

**BOTANY SECTION**  
**Compiled by Richard E. Weaver, Jr., Ph.D.**

For this period, 168 specimens were submitted to the Botany Section for identification, and 705 were received from other Sections for identification and/or name verification (total 873). Some of the samples not previously discussed in *Tri-Ology*:

**Michelia figo** (Lour.) K. Spreng. (Primarily a warm-temperate or subtropical genus of 30 or so species centered in western China and the Himalayas, but extending to southern Japan, and into the tropics in western Malesia.) Magnoliaceae. **Banana shrub**. Similar and closely related to *Magnolia*, *Michelia* differs in that its flowers are borne in the axils of the leaves rather than being terminal on the branches. This species grows slowly into a large, dense shrub to as much as 4 m tall. The evergreen leaves are leathery, glossy, elliptic to obovate, about 7-9 cm long. The cup-shaped flowers, with their strong banana-like fragrance, appear in late March and early April in this part of Florida; they are about 4 cm across and the 6-9 tepals are cream-colored with a purple flush along their edges and at their base. Essential oils distilled from the flowers of the various species, including this one, are used in incenses and perfumes, and timber from the larger species is prized for furniture-making. The plants themselves are highly ornamental. For successful cultivation of *M. figo*, a humus-rich soil is best, as is a spot shaded from the afternoon sun. (Native to China). (Volusia County; B2003-232; Eve Hannahs; 15 January 2003). (Dehgan 1998; L.H. Bailey Hortorium Staff 1976; Mabberley 1997).

**Chionanthus virginicus** L. (Including *Linociera*, a genus of about 100 species in the tropics and subtropics of both hemispheres, with two species in the eastern United States and one in East Asia). Oleaceae. **Fringetree, Old-man's beard**. A familiar native, often seen at the edges of deciduous forests or along streambanks, this plant is usually shrub-like in habit with several small trunks. It can grow to imposing proportions, however, and the largest specimen yet measured, at Mt. Vernon in Virginia, is more than 10 m tall with a trunk diameter of 1.5 m (53 in.). The deciduous, opposite, oblong to elliptic leaves may be up to 20 cm (8 in.) long. The delightfully fragrant flowers are borne in drooping panicles from the upper nodes on last year's wood; they consist of four very narrow lobes which grow in length, to 2.5 cm, and change color, from greenish to pure white, as they mature. A tree in full bloom, early April in northern Florida, is uniquely beautiful. The plants are functionally dioecious, so only the pistillate individuals produce the characteristic dark blue drupes in the fall. In cultivation the fringetree is often shapelier and more floriferous than in the wild; it is widely planted, even in areas well outside its natural range. An endangered relative, *Chionanthus pygmaeus*, is endemic to scrub habitats in eight counties of Central Florida. It is a much shorter, shrubbier plant with smaller flowers and larger fruits. (Native from PA to KY, south to Central FL and west to OK and TX). (Leon County; B2003-214; M. 'Janie' Echols; 2 April 2003). (Godfrey 1988; Mabberley 1997; Sargent 1949).

**Lupinus texensis** Hook. (Genus of about 150 species, mostly in the mountains of western North America, continuing into the Andes; a second center in the Mediterranean region, extending into the mountains of East Africa). Fabaceae. **Texas bluebonnet**. At least five similar

species are known collectively as “Texas bluebonnets,” and all are collectively designated the state flower of Texas. All of the species are winter annuals, and they carpet open areas in central Texas with sheets of blue in March. They are included in many of the commercial “wildflower” seed mixes planted along highways by other state governments, and we suspect this plant reached Florida in one of those seed mixes; it has been reported to occur in at least three counties. The leaves of *L. texensis* are palmately compound as in most lupines, with 6-7 leaflets. The flowers are dark blue, with a striking white spot on the standard; they are arranged in a raceme, the tip of which is silvery-white. This latter characteristic serves to separate *L. texensis* from other bluebonnets. All are attractive early blooming annuals. The seeds must be sown in the fall, in a spot that will receive full sun during the winter. (Native in central and eastern Texas and perhaps adjacent Louisiana). (Duval County; B2003-156; Christine J. Frere; 21 March 2003). (Isely 1998; [www.gardenguides.com/articles/bluebonnets.htm](http://www.gardenguides.com/articles/bluebonnets.htm)).

**Homalocladium platycladum** (F.J. Muell.) Bailey (A genus of a single species, sometimes included in *Muehlenbeckia*, a genus of 23 other species in New Guinea, Australia, New Zealand and South America). Polygonaceae. **Ribbonbush; tapeworm plant.** An unusual but ornamental shrub that grows to more than 3 m tall in its native habitat, the ribbonbush is too tender for outdoor culture in most of the United States. Its branches are flattened into thin, green, ribbonlike structures termed cladodes, the nodes of which are marked with a conspicuous transverse line. Thus the stems appear to be made up of 2-cm-long segments, in the manner of a tapeworm. The leaves are about 3 cm long and are fully functional, but they are shed before the flowers appear, so the stems carry out most photosynthesis. Tiny greenish flowers appear in clusters at the nodes and they are followed by attractive red berries, adding to the ornamental aspects of the plant. Except in the warmest parts of Florida, the ribbonbush is best grown in a greenhouse because it needs heat and high humidity to flourish. (Native to the Solomon Islands). (Miami-Dade County; B2003-229; Karen W. LeBoutillier; 11 April 2003). (Huxley 1992; Mabberley 1997).

**Exochorda racemosa** Rehd. (Genus of four species, from Central Asia through China to Korea) Rosaceae. **Pearlbush.** Although throughout the literature terms like “extremely beautiful” and “exceptionally attractive” are used to describe this plant, and although it has been in cultivation since 1849, the pearlbush is still rare in horticulture. It is a spreading shrub of informal habit, growing as much as 3 m tall. The deciduous leaves are oblong and serrate along the margins and have a bluish tint. The common name of the plant derives from the plump, round flower buds, which look like white pearls; they open into delicately scented flowers of the purest white. Individual flowers have five petals and are 3-4 cm across; they are borne in very numerous upright racemes, almost covering the shrub with bloom. The pearlbush is classified in the subfamily Spiraeoideae of the Rose Family, with such genera as *Spiraea* and *Physocarpus*, plants which are seldom seen either in the wild or in cultivation in Florida. It is, in fact, a very cold-hardy plant, surviving winters as far north as Michigan and New York State, but it evidently prospers in the Deep South as well. (Native to eastern China). (Hamilton County; B2003-135; M. ‘Janie’ Echols; 6 March 2003. (Dirr 1990; Rehder 1960).

**Ilex glabra** (L.) A. Gray. (A cosmopolitan, economically significant genus of more than 400 species, the members commonly known as “hollies”). Aquifoliaceae. **Gallberry, inkberry.**

This colonial evergreen shrub, growing to 3 m tall, is a common and conspicuous component of the vegetation of wet flatwoods, shrub bogs and other moist sunny areas throughout much of Florida and beyond. The leaves are glabrous, somewhat leathery, elliptic or oblanceolate, usually with 1-3 small, shallow, forward-pointing, spineless teeth on each side near the apex. Like most hollies, the gallberry is dioecious; the flowers on staminate plants are borne in axillary cymes, while those on pistillate individuals are solitary (sometimes 2 or 3) in the leaf axils. Individual flowers are small and whitish, but they are produced abundantly enough, at least on staminate plants, to be conspicuous; blooming season is April and May in northern Florida. The black “berries” (actually drupes) are very bitter to the taste, hence the common name of “gallberry.” At least in the northeastern U.S., where it is known as “inkberry,” this plant is gaining favor as an ornamental; particularly attractive are the several compact-growing and white-fruited selections. Native along the Atlantic and Gulf Coastal Plains from Nova Scotia to northeast Texas. (Taylor County; B2003-273; William Stanley; 20 April 2003). (Godfrey 1988; Mabberley 1997).

**Crocsmia × crocosmiiflora** (Burb. & Deam) N.E. Br. (Genus of seven species native to southern Africa). Iridaceae. **Montbretia**. This is a hybrid between *C. aurea* and *C. pottsii*, created in the renowned Lemoine nursery in France in 1879. It is a beautiful plant with its sword-like foliage, resembling that of a slender gladiolus, and its branched clusters of bright orange flowers. The deciduous foliage can reach a height of a meter, but is more commonly 50 – 70 cm tall. The plants grow from small corms, which increase rapidly, especially in moist soil, and can quickly outgrow a flower bed. In fact, montbretias have become weeds in many parts of the world, including Florida. They are still common in gardens, but the original type has been largely replaced with named cultivars, these selected because of their larger flowers; flowers of different colors, from butter-yellow to brilliant red; and/or less invasive habit. Of garden origin, but naturalized in many parts of the world. (Alachua County; B2003-153; Christine Zamora; 19 March 2003). (Huxley 1992; <http://www.crocsmiaheritage.com>).

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**Compiled by Susan E. Halbert, Ph.D.**

For the month of March, there were 418 samples, consisting of 33,519+ specimens. In April, there were 532 samples consisting of 59,419+ specimens. Some of the samples are listed below:

**ORNAMENTALS, FOLIAGE PLANTS:**

*Bambusa* sp. (bamboo)-- *Chaetococcus bambusae* (Maskell), **bamboo mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found at an amusement park in Lake Buena Vista (Orange County; E2003-1475; Luis A. Arocho and Serena Stornaiuolo; 17 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Crassula* sp. (no common name)-- *Pseudococcus affinis* (Maskell), **obscure mealybug**: A slight infestation involving one of 13 plants was found at a discount store in Orange City (Volusia County; E2003-1664; Stacey S. Simmons; 25 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Ficus pumila* (creeping fig; climbing fig)-- *Abgrallaspis howardi* (Cockerell), **howard scale**: A moderate infestation on 20 plants was found at Chapman Field in Kendall (Miami-Dade County; E2003-1584; Haydee L. Escobar; 22 April 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Ixora* sp. (ixora)-- *Paracoccus marginatus* Williams & Granara de Willink, **papaya mealybug**: A moderate infestation involving 10% of 400 plants was found at a nursery in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-977; Jose G. Aguila; 19 March 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Ixora coccinea* cv. 'Petite' (red Taiwan dwarf ixora)-- *Ceroplastes sinensis* D. Guere, **a wax scale**: A slight infestation involving 60+% of about 150 plants was found at a nursery in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-1019; Lynn D. Howerton; 20 March 2003). This is an unusual wax scale with potential to become a pest (Dr. Greg S. Hodges).

*Viburnum suspensum* (viburnum)-- *Pseudococcus maritimus* (Ehrhorn), **grape mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found at a gas station in Okeechobee (Okeechobee County; E2003-1413; Yvette R. Ogle and Diane K. Baruch, DPI/CAPS; 11 April 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

**ORNAMENTALS, FLOWERING PLANTS:**

*Banksia* sp. (no common name)-- *Dysmicoccus aciculus* nr. Ferris, **a mealybug**: A slight to moderate infestation was intercepted in one of two boxes of flowers from California at a wholesale florist in Orlando (Orange County; E2003-774; Terrence D. Williams; 5 March 2003). This mealybug is not native to Florida (Dr. Greg S. Hodges). NEW DPI STATE RECORD.

*Calotropis gigantea* (mudar, bowstring hemp, crown plant, giant milkweed)-- *Asterolecanium arabidis* (Signoret), **a pit scale**: A slight infestation involving one of 25 plants was found at a nursery in Marathon (Monroe County; E2003-918-301; Lynn D. Howerton; 12 March 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Pseudaulacaspis pentagona* (Targ.-Tozz.), **white peach scale**: A slight infestation involving one of 25 plants was found at a nursery in Marathon (Monroe County; E2003-918-302; Lynn D. Howerton; 12 March 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* (hibiscus)-- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found on a plant at a residence in Indian River Shores (Indian River County; E2003-1433; Brian Combs, University of Florida; 14 April 2003). A slight

infestation on one of 194 plants was found at a nursery in Palm Bay (Brevard County; E2003-1798; Christine J. Frere; 5 May 2003). Both finds are NEW DPI COUNTY RECORDS.

*Kalanchoe blossfeldiana* (no common name)-- *Pseudaulacaspis pentagona* (Targ.-Tozz.), **white peach scale**: A severe infestation on two plants was found at a residence in Tavernier (Monroe County; E2003-1630; Lynn D. Howerton; 23 April 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Myrtus communis* (myrtle)-- *Greenidea (Trichosiphum) formosana* (Maki), **an Asian aphid**: A moderate infestation was intercepted in a box of cut flowers from California at a wholesale florist in Orlando (Orange County; E2003-1674; Terrence D. Williams; 28 April 2003). This is an Asian aphid that became established in California in 1998. They infest *Ficus* spp. and Myrtaceae. This is the first known interception of this species in Florida (Dr. Susan E. Halbert).

*Odontonema strictum* (fire-spike)-- *Ferrisia virgata* (Cockerell), **striped mealybug**: A slight infestation was found at an amusement park in Lake Buena Vista (Orange County; E2003-1472-301; Luis A. Arocho and Serena Stornaiuolo; 17 April 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Pseudococcus longispinus* (Targ.-Tozz), **longtailed mealybug**: A slight infestation was found at an amusement park in Lake Buena Vista (Orange County; E2003-1472-302; Luis A. Arocho and Serena Stornaiuolo; 17 April 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Coccus hesperidum* (Linnaeus), **brown soft scale**: A slight infestation was found at an amusement park in Lake Buena Vista (Orange County; E2003-1472-303; Luis A. Arocho and Serena Stornaiuolo; 17 April 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

#### FOREST AND SHADE TREES:

*Ficus aurea* (Florida strangler fig)-- *Trioza* sp., **a jumping plant louse**: Specimens were found at Chapman Field in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-567; Gwen H. Myres, Susan E. Halbert and Mark A. Garland; 18 February 2003). This psyllid probably is new to science as well as to Florida. It belongs to the *Trioza russellae* Tuthill group, but does not match that species. Another collection at the same location (E2003-975; Gwen H. Myres; 18 March 2003) had two tiny nymphs in shallow depressions on the underside of a leaf. NEW RECORD FOR NORTH AMERICA (Dr. Susan E. Halbert, DPI, and Dr. Daniel H. Burckhardt, Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel, Switzerland).

*Persea palustris* (swamp bay)-- *Inglisia vitrea* Cockerell, **glassy scale**: A moderate infestation was found on one tree in a forest in Naples (Collier County; E2003-1295; Stefanie L. Krantz, CAPS, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 3 April 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Quercus minima* (dwarf live oak)-- *Eriococcus quercus* (Comstock), **oak eriococcin**: A slight infestation was found on one of 100 plants at a nursery in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-1389; Lynda F. Davis; 11 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD, NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Quercus laurifolia* (laurel oak)-- *Eriococcus quercus* (Comstock), **oak eriococcin**: A moderate infestation was found on a plant at a hotel in Clewiston (Hendry County; E2003-1477; Lori A. Richards; 18 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Quercus myrtifolia* (myrtle oak)-- *Parthenolecanium corni* (Bouche), **European fruit lecanium**:

A slight infestation was found on a plant at a research facility in Lake Placid (Highlands County; E2003-1503; Dr. Greg S. Hodges and Amanda C. Hodges; 17 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Pulvinaria innumerabilis* (Rathvon), **cottony maple scale**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at a research facility in Lake Placid (Highlands County; E2003-1540; Dr. Greg S. Hodges and Amanda C. Hodges; 16 April 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

#### FOOD OR CROP PLANTS:

*Mangifera indica* (mango)-- *Vinsonia stellifera* (Westwood), **stellate scale**: A moderate infestation was found at a residence in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-590; Haydee L. Jova; 19 February 2003). This species is known to be a pest of mangos (Dr. Greg S. Hodges). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Vitis rotundifolia* (muscadine)-- *Myllocerus undatus* Marshall, **a weevil**: A slight infestation was found at a DPI facility in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-291; Haydee L. Jova; 22 January 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

#### CITRUS:

*Citrus sinensis* (sweet orange)-- *Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama, **Asian citrus psyllid**: Specimens were found on a tree at Isabella, Puerto Rico (E2003-1439; Ana Escribano; 3 December 2002). This is the first DPI record of *D. citri* from Puerto Rico.

#### WEEDS AND GRASSES:

*Dichanthelium commutatum* (variable panicgrass, variable witchgrass)-- *Tetraneura nigriabdominalis* (Sasaki), **a root aphid**: A slight infestation was found at a farm in Micanopy (Alachua County; E2003-728; Dr. Greg S. Hodges; 21 February 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Melaleuca quinquenervia* (melaleuca, cajeput, punktree, paperbark, white bottlebrush tree)-- *Coccus hesperidum* (Linnaeus), **brown soft scale**: A moderate infestation was found near I-75 in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-1781; Haydee L. Escobar; 2 May 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

#### NATIVE AND NATURALIZED PLANTS:

*Crataegus flava* (summer haw, summer hawthorn, yellowleaf hawthorn)-- *Schizoneurata tissoti* Hille Ris Lambers, **a woolly aphid**: A severe infestation was found at a residence in Arredondo (Alachua County; E2003-1374; Susan E. Halbert; 13 April 2003). This is the first spring collection of a rare, endemic Florida species. It is likely that the aphids persisted on the plants throughout the winter. They feed at plant nodes, producing copious wax.

*Crataegus uniflora* (dwarf hawthorn)-- *Parthenolecanium corni* (Bouche), **European fruit lecanium**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at a farm in Micanopy (Alachua County; E2003-877; Dr. Greg S. Hodges; 14 March 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Lyonia fruticosa* (coastalplain staggerbush)-- *Ceroplastes floridensis* (Comstock), **Florida wax scale**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at a research facility in Lake Placid (Highlands County; E2003-1543; Dr. Greg S. Hodges and Amanda C. Hodges; 17 April 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD; NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

- Hemiberlesia lataniae* (Signoret), **latania scale**: A slight infestation was found on one of two plants at a research facility in Lake Placid (Highlands County; E2003-1537; Dr. Greg S. Hodges and Amanda C. Hodges; 12 April 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD; NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Ocotea coriacea* (lancewood)-- *Limataphalara brevicephala* Hodkinson, **a lancewood psyllid**: A moderate infestation was found at a park in Naples (Collier County; E2003-1034; Scott D. Krueger; 21 March 2003). These beautiful, tiny psyllids cause distortion and witches' broom on new growth of the plant. This species was known from only seven specimens found in Miami and St. Lucie Counties. NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD (Dr. Susan E. Halbert).
- Palafoxia feayi* (Feay's palafox)-- *Ceroplastes cirripediformis* Comstock, **barnacle scale**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at a research facility in Lake Placid (Highlands County; E2003-1536; Dr. Greg S. Hodges and Amanda C. Hodges; 17 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Pteridium aquilinum* (western brackenfern)-- *Pinnaspis aspidistrae* (Signoret), **fern scale**: A slight infestation was found on ten plants at a research facility in Lake Placid (Highlands County; E2003-1545; Dr. Greg S. Hodges; 17 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Rapanea punctata* (Florida rapanea, Guiana rapanea, myrsine, colicwood)-- *Paratachardina lobata* (Chamberlin), **lobate lac scale**: A slight infestation was found in the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation (Hendry County; E2003-1408; Yvette R. Ogle and Diane K. Baruch, CAPS, USDA/APHIS/PPQ, 11 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Rhipsalis* sp. (cactus)-- *Toxoptera aurantii* (Boyer de Fonscolombe), **black citrus aphid**: A moderate infestation was found on a plant at the DPI office in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-781; Lynda F. Davis; 27 February 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Schoepfia chrysophylloides* (gulf graytwig)-- *Anastrepha interrupta* Stone, **a fruitfly**: Several larvae were found in fruits collected at Camp Owaissa Bauer in Homestead (Miami-Dade County; E2003-848; Eduardo M. Varona; 6 March 2003).
- Melormenis basalis* Walker, **West Indian flatid, Puerto Rican planthopper**: A specimen was found on a plant at Camp Owaissa Bauer in Homestead (Miami-Dade County; E2003-998; Eduardo M. Varona, Julieta Brambila, Susan E. Halbert, and Mark A. Garland; 17 February 2003). This pest is relatively new to Florida. NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Spermacoce verticillata* (shrubby false buttonweed)-- *Myloccerus undatus* Marshall, **a weevil**: A slight infestation was found at the DPI office in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-290; Haydee L. Jova; 22 January 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Tectaria heracleifolia* (broad halberd fern)-- *Ceroplastes rubens* Maskell, **red wax scale**: A severe infestation was found at a residence in Ft. Lauderdale (Broward County; E2003-1004; David McClean, homeowner; 16 March 2003). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Tillandsia setacea* (southern needleleaf)-- *Orthezia tillandsiae* Morrison, **Spanish moss orthezid**: A slight infestation was found at Highlands Hammock, Lake Placid (Highlands County; E2003-1541; Dr. Greg S. Hodges; 18 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD; NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

**BENEFICIAL INSECTS:**

- Phoenicoccus marlatii* (a scale insect)-- *Saniosulus* sp., **a predator mite**: Several specimens were found associated with a severe infestation of scale insects on *Phoenix roebelenii* along a

roadside in Ft. Lauderdale (Broward County; E2003-1570; Karolynne Griffiths, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 20 April 2003). NEW TO SCIENCE RECORD.

#### INSECT DETECTION:

*Antonina graminis* (Maskell), **rhodes grass mealybug**: A slight infestation was found on an unknown host at a research facility in Lake Placid (Highlands County; E2003-1538; Dr. Greg S. Hodges and Amanda C. Hodges; 17 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Anastrepha interrupta* Stone, **a fruit fly**: Specimens were found in a multilure trap in *Schoepfia chrysophylloides* at Camp Owaissa Bauer in Homestead (Miami-Dade County; E2003-710; Eduardo M. Varona; 27 February 2003). This is an uncommon fruit fly restricted to one host and likely threatened by loss of habitat (Dr. Gary J. Steck).

*Cligenes distinctus* Distant, **a seed bug**: Two specimens were collected in leaf litter under a tree along a roadside in Malabar (Brevard County; E2003-1274; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 2 April 2003). This find confirms the northernmost record for the species (Julieta Brambila).

*Cotalpa lanigera lanigera* (Linnaeus), **a scarab beetle**: A specimen was caught on the beach near a gas station in Palm Coast (Flagler County; E2003-1168; T.J. West, owner and Raymond C. Jarrett; 10 March 2003). Another specimen was caught in a parking log of a hardware store in St. Augustine (St. Johns County; E2003-1383; Raymond C. Jarrett; 8 April 2003). Both finds are NEW DPI COUNTY RECORDS. This is a very rare species in Florida (Dr. Michael C. Thomas).

*Creugas gulosus* Thorell, **a spider**: A specimen was found under fallen palm fronds in a minimal maintenance citrus grove near Ft. Pierce (St. Lucie County; E2003-1046; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 24 March 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Geocoris uliginosus* (Say), **bigeyed bug**: A specimen was found under a fallen palm frond in a low maintenance citrus grove near Ft. Pierce (St. Lucie County; E2003-1268; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 4 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Greenidea ficicola* Takahashi, **Asian ficus aphid**: A specimen was collected in a suction trap in Kendall (Miami-Dade County; E2003-1163; Gwen H. Myres; 21 March 2003). The suction trap collection indicates that this newly established species is doing well in Miami for a second season (Dr. Susan E. Halbert).

*Heraeus plebejus* Stål, **a seed bug**: A specimen was found at a residence in Ft. Pierce (St. Lucie County; E2003-905; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 22 February 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Ligyrocoris litigiosus* Stål, **a seed bug**: Two specimens were found under fallen palm fronds near Kenansville in rural Brevard County (E2003-896; Kenneth L. Hibbard, Gregory A. Brown, and William L. 'Robbie' Robinson; 11 March 2003). Several specimens were found under fallen palm fronds near Ft. Pierce (St. Lucie County; E2003-988; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 13 March 2003). Both finds are NEW DPI COUNTY RECORDS.

*Minthea obstita* (Wollaston), **a bostrichid beetle**: Specimens emerged from a drum from West Africa in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2003-1017; Donald L. Harris and Jose D. Diaz; 24 March 2003). This is an African powderpost beetle species not known to occur outside of Africa (Dr. Michael C. Thomas).

*Neolema ephippium* (Lacordaire), **a beetle**: A specimen was found at a golf course in Valrico (Hillsborough County; E2003-1100; Leyanis Gonzales and Amy R. Simington; 27 March

- 2003). This is a rare beetle (Dr. Michael C. Thomas).
- Neoslossonia putnami* (Osborn), **a dorycephaline leafhopper**: A specimen was collected at Jennings State Forest near Middleburg (Clay County; E2003-1615; Sol F. Looker; 16 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. This is a rare leafhopper (Dr. Susan E. Halbert).
- Nipaecoccus nipae* (Maskell), **coconut mealybug**: An infestation was found on an unknown plant at a research facility in Lake Placid (Highlands County; E2003-1539; Dr. Greg S. Hodges ; 18 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Olbiogaster sackeni* Edwards, **a fly**: A single specimen was found in a multilure trap in *Manilkara zapota* (sapidilla) in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-978; Haydee L. Escobar; 19 March 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Perigenes similis* Barber, **a seed bug**: Two specimens were found under a fallen palm frond near Melbourne (Brevard County; E2003-1456; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 17 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Piezogaster calcarator* (Fabricius), **a coreid bug**: A specimen was found in weeds near Winter Haven (Polk County; E2003-864; Martha A. 'Ginger' Simpson, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 12 February 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Sobarocephala dreisbachi* Sabrosky & Steyskal, **a fly**: A specimen was caught in a multilure trap in Cooper City (Broward County; E2003-735; Miryam Briceno, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 26 February 2003). NEW DPI STATE RECORD. This fly was reported previously from Ontario, Michigan, and North Carolina (Dr. Gary J. Steck).
- Tarsostenus univittatus* (Rossi), **a clerid beetle**: A specimen emerged from a drum from West Africa in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2003-1017; Donald L. Harris and Jose D. Diaz; 24 March 2003). This is an exotic predator (Dr. Michael C. Thomas).
- Teminius insularis* (Lucas), **a spider**: An adult male was found at a residence in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2003-946; Alice Warren-Bradley, homeowner; 2 March 2003). This is a rare spider. The only previous U.S. records are a few specimens from Miami-Dade County (Dr. G.B. Edwards).
- Theridion myersi* Levi, **a spider**: A specimen was found under fallen palm fronds in a minimum maintenance citrus grove near Ft. Pierce (St. Lucie County; E2003-1270; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 4 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. This spider was previously known in the U.S. only from Lee County, Florida. It also is found in the Neotropics (Dr. G.B. Edwards).
- Thymoites pallidus* (Emerton), **a spider**: A specimen was found under fallen palm fronds in a vacant lot in Melbourne (Brevard County; E2003-1312; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 7 April 2003). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

**NEMATODOLOGY SECTION**

**Compiled by Janete A. Brito, Ph.D. and Renato Inerra, Ph.D.**

A total of 4,528 samples (4,177 for morphological and 351 for molecular diagnoses) were processed in March and April 2003. Details are shown below:

<b>Certification and Regulatory Samples:</b>	<b>Other Samples:</b>
Multistate Certification for National and International Export . . . . . 2,906	Plant Problems . . . . . 39
California Certification . . . . . 746	Intrastate Survey, Random . . . . . 259
Burrowing Nematodes . . . . . 40	Molecular Diagnoses . . . . . 351
Pre movement (Citrus Nursery Certification) . . . . . 141	
Site or Pit Approval (Citrus Nursery Certification) . . . . . 46	

**NEMATODES OF SPECIAL INTEREST:**

*Liquidambar styraciflua* (sweet gum) - *Tumiotia whittoni* (Sledge & Christie, 1962) Siddiqi, 1985, **a tylenchulid nematode**, was found infecting roots of this hardy native ornamental shade tree (Alachua County; N03-00370; Dale Toney; 14 March 2003). Mature females containing eggs and juveniles were collected from the root system of this plant.

*Ocimum* sp. (hot basil)- *Meloidogyne mayaguensis* Rammah & Hirshmann, 1988, **a root-knot nematode**, was found infecting the roots of this herb (Martin County; N02-01636; Kenneth L. Hibbard, 1 November 2002). Roots were galled and necrotic as a consequence of the nematode infection.

*Ocimum* sp.(red basil) - *Meloidogyne arenaria* (Neal, 1889) Chitwood, 1949, **the peanut root-knot nematode**, was found infecting the roots of this herb (Martin County; N02-01637; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 1 November 2002). Plants were stunted and showed severe root galling because of the nematode infection. **NEW HOST RECORD.**

**COLLECTORS SUBMITTING FIVE OR MORE SAMPLES THAT WERE PROCESSED FOR NEMATOLOGICAL ANALYSIS DURING MARCH AND APRIL 2003:**

Bailey, W. Wayne . . . . . 16	LeBoutillier, Karen W. . . . . 339
Brown, Greg A. . . . . 6	Ochoa, Ana I. . . . . 5
Debenport, Mary E. . . . . 7	Ooms, Laura L. . . . . 273
Emery, Tyson R . . . . . 31	Pate, JoAnn . . . . . 109
Frere, Christine J. . . . . 5	Podris, Flewellyn W . . . . . 34
Fuller, Samuel A . . . . . 393	Qiao, Ping . . . . . 221
Harris, Jessie . . . . . 14	Robinson, William L . . . . . 218
Harris, Keith J. . . . . 15	Salisbury, Thomas L. . . . . 217
Hibbard, Ken L. . . . . 11	Simmons, Stacy S . . . . . 5
Jarret, Raymond C. . . . . 8	Stone, Carrie S. . . . . 102
	Zamora, Christine A. . . . . 22

## PLANT PATHOLOGY SECTION

### Compiled by Robert M. Leahy

For this period, the Plant Pathology section received and processed 955 specimens. These included 540 pathology, 7 miscellaneous, and 15 soil samples. The section performed 393 citrus canker diagnoses, including full pathogenicity tests on 39 samples from South East Florida, 7 from Central Gulf Coast Florida, 22 from Southwest Gulf Coast Florida, 25 from Central Florida, and 3 from North Florida.

#### ORNAMENTALS, WOODY PLANTS AND PALMS:

- Cassia fistula* (cassia)-- *Phyllachora canafistulae* F. Stevens & N. Dalbey, **tar spot**: Collected at a dooryard in West Palm Beach (Palm Beach County; P2003-0777; Santiago; 27 March 2003).
- Ilex crenata* (holly)-- *Thielaviopsis basicola* (Berk. & Broome) Ferraris, **black root rot**: Collected at a nursery in Callahan (Nassau County; P2003-0527; Flewellyn W. Podris; 18 March 2003).
- Juniperus virginiana* (red cedar)-- *Phomopsis juniperovora* Hahn, **twig blight**: Collected at a nursery in Morriston (Leon County; P2003-0798; W. Wayne Bailey; 8 April 2003).
- Loropetalum chinense* (Chinese loropetalum)-- *Pseudocercospora* sp., **leaf spot**: Collected at a nursery in Lake City (Columbia County; P2003-0511; M. 'Janie' Echols; 3 March 2003).
- Loropetalum chinense* (chinese loropetalum)-- *Pseudocercospora* sp., **leaf spot**: Collected at a nursery in Tampa (Hillsborough County; P2003-0929; Thomas S. Lastrapes; 18 April 2003).
- Melaleuca viminalis* (bottle brush), *Syzygium jambos* (rose apple), *S. paniculatum* (Australian brush cherry)-- *Puccinia psidii* G. Wint., **leaf rust**: Collected at one nursery in Collier County and three dooryards in Broward and Collier Counties (P2003-0995, 0800, 0865, and 0731; Scott D. Krueger, R. Hernandez, F. Burgos, & Caldwell; 1, 4, 11, and 28 April 2003).
- Phyllostachys* sp. (bamboo)-- *Puccinia phyllostachydis* Kusano, **leaf rust**: Collected at a nursery in Winter Park (Orange County; P2003-0584; Terrence D. Williams; 13 March 2003).
- Plumeria rubra* (frangipani)-- *Coleosporium plumeriae* Pat., **leaf rust**: Collected at a dooryard in Marathon (Monroe County; P2003-0516; Lynn D. Howerton; 5 March 2003).
- Rhaphiolepis indica* (India-hawthorn)-- *Phytophthora* sp., **leaf, stem blight**: Collected at nine nurseries in Alachua (3), Brevard, Columbia, Levy, Hillsborough, Seminole and Volusia Counties (P2003-0535, 0536, 0560, 0696, 0740, 0821, 0854, 0855, and 0864; Tommy Jordon, Amanda D. Melco, M. 'Janie' Echols, Greg A. Brown, Raymond C. Jarrett, Christine A. Zamora, and Alan R. Haynes; 13 and 19 March, 1, 8, 11, and 15 April 2003).
- Rhododendron* sp. (azalea)-- *Exobasidium vaccinii* (Fuckel) Woromin, **leaf gall**: Collected at one dooryard and two nurseries in Alachua and Clay Counties (P2003-0788, 0795, and 0899; E. Schedow, Christine A. Zamora, and Sol F. Looker; 8 and 14 April 2003).
- Viburnum* sp. (viburnum)-- *Plasmopara viburni* Peck, **downy mildew**: Collected at four nurseries and one dooryard in Alachua, Broward, Hillsborough (2), and Orange Counties (P2003-0823, 0843, 0890, 0924, and 0930; Jim R. Martin, Greg A. Brown, Larry Smith, Alan R. Haynes, Thomas S. Lastrapes, and Luis A. Arocho; 4, 9, 10, 17, and 18 April 2003).

#### ORNAMENTALS, FOLIAGE PLANTS:

- Rumohra adiantiformis* (leatherleaf fern)-- *Colletotrichum acutatum* J.H. Simmonds, **anthracnose**: Collected at a dooryard in Welaka (Putnam County; P2003-0568; Robert Royers; 17 March 2003).
- Senecio cineraria* (dusty miller)-- *Alternaria cinerariae* S. Hori & Enjoji, **leaf spot**: Collected at a nursery in Tampa (Hillsborough County; P2003-0742; Alan R. Haynes; 31 March 2003).

**ORNAMENTALS, FLOWERING PLANTS:**

- Adenium obesum* (desert rose)-- *Cucumber Mosaic Cucumovirus*, **virus**: Collected at a dooryard in Ft. Pierce (St. Lucie County; P2003-0592; Atkins; 7 March 2003). NEW HOST RECORD
- Antirrhinum majus* (snapdragon)-- *Puccinia antirrhini* Dietel & Holw., **leaf, stem rust**: Collected at a dooryard in Alachua (Alachua County; P2003-0719; Christine A. Zamora; 2 April 2003).
- Asclepias curassavica* (milkweed)-- *Uromyces asclepiadis* Cooke, **leaf rust**: Collected at a nursery in Miami (Dade County; P2003-0964; Gwen H. Myres; 21 April 2003).
- Helianthemum nashii* (helianthemum)-- *Pseudocercospora* sp., **leaf spot**: Collected at a dooryard in Paisley (Lake County; P2003-2214; Harry L. Morrison and Tom L. Phillips; 28 April 2003). NEW HOST RECORD
- Iris virginica* (iris)-- *Puccinia iridis* Wallr. in Rabenh., **leaf rust**: Collected at a nursery in Floral City (Citrus County; P2003-0893; Robert W. Dudley; 16 April 2003).
- Lupinus villosus* (lupine)-- *Pseudocercospora lupini* (Cooke) Deighton, **leaf spot**: Collected at a dooryard in Middleburg (Clay County; P2003-0876; Christine A. Zamora; 16 April 2003).
- Pelargonium x hortorum* (geranium)-- *Xanthomonas hortorum* pv. *pelargonii* (Brown) Vauterin, Hoste, Kersters & Swings, **bacterial leaf spot**: Collected at nurseries in Alachua and Dade Counties (P2003-0674 and P2003-0855; Terril Nell and Rosa Maria Quinones; 28 March 2003 and 16 April 2003).
- Scutellaria* sp. (scutellaria)-- *Potexvirus* related to *Papaya Mosaic*, **virus**: Collected at a nursery in Atlantic Beach (Duval County; P2003-0819; Christine J. Frere; 9 April 2003).
- Verbena* sp. (verbena)-- *Potexvirus* related to *Papaya Mosaic*, **virus**: Collected at a nursery in Gainesville (Alachua County; P2002-5142; K. Hansen; verified 22 May 2003).

**FOREST AND SHADE TREES:**

- Celtis laevigata* (hackberry)-- *Tomato Yellow Leaf Curl*, **virus**: Collected at a dooryard in High Springs (Alachua County; P2003-0816; Lisa Williams; 10 April 2003). NEW HOST RECORD
- Quercus incana* (bluejack oak)-- *Tubakia dryina* (Sacc.) Sutton, **leaf spot**: Collected at a dooryard in Middleburg (Clay County; P2003-0875; Christine J. Frere; 16 April 2003).

**FOOD OR CROP PLANTS:**

- Arachis glabrata* (perennial peanut)-- *Peanut Stunt Cucumovirus*, **virus**: Collected at a dooryard in Brooksville (Hernando County; P2003-0531; Mimi Williams; 10 March 2003).
- Morus nigra* (black mulberry)-- *Phloeospora maculans* (Berenger) Allesch., **leaf spot**: Collected at a dooryard in Tampa (Hillsborough County; P2003-0922; Alan R. Haynes; 16 April 2003).
- Rubus cuneifolius* (blackberry)-- *Arthuriomyces peckianus* (E. Howe) Cummins & Y. Hiratsuka, **leaf rust**: Collected at a nursery in Alachua (Alachua County; P2003-0608; Christine A. Zamora; 20 March 2003).
- Triticum aestivum* (Spring wheat)-- *Puccinia striiformis* Westend., **leaf rust**: Collected at a dooryard in Quincy (Gadsden County; P2003-0898; Ann Blount; 17 April 2003). NEW STATE RECORD
- Vaccinium corymbosum* (blueberry)-- *Cephaleuros virescens* Kunze, parasitic alga: Collected at a commercial operation in Gainesville (Alachua County; P2003-0985; Jeff Williamson; 24 April 2003). NEW HOST RECORD

**WEEDS AND GRASSES:**

- Duchesnea indica* (Indian strawberry)-- *Frommeella mexicana* (Mains) J.W. McCain & Hennen,

**leaf rust:** Collected at a dooryard in Marianna (Jackson County; P2003-0565; Larry W. Smith; 12 March 2003).

*Pueraria montana* (kudzu)-- *Pseudocercospora puerariicola* (W. Yamamoto) Deighton, **leaf spot:** Collected at five dooryards in three counties, Alachua, Dade, and Hernando Counties (P2003-0691, 0781, 0784, 0785, and P2003-0872; Dr. Shabbir A. Rizvi and Jodi L. Hansen; 7, 8, 16, and 28 March 2003).

*Schinus terebinthifolius* (Brazilian pepper)-- *Sphaeropsis tumefaciens* Hedges, **stem gall:** Collected at a dooryard in Clearwater (Pinellas County; P2003-0894; Ralph J. McNeill; 10 April 2003).

*Solanum americanum* (American nightshade)-- *Tomato Spotted Wilt Tospovirus*, **virus:** Collected at a dooryard in Ft. Pierce (St. Lucie County; P2003-0710; Atkins; 28 March 2003). NEW HOST RECORD

*Spartina bakeri* (spartina)-- *Puccinia sparganioides* Ellis & Barth., **leaf rust:** Collected at a nursery in Gainesville (Alachua County; P2003-0642; Christine A. Zamora; 24 March 2003).

*Youngia japonica* (hawksbeard)-- *Septoria crepidis* Westend., **leaf spot:** Collected at a dooryard in Gainesville (Alachua County; P2003-0931; Dr. Timothy S. Schubert; 21 April 2003).

#### **OTHER DETECTIONS OF SPECIAL INTEREST:**

*Phoradendron leucarpum* (mistletoe)-- *Meliola* sp., **black mildew** and *Pseudocercospora* sp., **leaf spot:** Collected at a dooryard in Ft. Pierce (St. Lucie County; P2003-0667; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 20 March 2003).

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