June Gardening Guide 2011
By: Patricia Porchey

Q. *There are so many insects in my yard and I don’t know what to do about them.*

A. Fortunately, you live in a county where we have an entomologist on staff at the Extension office. Dr. Fred Santana gives classes every month about problem pests in our landscape and house. You will see below the June classes that he teaches beginning with an overview class, *Florida Buggy Critters.* He offers classes on specific problem pests such as chinch bugs and grubs in the lawn. Dr Santana also teaches classes on beneficial insects so that just because it’s ugly, doesn’t necessarily make it a bad bug. He also focuses on the importance of insects for pollinating so we can enjoy all of our beautiful flowers and eat our delicious fruit.

Visit our website [http://sarasota.ifas.ufl.edu](http://sarasota.ifas.ufl.edu) to get information on other classes Dr. Santana will be teaching as well as instructions on registering.

You can bring to our office or any of our satellite locations, insects for Master Gardeners to identify for you. Of course, if they are unable to identify it, your sample will be given to Dr. Santana for identification.

**Timely reminders:**
- Sarasota County’s fertilizer ordinance makes it illegal to apply Nitrogen and Phosphorus to turf and landscape plants June 1 – September 30. Manatee County has just adopted the same black-out period for fertilizer. If your turf needs greening up this summer, you can apply chelated iron.

**PLANTING GUIDE**

**Vegetables & Herbs** (plant herbs from transplants and vegetables from seeds or transplants): Basil, borage, catnip, collard and mustard greens, eggplant, lemon balm, marjoram, mint, okra, oregano, rosemary, southern peas, summer savory, sweet potatoes, thyme and turnip.

**Annuals:** Begonia Celosia, Coleus, Crossandra, Gazania, Gerbera daisy, Gomphrena, marigold, Melampodium, Nicotiana, periwinkle, Portulaca, Salvia, Torenia, and Zinnia.

**Perennials:** Blue daze, Gaillardia, Coreopsis, daylily, Pentas, Ruellia caroliniensis (native), Salvia, Shasta daisy, society garlic, Stokes aster and Verbena.

**Fruits in season:** Banana, blueberry, Carambola, guava, citrus (calamondin, key lime, lemon and lime), Jackfruit, fig, kumquat, lychee, macadamia, mango, papaya and pineapple.


**Upcoming classes**

Call 861-9900 or register on-line [sarasota.ifas.ufl.edu](http://sarasota.ifas.ufl.edu) for the following classes.
• Florida Buggy Critters, Twin Lakes Park, 1:00 p.m. June 7
• Alternatives to Turf: Groundcovers, Twin Lakes Park, 10:00 a.m. June 15
• Irrigation 101, Twin Lakes Park, 1:00 p.m. June 15
• Life on Scarlet Milkweed, Twin Lakes Park, 4:00 p.m. June 15
• Butterfly Predators, Shamrock Park, 2:00 p.m. June 16
• Rain Barrels, North Sarasota Library, 10:00 a.m. June 18
• Partnering with Pollinators, Twin Lakes Park, 4:00 p.m. June 22
• Landscape Design Basics for Homeowners, Twin Lakes Park, 10:00 a.m. June 29
• Chinch Bugs and White Grubs, Twin Lakes Park, 1:00 p.m. June 29

GETTING HELP
The Master Gardener Help Desk is available to answer your questions, 861-9807, mghelpdesk@scgov.net. Walk-ins are welcome Monday-Friday from 9-Noon and 1-4 p.m., Twin Lakes Park, Clark Road east of I-75.
Satellite Help Desks: Weekly at four South County libraries, every 1st and 3rd Mondays at Gulf Gate Library, every 4th Saturday at Fruitville Library and every third Saturday at the Downtown Farmers’ Market, Sarasota.
New locations: every first Saturday at Lowe’s Sarasota, 10:00 a.m.-noon and Lowe’s Venice, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and every third Saturday at Lowe’s North Port, 10:00 a.m.-noon.

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