

**PEST MANAGEMENT SECTION**

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The goal of pest management is to reduce populations of target organisms to acceptable levels while minimizing contamination of soil, water, air and the effects on non-target organisms, through safe and economic use of pesticides.

**Integrated Pest Management (IPM)** will be used whenever possible utilizing the most appropriate means of pest control including cultural, mechanical, biological, and chemical methods. Crop rotation and varietal resistance is considered a part of IPM systems, which will help reduce the pesticide availability as a potential pollutant. *Scouting is an integrated part of proper pest management.*

An example of Integrated Pest Management is the current recommendation to control Tropical Soda Apple. The recommendation incorporates prevention, mowing and herbicides in a manner that provides the most cost effective treatment alternative.

Label directions and Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) will be followed.

The producer will ensure that all environmental laws are adhered to as they pertain to pesticide application and container disposal.

The producer will ensure that all persons in or near pesticides or application sites are aware of and are taking proper safety and environmental precautions.

Records of all pest management activities should be maintained to provide evidence that the activities complied with local, state, and Federal laws, rules and regulations. Records are required whenever restricted use pesticides are applied. Use the form "Record of Federal Restricted Use Pesticide Application" to document the application of restricted use pesticides. Refer to the document Pesticide Record Keeping for additional information.

The following information is needed to have the most accurate information in selecting and applying pest control measures:

- A. Pesticide and Nutrient Management Job Sheets (forms FL-CPA-14-17) and,
- B. Soil Leach and Soil Runoff Documentation Form (form FL-CPA-13) and,
- C. Record of Federal Restricted Use Pesticide Application Form (form FL-CPA-32) and,
- D. Pesticide Record Keeping, PI-20, and,
- E. IFAS Pesticide Selection Guides
  - Pasture: Managing Pesticides for Crop Production and Water Quality Protection, Circular 992,
  - Soil Ratings for Selecting Pesticides for Water Quality Goals, Circular 959,  
Gilchrist County Soil Ratings, Fact Sheet SL-121
  - Weed Management in Pastures and Rangeland - 2001, SS-AGR-08,
  - WEEDS IN THE SUNSHINE: Tropical Soda Apple ( Solanum viarum Dunal) in Florida - 1999 SS-AGR-50,
  - WEEDS IN THE SUNSHINE: Cogongrass (Imperata cylindrica (L.) Beauv.) Biology, Ecology and Control in Florida - 1999, SS-AGR-52,
  - Smutgrass Control in Perennial Pastures, Feb. 2000, SS-AGR-18,
- F. Biological Control of Pasture Mole Crickets with Nematodes, Feb., 2001.
- G. Insect Management in Pasture, ENY402, Jan 2001.

**OBJECTIVE**