

## Southwest Florida Small Farmers Network (SWFSFN) January 26, 2009 Meeting Announcement

**To all small farmers in SW FL**, here is the announcement of and your invitation to the next meeting of SWFSFN. *If you are new to SWFSFN, please, see our webpage at <http://sarasota.extension.ufl.edu/AG/swfsfn.shtml>.* We are looking forward to being hosted by Lynn and Lew Steward of at their organic farm in Arcadia, FL. For your information, Lynn was the first president of the FL Organic Growers and Consumers Association (FOG). The tours planned on their 17 acre certified organic farm include the 3 acres of citrus, and their field vegetables and greenhouse crops. There will also be discussions of the continuing diversification of this farm's operations that now include organic transplants of vegetables and Jatropha biofuel trees, retail sales of organic growing supplies, vegetable growing classes, and fruit tree research. Lynn is also treating everyone to pasture-raised ham from his farm during our pot-luck lunch! I am sure that you will find this tour and networking session very worthwhile for you and your farming operations.

For your reference, here are the details:

**Date:** Monday, January 26, 2009  
**Time:** 10:00 am to 3:00 pm  
**Place:** Mr. Citrus Organic and Vegetables Farm  
1548 SW Addison Ave.  
Arcadia, FL 34266  
**Telephone :** 1-800-201-8293  
1-863-494-1095  
**Directions:** <http://www.floridaorganicproducts.com/>  
**Cost:** NONE

**Agenda:**

- 9:30 to 10:00 am - registration and lunch setup
- 10:00 am to 12:00 pm - farmtour and market garden tractor demonstration using biodiesel fuel made from Jatropha
- 12:00 to 1:00 pm - pot luck lunch and networking
- a) please, bring a prepared food item featuring one of your crops, if possible, for the lunch
  - b) seed swap - bring seeds of vegetable cvs tested under your local conditions to share with fellow small farmers
- 1:00 to 2:00 pm - growers meeting - time to share your information, concerns, and needs about small farming in SW FL
- 2:00 to 3:00 pm - UF/IFAS presentations on requested topics (approx. 15 min each):
- a) Direct/local marketing resources and strategies
  - b) Update on Jatropha biofuel crop development in FL
  - c) Update on 2009 Statewide Small Farm & Alternative Enterprise Conference

Thanks, and please, RSVP to me your attendance. Also help me reach more small farmers in our region by forwarding these announcements to them.

Thanks - robert

Robert A. Kluson, Ph.D.

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