Total Plants: 517,158,703)**

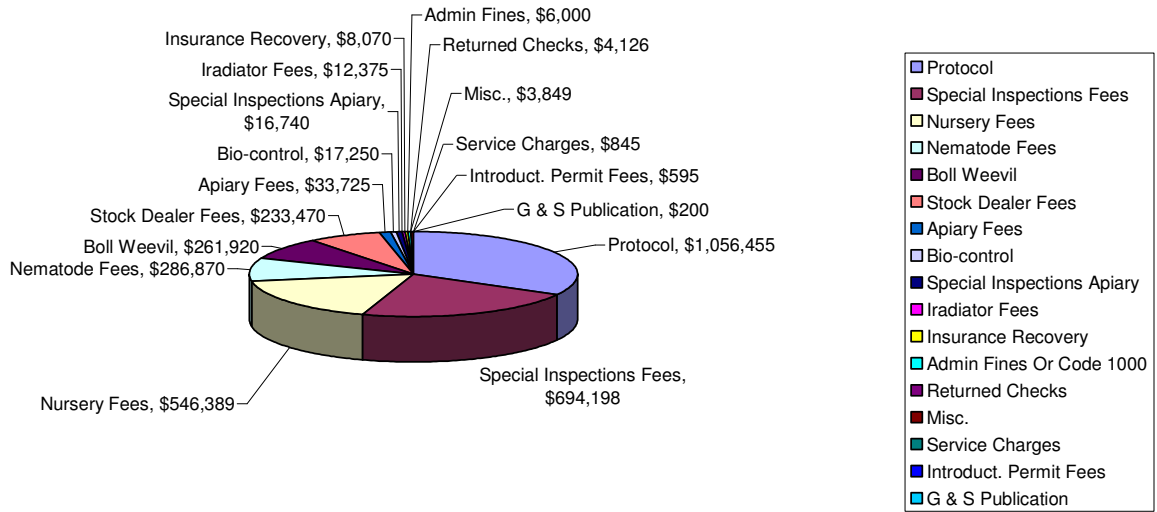


Inspection Specialties Overview



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Monies Collected FY 2007-2008 (\$3,183,077)



| MONIES COLLECTED 2007-2008 | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Type of Charges | Amount Collected |
| Nursery Certificate Fees | \$546,389 |
| Stock Dealer Certification Fees | \$233,470 |
| Apiary Certificate Fees | \$33,725 |
| Special Inspection Charges (Plant) | \$694,198 |
| Special Inspection Charges (Apiary) | \$16,740 |
| Nematode Sampling Charges | \$286,870 |
| Boll Weevil Assessments | \$261,920 |
| Caribfly Protocol | \$1,056,455 |
| Returned Checks Re-deposited | \$4,126 |
| Service Charges on Checks | \$845 |
| Introduction Permit Fees | \$595 |
| Insurance Recovery | \$8,070 |
| Miscellaneous | \$3,849 |
| Irradiator Fees | \$12,375 |
| Bio-Control | \$17,250 |
| Administrative Fines | \$6,000 |
| Grades & Standards Publications | \$200 |
| TOTAL: | \$3,183,077 |

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| PLANTS AND NURSERIES UNDER INSPECTION BY COUNTY | | | |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| County | Total Acres | Total Plants | Total Nurseries |
| Alachua | 1020.6 | 9,190,106 | 198 |
| Baker | 428.83 | 327,065 | 27 |
| Bay | 507.02 | 26,255 | 19 |
| Bradford | 14.8 | 45,066 | 20 |
| Brevard | 1357.16 | 1,266,933 | 188 |
| Broward | 2407.9 | 7,158,332 | 504 |
| Calhoun | 40.51 | 241,450 | 2 |
| Charlotte | 544.38 | 126,718 | 49 |
| Citrus | 773.245 | 433,938 | 70 |
| Clay | 171.74 | 1,557,572 | 40 |
| Collier | 939.75 | 200,258,902 | 167 |
| Columbia | 215.84 | 637,320 | 51 |
| DeSoto | 186.59 | 1,505,170 | 37 |
| Dixie | 244.13 | 29,931 | 21 |
| Duval | 459.34 | 757,778 | 77 |
| Escambia | 84.18 | 149,057 | 59 |
| Flagler | 500.03 | 1,420 | 25 |
| Franklin | 0.11 | 660 | 2 |
| Gadsden | 593.66 | 13,864,100 | 18 |
| Gilchrist | 269.23 | 675,808 | 23 |
| Glades | 657.21 | 396,700 | 13 |
| Gulf | 0.2 | 940 | 2 |
| Hamilton | 99.65 | 81,637 | 14 |
| Hardee | 3507.33 | 6,314,938 | 58 |
| Hendry | 431.78 | 374,065 | 54 |
| Hernando | 547.39 | 567,771 | 91 |
| Highlands | 2363.779 | 7,369,107 | 125 |
| Hillsborough | 3092.761 | 38,644,326 | 462 |
| Holmes | 12.15 | 10,240 | 5 |
| Indian River | 704.31 | 476,945 | 85 |
| Jackson | 35.47 | 19,670 | 14 |
| Jefferson | 382.44 | 1,149,980 | 25 |
| Lafayette | 148.05 | 624,020 | 8 |
| Lake | 1134.94 | 40,443,030 | 347 |
| Lee | 5343.76 | 2,618,538 | 238 |
| Leon | 71.18 | 236,540 | 40 |
| Levy | 1050.25 | 15,361,675 | 54 |
| Liberty | 7.35 | 4,160 | 4 |
| Madison | 237.53 | 4,039,480 | 17 |
| Manatee | 1396.66 | 3,394,143 | 174 |
| Marion | 1021.52 | 5,726,827 | 214 |
| Martin | 1644.97 | 2,417,292 | 140 |
| Miami-Dade | 5580.99 | 45,511,916 | 1517 |
| Monroe | 0.02 | 500 | 43 |
| Nassau | 144.81 | 227,452 | 15 |
| Okaloosa | 33.1 | 66,215 | 32 |
| Okeechobee | 7765.97 | 642,301 | 35 |
| Orange | 1932.49 | 45,564,980 | 417 |
| Osceola | 294.84 | 4,317,172 | 63 |
| Palm Beach | 3814.57 | 22,824,679 | 528 |
| Pasco | 1000.24 | 2,392,192 | 155 |
| Pinellas | 112.054 | 616,252 | 206 |

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| | | | |
|------------|---------|-----------|-----|
| Polk | 1275.75 | 9,575,188 | 262 |
| Putnam | 99.64 | 1,325,679 | 53 |
| Santa Rosa | 345.8 | 502,817 | 47 |
| Sarasota | 407.11 | 814,853 | 119 |
| Seminole | 1092.9 | 3,188,321 | 124 |
| St. Johns | 3504.76 | 947,550 | 48 |
| St. Lucie | 1821.12 | 2,702,209 | 62 |
| Sumter | 119.095 | 3,371,782 | 70 |
| Suwannee | 695.91 | 1,444,979 | 47 |
| Taylor | 63.99 | 780,183 | 18 |
| Union | 13.32 | 26,252 | 5 |
| Volusia | 161.78 | 1,147,606 | 289 |
| Wakulla | 26.51 | 129,045 | 11 |
| Walton | 4.01 | 10580 | 9 |
| Washington | 5.36 | 20,620 | 13 |

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| NURSERY STOCK CLASSIFIED AS ORNAMENTAL | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Classification | 2005-2006 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 |
| Shrubs | 123,916,998 | 118,602,018 | 97,588,814 |
| Trees, Flowering | 27,319,845 | 20,795,772 | 18,357,539 |
| Palms | 31,531,599 | 25,844,423 | 24,063,568 |
| Orchids | 18,653,294 | 13,267,999 | 24,324,155 |
| Succulents | 3,378,105 | 4,331,072 | 2,694,117 |
| Foliage Plants | 191,662,505 | 142,338,500 | 61,783,648 |
| Miniature Citrus | 209,763 | 169,140 | 95,923 |
| Dooryard Citrus | 1,259,302 | 1,605,355 | 240,738 |
| Perennials | 15,786,293 | 35,087,088 | 29,599,881 |
| Vines | 32,564,686 | 3,684,472 | 4,896,201 |
| Miscellaneous Annuals | 2,976,671 | 10,041,303 | 14,595,507 |
| Bromeliads | 17,836,023 | 13,563,414 | 10,007,640 |
| Endangered | 16,720 | 4,425 | 1,250 |
| Threatened | 22,770 | 23,472 | 26,570 |
| Exploited | 90,826 | 47,192 | 183,514 |
| Aquatics | 1,716,549 | 1,441,891 | 1,330,336 |
| Vegetable Transplants | 220,446,287 | 210,599,927 | 198,954,582 |

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| NURSERY STOCK BY KIND OF STOCK | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| | <u>2005-2006</u> | | <u>2006-2007</u> | | <u>2007-2008</u> | |
| Kind of Stock | Acres | Plants | Acres | Plants | Acres | Plants |
| Orange | | 3,458,232 | | 1,994,161 | | 1,548,873 |
| Grapefruit | | 329,930 | | 131,470 | | 197,090 |
| Mandarin type | | 126,687 | | 132,341 | | 52,094 |
| Lemons & limes | | 109,053 | | 50,745 | | 17,459 |
| Seedlings, in beds | | 2,392,690 | | 1,264,870 | | 3,484,257 |
| Seedlings, lined out | | 1,957,289 | | 1,224,511 | | 2,041,085 |
| Miscellaneous Citrus | | 54,812 | | 37,177 | | 169,338 |
| TOTAL CITRUS | 471.52 | 8,428,693 | 434.27 | 4,835,775 | 199.04 | 7,510,196 |
| Ornamental | | 467,313,495 | | 404,929,901 | | 306,849,045 |
| Fruits and Nuts | | 1,547,498 | | 894,095 | | 1,852,039 |
| Aquatics | | 1,716,549 | | 1,441,891 | | 1,330,336 |
| Vegetable Transplants | | 220,446,287 | | 210,599,927 | | 198,954,582 |
| Caladiums & Other Bulbs | | 9,255 | | 14,109,934 | | 308,739 |
| TOTAL NONCITRUS | 71,649.58 | 691,033,084 | 71,487.83 | 631,975,748 | 67,759 | 509,294,741 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 72,121.10 | 699,461,777 | 71,922.10 | 636,811,523 | 67,958.04 | 517,364,481 |

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| COUNTIES WITH TREES FOR REFORESTATION | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <u>County</u> | <u>Trees for Reforestation</u> | <u>Number of Nurseries</u> |
| County | Tree Count | Nurseries |
| Levy | 15,000,047 | 4 |
| Madison | 2,500,000 | 1 |
| Taylor | 600,000 | 1 |
| Suwannee | 500,000 | 1 |
| Polk | 167,507 | 4 |
| Alachua | 46,000 | 2 |
| Manatee | 39,500 | 2 |
| Palm Beach | 23,000 | 5 |
| Putnam | 20,000 | 1 |
| Nassau | 12,600 | 2 |
| Hillsborough | 8,250 | 6 |
| Collier | 6,000 | 1 |
| Clay | 3,000 | 1 |
| Broward | 2,525 | 5 |
| Okeechobee | 2,170 | 2 |
| St. Johns | 1,903 | 1 |
| Miami-Dade | 1,710 | 18 |
| Sumter | 1,000 | 1 |
| Seminole | 1,000 | 1 |
| Gadsden | 700 | 1 |
| Brevard | 660 | 4 |
| Columbia | 300 | 1 |
| Pinellas | 100 | 1 |
| TOTALS | 18,937,975 | 61 |

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VIOLATIONS AND STOP SALE & HOLD ORDERS

Between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008, Division of Plant Industry personnel issued four violations. Three of the violations issued were warnings and one violation resulted in a penalty of \$5,000. There were 1,387 Stop Sale and Hold Orders for failure to renew annual registration. During the same period of time 120 Stop Sale and Hold Orders have been released as a result of fee payment or going out of business. Bureau personnel also issued 47 Stop Sale and Hold Orders for pests and diseases such as citrus canker, citrus greening, pink hibiscus mealybug, violation of Rule CH. 5B-62, 5B-63, FL Administrative Code, and restricted aquatic plants.

QUARANTINES

A total of **465,190** plants were placed under quarantine this fiscal year to prevent further dissemination of potentially serious plant pests. **482** 'new' quarantine letters were issued to regulated entities during the past year. **71** 'release' quarantine letters were processed during the same period of time. The majority of quarantines were issued for the detection of pink hibiscus mealybug, Cycad aulacaspis scale, Agrobacterium tumefaciens, and Asian Citrus Psyllids. Accordingly, the majority of plants placed under quarantine or destroyed were hibiscus, Cycas revoluta, and Ficus benjamina. Citrus trees quarantined as a result of citrus canker are not included in these figures.

IMPORTED FIRE ANT (IFA) CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

As of June 30, 2008, there were 2,464 nurseries and stock dealers under compliance agreement for Imported Fire Ant (IFA) certification purposes. This compares to a total of 2,125 nurseries and stock dealers under compliance on June 30, 2007. During this period Plant Inspection personnel spent 8,246 hours associated with IFA activities.

COMMERCIAL CITRUS NURSERY(CCN) INSPECTION PROGRAM

In December 2006, Rule Chapter 5B-62, F.A.C., The Citrus Nursery Stock Certification Program was signed into law as part of the Florida Citrus Health Response Program. Included in the Citrus Nursery Stock Certification Program are several important dates that will govern how citrus nursery stock may be produced and offered for sale within the State of Florida. All citrus nursery stock propagated after January 1, 2007 must originate from a greenhouse structure and site approved by the Division of Plant Industry. Effective January 1, 2007 newly propagated

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commercial and dooryard citrus nursery stock and all budwood source trees must be maintained in an approved structure at an approved site. Effective January 1, 2008 all citrus nursery stock that was not grown in a structure and site approved by the Division of Plant Industry will not be eligible for sale or distribution. Therefore, we are advising all citrus nurserymen they have until December 31, 2007 to move or distribute citrus nursery stock that was not grown in an approved structure and site.

The Bureau of Plant Inspection has established a new category of inspectors to address the unique requirements associated with greenhouse structure inspections and associated stock inspections in accordance with this new rule. The new category is Commercial Citrus Inspectors and they are charged with statewide inspections of citrus stock falling into the commercial citrus realm. Inspection of the structures and stock are conducted on a 30 day basis.

As of June 30, 2008, there were 54 citrus propagating nurseries certified and inspected on a 30-day cycle representing 228 greenhouse structures. This compares to 48 citrus propagating nurseries inspected on a 30-day cycle as of June 30, 2007. There are 52 locations that are identified as commercial (certified free of burrowing nematode) citrus nurseries. Commercial citrus nurseries are inspected by five Commercial Citrus Inspectors. These inspectors are restricted from inspecting more than one nursery per day to prevent transport of citrus diseases/pests between nurseries.

BOLL WEEVIL ERADICATION PROGRAM

At the close of the 2008 cotton-growing season, there were 326 commercial cotton producers in the state. These producers planted 83,254 acres of cotton in 12 counties, a decreased over the 2007 growing season of 16,882 acres of planted cotton. Throughout the 2008 cotton growing season, there were no boll weevils trapped in the state.

PINK HIBISCUS MEALYBUG (PHM)

Between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008, Department personnel witnessed the destructions of 17,076 plants as a result of PHM. During this period, Plant Inspection personnel spent 3,666 hours working on PHM-related issues. There were 48 quarantine actions to nurseries and nursery stock dealers for PHM; as of June 30, 2008, 4 of those locations currently had plants that remain under quarantine.

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SUDDEN OAK DEATH (SOD)

Phytophthora ramorum, the causal agent of sudden oak death (SOD), ramorum blight, and ramorum die-back, is known to occur in coastal forests, in landscape plantings in Europe, and has been detected in some horticultural nurseries in the United States. *Phytophthora ramorum* is one of a number of organisms (although not true fungi) that are collectively called “water molds.” *Phytophthora* is translated to “Plant Destroyer” and most of the *Phytophthora* species are plant pathogens, many with extremely large host ranges.

During the fiscal year 2007-2008, Plant Inspection personnel submitted **316** samples for SOD. Of these samples, three plant samples were confirmed positive for *Phytophthora ramorum*. Regulatory actions were taken at two nursery locations.

SURVEY ACTIVITIES

| <u>Pest Records</u> | <u>Arthropods/Mollusca</u> | <u>Diseases</u> |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| New Host Records | 138 | 36 |
| New County Records | 161 | 0 |
| New State Records | 9 | 0 |
| New US Records | 7 | 2 |
| New to Continent | 3 | 0 |

TRAPPING ACTIVITIES

The bureau examines and services various insect traps throughout the state for the early detection of exotic pests. This is summarized below.

Fruit Fly Detection (FFD):

During fiscal year 2007-2008, Plant Inspection personnel and USDA personnel tended an average of **27,181** Trimedlure traps, **6,753** Cue lure traps, **12,515** Methyl euginol traps, 99 Mc Phail traps, **9,219** Multilure traps bringing the total number of traps tended statewide to **55,766**. During this period Plant Inspection personnel spent **117,984** hours working on FFD related activities.

Gypsy Moth Detection:

Plant Inspection personnel tended **217** gypsy moth traps throughout north Florida with no reproducing gypsy moth detected during fiscal year 2007-2008.

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CITRUS TREE SURVEY

Citrus Tree Survey activities included **4,127** hours working on the Citrus Health Response Program. Census work for Citrus Trees required **5,402** hours. Exports and Nursery purview required **300** hours. Gladiolus Rust efforts required **546** hours.

NEMATODE CERTIFICATION JULY 1, 2007 – JUNE 30, 2008

ORNAMENTAL NURSERIES

The presence of certain nematodes in a nursery prevents the certification of plants shipped to California, Arizona, Texas, Louisiana, Bermuda and the European Union (EU) from the infested nursery until corrective measures have been completed and the nursery is sampled negative. During the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year, nematode certification personnel re-evaluated 1,123 ornamental nurseries and certified 117 new nurseries and nursery blocks consisting of 1, 1622.12 acres. There were 898.60 acres were added to existing certified ornamental nurseries. During the same period, 59 nurseries or nursery blocks, voluntarily relinquished their nematode certification status. Cumulative totals as of June 30, 2008, show 1,195 ornamental nurseries consisting of 17,014.90 acres eligible for nematode certification.

CITRUS NURSERY BLOCKS PLANTED AND CITRUS SITES APPROVED BUT NOT PLANTED

There were no nematodes of citrus detected in citrus nurseries this year. During the year, 65 inspections were made of citrus nursery sites compared to 63 inspections made last year. Three new citrus sites consisting of 3.65 acres was added to the certified total this year. Thirteen citrus nursery blocks and no citrus sites approved but not planted were removed from active certification status this year. Cumulative totals as of June 30, 2008, show 52 nematode certified citrus nursery blocks planted consisting of 327.34 acres, and One nematode certified citrus site approved.

PITS

There were no nematodes of citrus detected in pits this year. During the year, 65 inspections were made of pits compared to 63 inspections made last year. Three new pits consisting of 62 acres were added to the certified total this year; six pits consisting of 165.10 acres were removed from active certification status this year. Cumulative totals as of June 30, 2007, show 52 nematode approved pits consisting of 1916.30 acres.

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EXPORT CERTIFICATION

Export Certification – allows for nurseries and nursery stock dealers to export plants and plant products out of the state and/or country. During the fiscal year 2007-2008, Plant Inspection personnel issued the following number of export certificates for plants and plant products destined to other states and countries.

- State Phytosanitary Certificates: **3, 163** certificates
- Federal Phytosanitary Certificates: **11,160** certificates
- Federal Re-export & Processed Products Certificates: **601** certificates

Canadian Greenhouse Certification – allows for nurseries to export to Canada based on quarterly inspections using authorized stickers in place of a phytosanitary certificate. We currently have **187** nursery locations under compliance and have authorized **35,327** stickers to be printed this year.

Post Entry Quarantine – allows for the importation of prohibited plant material into the US. This is a federal program carried out in conjunction with inspections by state inspectors for a two year period. During the fiscal year 2007-2008 there were **6** post entry quarantine permits authorized by the USDA and the State of Florida. Also during the same period of time state inspectors conducted **23** post entry quarantine inspections on plant material.

Endangered Plant Permits – permits issued to authorize the collection of endangered plants and plant parts in Florida. During the last fiscal year our office issued **63** harvesting permits.

Canadian Blueberry Certification – allows for blueberry fruit shipments to enter Canada based on negative trapping surveys for the blueberry maggot using authorized stickers in place of a phytosanitary certificate. During the past fiscal year we certified **50** locations in Florida and authorized the printing of **1,000** stickers to be printed.

Tropical Spiderwort Certification – allows for commercial nursery shipments to meet the quarantine requirements of North Carolina in regards to freedom of the noxious weed, Tropical Spiderwort. At the present time there are **506** nursery locations under compliance for Tropical Spiderwort.

CONSUMER ASSISTANCE

Plant Inspection routinely assists consumers by responding to complaints and requests for information or by investigating plant pest problems. From July 1, 2006 until June 30, 2008 there were **890** consumer requests received by the Division of Plant Industry Helpline and forwarded to Plant Inspection for follow-up. The program areas of the calls included Chili Thrips, Pink Hibiscus Mealybug, Sudden Oak Death, Citrus Canker, Huanglongbing (HLB), Red Palm Mite, Tropical Soda Apple, and Fruit Flies.

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CARIBBEAN FRUIT FLY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

CARIBBEAN FRUIT FLY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The Caribbean fruit fly, Anastrepha suspensa (Lowe), has been a serious pest of many tropical and sub-tropical fruits of central and south Florida. From the 1965 introduction in the Miami area to the present, this pest has caused concern for many Florida growers and consumers throughout the world. Due to the economic severity that is imposed on fresh fruits and the need to protect other areas of the world against this pest, rigid agricultural quarantines have been established to prevent the movement of infested material and also provide a means for compliance and treatment.

Although these post harvest treatments (fumigation) provided necessary safeguards against this pest, they proved to be expensive and often caused damage to the fruit. In the early 1980's, studies were initiated for the purpose of developing new procedures for certifying citrus fruit free of the Caribbean fruit fly. Based upon these initial studies and a better understanding of the Caribfly as it relates to citrus, an acceptable certification procedure was established. This procedure is referred to as the AFly-Free Certification Program. @ Presently, **Bermuda, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Philippines, Thailand, the People's Republic of China, Vietnam** and the states of **California, Hawaii** and **Texas** have accepted this fly-free certification procedure.

The current procedures for certifying citrus with the fly-free zone concept requires that the fruit come from specific Caribbean fruit fly controlled areas, or designated areas in 22 eligible citrus producing counties (see Table 2).

As can be seen in Table 1, the total acres certified have significantly increased over the last twenty two years. The 2007-2008 citrus fruit season had 108,600 acres certified in 22 eligible citrus producing counties.

With the Caribfly Protocol, a safe and effective procedure has been established to export citrus to areas requiring quarantine safeguards. Currently the largest importer of fresh Florida citrus fruit is Japan. Since the beginning of the 2007-2008 shipping season there has been a total of 7,266,404 4/5 bushel cartons of citrus fruit shipped to Japan. The fly free certification method has become an accepted procedure and represents 87% of the total Japanese fresh fruit export market during a twenty two year period. For the 2007-2008 season alone, the fly free certification method represents 100% of the total Japanese fresh fruit export market.

The Caribbean Fruit Fly Protocol is administered by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Division of Plant Industry and Division of Fruit and Vegetable Inspection, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine.

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| Table 1 | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| TOTAL ACRES CERTIFIED – Carib Fruitfly Free | | | | |
| <u>Fruit Season</u> | <u>Designated Areas</u> | <u>Total Acres</u> | <u>Number of Counties</u> | <u>Number of Acres Certified</u> |
| 1986/1987 | 162 | 48,600 | 2 | 16,500 |
| 1987/1988 | 322 | 96,600 | 4 | 32,000 |
| 1988/1989 | 744 | 223,200 | 7 | 62,020 |
| 1989/1990 | 902 | 270,600 | 13 | 77,300 |
| 1990/1991 | 1,095 | 328,500 | 15 | 114,240 |
| 1991/1992 | 1,364 | 409,200 | 16 | 139,880 |
| 1992/1993 | 1,658 | 497,400 | 18 | 152,580 |
| 1993/1994 | 1,853 | 555,900 | 19 | 161,140 |
| 1994/1995 | 1,989 | 596,700 | 19 | 187,780 |
| 1995/1996 | 2,260 | 678,000 | 20 | 204,220 |
| 1996/1997 | 2,239 | 698,700 | 20 | 188,080 |
| 1997/1998 | 2,361 | 708,300 | 20 | 186,480 |
| 1998/1999 | 2,393 | 717,900 | 20 | 185,200 |
| 1999/2000 | 2,511 | 753,300 | 21 | 184,020 |
| 2000/2001 | 2,569 | 770,700 | 22 | 178,500 |
| 2001/2002 | 2,636 | 790,800 | 22 | 175,200 |
| 2002/2003 | 2,684 | 805,200 | 22 | 157,640 |
| 2003/2004 | 2,713 | 813,900 | 22 | 162,540 |
| 2004/2005 | 2,724 | 817,200 | 22 | 125,200 |
| 2005/2006 | 2,730 | 819,000 | 22 | 93,020 |
| 2006/2007 | 2,752 | 825,600 | 22 | 115,320 |
| 2007/2008 | 2,752 | 828,600 | 22 | 108,600 |

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| Table 2 | | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| <u>ACRES CERTIFIED 2007-2008 EARLY SEASON AND STANDARD CERTIFICATION BY COUNTY</u> | | | | | |
| | <u>EARLY SEASON</u> | | <u>STANDARD SEASON</u> | | |
| <u>COUNTY</u> | <u>BAIT SPRAY</u> | <u>NEGATIVE TRAPPING</u> | <u>BAIT SPRAY</u> | <u>NEGATIVE TRAPPING</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
| Brevard | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Charlotte | 0 | 3,300 | 160 | 0 | 3,460 |
| Collier | 200 | 0 | 80 | 0 | 280 |
| Desoto | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Glades | 80 | 0 | 80 | 0 | 160 |
| Hardee | 120 | 0 | 160 | 0 | 280 |
| Hendry | 1,320 | 2,100 | 640 | 900 | 4,960 |
| Highlands | 0 | 0 | 120 | 0 | 120 |
| Indian River | 3,200 | 18,600 | 6,040 | 17,400 | 45,240 |
| Lake | 40 | 0 | 40 | 0 | 80 |
| Lee | 80 | 0 | 80 | 0 | 160 |
| Manatee | 0 | 0 | 40 | 0 | 40 |
| Martin | 320 | 0 | 480 | 0 | 800 |
| Osceola | 560 | 0 | 480 | 0 | 1,040 |
| Okeechobee | 0 | 600 | 280 | 0 | 880 |
| Orange | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Palm Beach | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pasco | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Polk | 80 | 0 | 40 | 0 | 120 |
| Sarasota | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| St. Lucie | 2,280 | 21,600 | 5,800 | 21,600 | 50,980 |
| Volusia | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Acres | 8,280 | 46,200 | 14,520 | 39,600 | 108,600 |
| | Early Season Total | | 55,160 | | |
| | Standard Season Total | | 60,160 | | |
| | Grand Total | | 115,320 | | |

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| Table 4 | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| EXPORT OF FRESH CITRUS TO JAPAN | | | | | |
| (4/5 BUSHEL BOXES) | | | | | |
| <u>FRESH FRUIT SEASON</u> | <u>COLD TREATMENT SHORT TERM</u> | <u>COLD TREATMENT LONG TERM</u> | <u>FLY CONTROL ZONE</u> | <u>EDB</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> |
| 1986/1987 | 1,530,366 | 1,643,968 | 926,076 | 4,999,988 | 9,100,368 |
| 1987/1988 | 1,142,354 | 3,905,585 | 4,461,699 | 951,848 | 10,471,486 |
| 1988/1989 | 2,291,669 | 4,571,525 | 6,473,147 | 0 | 13,336,341 |
| 1989/1990 | 100,364 | 303,486 | 4,973,538 | 0 | 5,377,388 |
| 1990/1991 | 1,626,865 | 1,071,805 | 8,813,266 | 0 | 11,511,936 |
| 1991/1992 | 385,835 | 1,043,456 | 9,618,375 | 0 | 11,047,666 |
| 1992/1993 | 309,856 | 382,566 | 8,490,940 | 0 | 9,183,362 |
| 1993/1994 | 94,754 | 462,491 | 11,039,972 | 0 | 11,597,217 |
| 1994/1995 | 31,694 | 27,027 | 10,369,389 | 0 | 10,428,110 |
| 1995/1996 | 6,506 | 42,057 | 11,302,379 | 0 | 11,351,242 |
| 1996/1997 | 8,915 | 124,848 | 10,933,942 | 0 | 11,067,185 |
| 1997/1998 | 3,627 | 158,147 | 9,169,261 | 0 | 9,331,035 |
| 1998/1999 | 7,182 | 99,154 | 10,014,270 | 0 | 10,120,606 |
| 1999/2000 | 0 | 99,819 | 10,872,580 | 0 | 10,972,399 |
| 2000/2001 | 2,493 | 214,026 | 10,560,115 | 0 | 10,776,634 |
| 2001/2002 | 5,334 | 48,834 | 11,198,287 | 0 | 11,252,455 |
| 2002/2003 | 6,106 | 0 | 10,181,532 | 0 | 10,187,638 |
| 2003/2004 | 0 | 0 | 12,142,059 | 0 | 12,142,059 |
| 2004/2005 | 1,134 | 0 | 4,857,921 | 0 | 4,859,055 |
| 2005/2006 | 0 | 0 | 4,570,612 | 0 | 4,570,612 |
| 2006/2007 | 0 | 0 | 8,065,837 | 0 | 8,065,837 |
| 2007/2008 | 0 | 0 | 7,266,404 | 0 | 7,266,404 |
| TOTAL | 7,555,054 | 14,198,794 | 186,301,381 | 5,961,836 | 214,048,065 |

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**OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT
OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ENTERING FLORIDA**

A total of **43,012** vehicles carrying plants and plant products were reported entering and exiting Florida through the agriculture inspection stations operated by the Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement Unit during the **2007-2008** Fiscal Year. The commodities indicated below were reported from shipments entering Florida. Statistics provided by the Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement.

| Commodity | # of Shipments | # of Violations |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| AAA MULTIPRODUCTS | 1092 | 60 |
| ASTER | 0 | 0 |
| AVOCADO | 48 | 0 |
| BABY'S BREATH | 0 | 0 |
| BEET | 0 | 0 |
| BROAD BEAN | 0 | 0 |
| BROCCOLI | 45 | 0 |
| CALENDULA | 0 | 0 |
| CARNATION | 0 | 0 |
| CAULIFLOWER | 5 | 0 |
| CELERY | 17 | 1 |
| CHRYSANTHEMUM | 1 | 0 |
| CITRUS | 3678 | 149 |
| CUCUMBERS | 19 | 0 |
| CUT CHRISTMAS TREE | 84 | 5 |
| CUT FERN | 18 | 0 |
| CUT FLOWERS | 37 | 2 |
| CUT FOLIAGE | 77 | 5 |
| DOGWOOD | 2 | 2 |
| FLAX | 0 | 0 |
| GARDEN LETTUCE | 37 | 1 |
| GARDEN PEA | 0 | 0 |
| GARLIC | 0 | 0 |
| GREEN ONIONS | 118 | 38 |
| HAY | 57 | 1 |
| KALE | 0 | 0 |
| LEEKs | 0 | 0 |
| LIME | 47 | 1 |
| MANGOES | 41 | 1 |
| MELON | 155 | 1 |
| NASTURTIUM | 0 | 0 |
| NURSERY STOCK | 1313 | 121 |
| OAK | 37 | 2 |
| ONION | 192 | 1 |
| ORGANIC VEGETABLES | 33 | 2 |
| OTHER-PLANT | 741 | 23 |
| PEPPER | 31 | 0 |
| PINE STRAW | 175 | 0 |

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| | | |
|------------------|--------------|------------|
| POTATO | 148 | 1 |
| PRODUCE-DOMESTIC | 1154 | 8 |
| PRODUCE-FOREIGN | 89 | 5 |
| RED CHARD | 0 | 0 |
| SEED POTATOES | 131 | 4 |
| SOD | 159 | 3 |
| SPINACH | 1 | 0 |
| SUGARCANE | 2 | 1 |
| SWEET PEA | 0 | 0 |
| TOMATO | 251 | 1 |
| UNKNOWN | 0 | 0 |
| VIOLA | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 10035 | 439 |

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APIARY INSPECTION

In the fiscal year **2007-2008**, of the **186,345** honey bee colonies maintained by registered Florida Beekeepers, there were **49,757** colonies inspected from **2,414** apiaries. Compensation in the amount of **\$3,480.00** was paid to beekeepers for **196** honey bee colonies destroyed because of infestation of American Foulbrood Disease. There were **111,318** colonies that moved into Florida from **19** different migratory states and **131,099** colonies shipped to **19** different states.

The Apiary Section has educated thousands of citizens, tourists and businesses in Florida and world wide on the importance of honey bees and their place in Agricultural. Also how to effectively cope with the African bee challenges.

Honey Bee Health In Florida

As a founding member of the Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) Working Group FDACS/DPI/AIS collaborators with Pennsylvania State University, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture-Agriculture Research Services and North Carolina State University are actively researching CCD. The immediate shock of massive honey bee colony deaths labeled as Colony Collapse Disorder has morphed into the larger and equally complex question of Honey Bee Health. How can this indispensable component of agriculture and the environment be kept viable and productive?

Many people connect honey bees and the food product honey naturally together. As wonderful a food as honey is, honey is simply a by product of a more important process called pollination. Pollination is the most fundamental and important part of production agriculture and adds significantly to our environment. Thirty percent of our daily diet is the result of honey bee pollination.

After closer examination of honey bees, their nest environment, their foraging environment, pests, parasites, and disease management a variety of stressors have been identified.

Pests, parasites, and disease introduced from outside of the United states continue to be identified as primary honey bee stressors.

External and internal honey bee mite parasites have weakened managed honey bee colonies and virtually eliminated feral European honey bee populations. Chemical Miticides provided to control these destructive parasites may have negative long term effects on honey bee populations.

Introduced pathogens such as Nosema Ceranae and viruses such as the Israeli Acute Paralysis Virus (IAPV) that have limited control methods have been discovered and implicated in Honey bee Health declines. Incomplete nutrition afforded honey bees confined to pollinate and forage on large expanses of agricultural mono-crops along with nutritionally incomplete artificial diets weaken honey bees and their immune systems. Agricultural pest and disease control chemicals as applied topically or systemically on crops negatively can impact the beneficial honey bee unintentionally. The growth of our great State is crowding out various parts of the Ag Sector. Locations for beekeepers are being limited making this profession more difficult. In the 2007-2008 season as surveyed by the Apiary Inspectors of America, approximately another 36% of honey bee colonies perished.

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For whatever reasons or combination of factors honey bee colonies continue to loose vitality and the reality is that honey bees are simply not healthy.

African Honey Bee

In April 2008 the first human fatality due to a mass stinging attack by African bees took place in Florida. This strain of honey bee (introduced) is firmly established in many parts of South Florida and is moving north. The apiary Section continues to monitor approximately 500 African bee traps to track movement of this dangerous insect. The Apiary Section has led in African Bee Educational Public Outreach presentations. Tens of thousands of Florida's Citizen have been educated, along with many state, county and municipal departments and authorities.

The Apiary Inspection Section's African Bee identification Laboratory continues to operate under a back log of samples submitted by Apiary Inspectors, the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Pest Control Operators, and concerned citizens.

Best Management Practices for beekeepers continue to be offered to Registered Beekeepers as a way to maintain manageable honey bee colonies and not be considered a public nuisance.

We have partnered with UF/IFAS on two levels for a comprehensive approach to African Bee Training. The first level involves the training of First Responders, Fire Departments Emergency Rescue Personnel, and Police in AHB stinging incidents and the rescue of victims. The second level has been the creation at UF/IFAS by Dr. James Ellis of the AFBEE or African Honey Bee Extension and Education Program. This is designed to provide all of Florida with timely, safety and eradication recommendations for AHB.

The FDACS/DPI/AIS in coordination with other stakeholders in agriculture, state, county, and local government agencies, UF/IFAS, First Responders, schools, hospitals, and many others, continue to develop tools and training to protect the beekeeping industry and educate the public on how to effectively and safely deal with this potential danger. The transition to a feral bee population dominated by ABH in Florida is proceeding. We are doing everything possible to avert and delay additional human fatalities by AHB in Florida.

Apiary Research Activities

In order to most efficiently use Research Funding as provided by the State of Florida, Dr. Amanda Ellis was brought in to oversee and direct internal Apiary Research Projects for 2007-2008. The following projects were completed and reports prepared that add to the body of knowledge on honey bee management.

- (1) Determining Optimum Varroa Mite (*Varroa destructor*) Economic Treatment Thresholds and Powdered Sugar Efficacy Trials.
- (2) Investigate the Use of small cell Foundation (5.1 mm to 4.9 mm) as a tool for Varroa Mite (*Varroa destructor*) Control.

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- (3) Use of Certin, B401, *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) for Control of Wax Moth (*Galleria mellonella*) in Florida's Apiary Industry.
- (4) Identification of a Diet Supplement to Improve Honey bee Health.

Additional appropriated funds were distributed to the following projects.

- (1) Entombed Pollen: A New Phenomenon in Bee Hives.
Dennis vanEngelsdorp, Pennsylvania State University
- (2) African Honey Extension Education
William H. Kern, Jr., University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
- (3) Hygienic Removal by Honey Bee of Parasitic Varroa Mites: Identifying Genetic Loci Responsible for the Trait
Dr. H. Glenn Hall, University of Florida
- (4) Effect of Honey bee Queen Insemination Quantity on Supercedure Rates in Florida
Christina Grozinger, North Carolina State University
- (5) Increasing African Honey Bee Awareness via the African Honey Bee Extension and Education Program (AFBEE)
Dr. Jamie Ellis, University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
- (6) The Sub-lethal Effects of Imidaclopid and Amitraz on Honey Bee Susceptibility to Varroa Mite Mites
Dr. Jamie Ellis, University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

Industry Status

The Apiculture Industry, commercially, continues to struggle with Honey bee Health issues, low honey sales, loss of habitat, loss of agriculture, loss of Apiary sites in Florida with a population explosion.

- (A) Honey Bee Health: Varroa Mites, an external parasite, continues to be the most significant honey bee health concern. Controlling the mite without damaging the honey bees or colony is still a challenge.
- (B) Honey Sales: Honey as produced on a commercial scale is a commodity. The low cost producer always wins the commodity competition. Asian Honey Producers are the low cost winners. They dominate the market and make honey "only" production a flawed business model for Florida Beekeepers.

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(C) Loss of Habitat/Agriculture and Locations: Florida is a popular state for people to relocate to. Land is more valuable for building development than for agriculture in many places.

(D) Pollination Business Model: Many crops such as almonds, cranberries, blueberries, apples, etc. are grown in vast acreage that requires honey bees for pollination and crop production. They absolutely, positively require honey bees to produce a crop. Large mobile commercial beekeepers in Florida leave the state to participate in fee based pollination of many crops.

APIARY INSPECTION SUMMARY

| COLONIES CERTIFIED | COLONIES INSPECTED | APIARIES INSPECTED |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 186,345 | 49,757 | 2,414 |

AMERICAN FOULBROOD DISEASE REPORT

| HIVES INFESTED | HIVES DESTROYED | AMOUNT COMPENSATED |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 196 | 196 | \$3,480 |