

Suncoast Tropical Fruit and Vegetable Club

Meeting Notice

- Next Meeting:** Wednesday, June 10, 2015
Where: Main Room Nokomis Community Center
234 Nippino Trail East, Nokomis, FL 34275
Agenda: 6:30 pm Chat and Tasting Table
7:00 pm Introduction and Presentation
8:30 pm Plant Raffle
- Speaker:** Dr. Mercy Olmstead, Ph.D. Associate Professor
University of Florida, Stone Fruit Specialist
- Topic:** Florida Stone Fruit – A Taste of Summer in the
Spring: Production and Challenges

Whether you are a backyard citrus grower like most of us, or a commercial citrus grower, we have all been impacted by diseases, pests and recently by the ravages of citrus greening. Many of us, as well as commercial growers, are turning to or considering stone fruits for our gardens.

Stone fruit (peaches, nectarines and plums) varieties were developed by the University of Florida's Horticultural Sciences Department and adapted to Florida's warm, fleeting winters.

The Stone Fruit Research and Extension Program was designed to help the Florida stone fruit industry by conducting appropriate research and extension projects. Dr. Olmstead is responsible for maintaining an active research program in optimizing stone fruit production practices, including crop load management, efficient production practices and nutrition management. She works with various UF/IFAS stations around the state and with several multi-county extension agents to address establishment and production issues in stone fruit.