

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

For this period, 93 specimens were submitted to the Botany Section for identification, and 1,285 were received from other sections for identification/name verification for a total of 1,378. Also during this period, 47 specimens were added to the herbarium. Some of the samples sent in for identification are discussed below.

*Aristolochia serpentaria* L. (A genus of 120 species in the tropical and warm temperate regions of both hemispheres.) Aristolochiaceae. **Virginia snakeroot.** This is a curious little plant, native to rich woods throughout much of the eastern United States from Texas and Florida to Connecticut and Illinois. Because it is infrequent through much of its range and not conspicuous, this species is by no means a familiar wildflower. Unlike the great majority of species in its genus, which are high-climbing vines, this is an erect or sprawling herb to 30 cm tall. The leaves are variable in shape, usually narrowly ovate to oblong with a cordate base, but occasionally narrowly hastate with divergent basal lobes. The upper leaves may be as much as 10 cm long, but the lower ones are always greatly reduced. The flowers are borne on branched stalks near the base of the plant. The sepals are fused into a purplish or brownish tube 1-1.5 cm long that is abruptly bent above the middle and flared at the three-lobed mouth. Petals are absent. The subglobose capsules dehisce into a star-shaped, six-lobed structure as much as 4 cm across. "Turpentine-like" has been used to describe the odor of the fresh roots, but to me, they smell of menthol. (Escambia County; B2005-579; William L. Robinson; 12 October 2005) (Fernald 1950)

*Carissa macrocarpa* (Eckl.) A. DC. (A genus of 37 species in the warmer parts of the Old World from southern Africa to Australia.) Apocynaceae. **Natal plum.** This is a dense shrub to 5 m tall, native to coastal regions of South Africa. The shrub is widely cultivated in tropical and subtropical regions, mostly for its ornamental flowers and foliage, and occasionally for its fruits as well. Like most members of the Apocynaceae, the plant's tissues contain a thick white latex which oozes out whenever a leaf or twig is injured or broken. Rigid, bifurcate spines, a dense habit and stiff, coriaceous leaves make the plant very effective as a barrier or hedge. The 2-5 cm long leaves are opposite, dark glossy green and short petiolate with a short spine-like tip. Showy, white, pinwheel-like, sweetly fragrant flowers with five narrow lobes are borne in few-flowered clusters at the tips of the branchlets. They are followed by elliptical fleshy fruits that are 5-6 cm long and dark red when ripe. By then, the latex has mostly disappeared, and the fruits are juicy and edible, including the few flat seeds in the center. In cultivation, fruit-set is often poor due to partial self-incompatibility of many clones or lack of a suitable pollinator, but several reliably fruitful clones have been selected and named. Several clones have also been selected for their ornamental attributes. (Broward County; B2005-560; Michael Patterson, USDA; 29 September 2005) (Morton 1987)

*Elaeocarpus sylvestris* (Lour.) Poir. (A genus of perhaps 360 species native to tropical and warm temperate regions of the Old World, except for Africa.) Elaeocarpaceae. **Japanese blueberry tree.** This species is a relatively new addition to our cultivated flora, and many nurseries list it under its synonym *E. decipiens* Hemsl. ex Forbes & Hemsl. The tree is widespread in eastern Asia, from central Japan to Indochina, with the Japanese plants hardy to 10 degrees F.

Although the evergreen tree can reach 20 m in the wild, it is usually much smaller, even shrubby, in cultivation. The alternate leaves are narrowly elliptic to oblanceolate, 8-12 cm long, with shallowly crenate margins. The young leaves are bronze, but turn lustrous dark green, then finally red as they senesce. The small fragrant flowers, nodding from axillary racemes, have five white deeply fringed petals and develop into 2 cm long, blue-black, olive-like drupes. Several dwarf cultivars are available for foundation plantings or as hedges. (Hillsborough County; B2005-586; Richard A. White; 20 October 2005) (Walker 1976)

*Jacquemontia pentanthos* (Jacq.) G. Don. (A genus of about 100 species primarily native to the American tropics with a few species in the Old World and others in the warmer parts of the United States.) Convolvulaceae. **Skyblue clustervine.** This herbaceous perennial vine is widely distributed in tropical America. In the hammocks of southernmost Florida, where it is rare and listed as endangered by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, this slender vine reaches its northern limit. This beautiful plant generally twines through and over other vegetation, but occasionally sprawls on the ground. The alternate leaves are usually 3-5 cm long, narrowly ovate and cordate or truncate at the base. The 2-cm wide flowers resemble tiny, bright blue morning glories and are borne in axillary, congested cymose inflorescences on peduncles that are longer than the leaves. Although only one or two flowers in each inflorescence are open at once, a mature plant is very showy in bloom, and the species is sometimes cultivated as an ornamental. (Miami-Dade County; B2005-572; Olga Garcia; 14 October 2005) (Coile 2003)

*Laportea aestuans* (L.) Chew (A genus of 21 mostly tropical species, especially in Africa and Madagascar, with a few in temperate eastern North American and temperate eastern Asia.) Urticaceae. **West Indian woodnettle.** This coarse annual is now essentially pantropical in distribution. Until recently, it had been reported in Florida only from the extreme south, but we have seen specimens from Alachua and Bradford counties in the last several years. It grows to a meter tall, and in general, most parts are covered with both stinging and glandular hairs. The alternate, thin-textured leaves are broadly ovate to nearly orbicular, shortly acuminate at the apex and somewhat auriculate at the base, with a coarsely serrate to dentate margin. They measure 10-20 cm in length and 5-15 cm in width. Flat-topped panicles of small, greenish-white flowers are borne from the upper leaf axils. Closely related species produce a very strong fiber, but it is not commercially important. (Bradford County; B2005-581; John Steyer; 13 October 2005) (Boufford 1997)

*Murdannia nudiflora* (L.) Brenan (A genus of ca. 50 species widely distributed in the warm parts of both hemispheres.) Commelinaceae. **Doveweed, dewflower.** Although it is a rather pretty little plant, this species is rapidly becoming a serious weed of lawns and ornamental plantings in the southeastern United States. Native to the Asian tropics and widely naturalized in tropical America, this species has become established in the United States from Virginia to Texas, mostly on the Coastal Plain. The plant is an annual found throughout Florida, where the plant grows rapidly from midsummer through early fall. The fleshy stems are decumbent and seldom reach more than 10 cm tall. The 4-8 cm long leaves are linear and fleshy, and the plant is often mistaken for a grass until it blooms, usually in the early fall. The flowers are about a centimeter across, with three blue or purplish petals, and like those of most Commelinaceae, are only open for a few hours during the brightest part of the day.

Besides being a nuisance in ornamental plantings, there is mounting evidence that *M. nudiflora* can cause severe contact dermatitis in dogs. (Volusia County; B2005-580; Chandler Smith; 13 October 2005) (Mabberley 1997)

*Prunus cerasifera* Ehrh. (A genus of 200 or so species distributed throughout north temperate areas.) Rosaceae. **Cherry plum, purple-leaf plum.** The wild plant is native from Asia Minor through the Caucasus into Central Asia, where it forms a small, shrubby tree to 9 m tall. The alternate, deciduous leaves are as much as 6 cm long, ovate to elliptic, with finely serrate margins. Often, as with many *Prunus* species, a pair of glands can be found at the base of the leaf blade, near the point of petiole attachment. The small flowers with five white petals are borne singly on short stalks from buds on the old wood. In late summer, red or yellow edible plum-like fruits mature and may grow to 3 cm in diameter. This plant is known in cultivation almost entirely by its cultivars with purple leaves. The original purple-leaf cultivar, 'Atropurpurea,' was introduced to Europe from Iran around 1880. New leaves open ruby red, then mature to a deep reddish purple, but often fade by the end of the summer. Flowers have pink petals, and the fruits are purplish. Introduced in 1923, 'Newport' has improved hardiness. Cultivars in which the purple color of the leaves is darker and persists later in the season include 'Thundercloud' and 'Mt. St. Helens.' The species and its cultivars are plagued by a host of pests and diseases, and the effects of these are worsened by the hot, muggy summers in the deep South. (Hamilton County; B2005-591; M. Janie Echols; 24 October 2005) (Dirr 1990)

*Schotia brachypetala* Sond. (A genus of five species restricted to southern Africa.) Leguminosae- (Fabaceae-) Caesalpinoideae. **Tree fuchsia, weeping boerboon.** Native to dry savannahs and scrub forest from Botswana and Mozambique through much of South Africa, this tree can grow to 15 m tall in the wild with a trunk diameter of 60 cm. Although this species is a common street tree in Australia, it is rarely cultivated in the United States and would probably not prosper north of St. Petersburg, Florida. In cooler climates, the foliage is deciduous with the new leaves brightly colored, emerging as rose or ruby red, changing to copper, then finally turning green. The leaves are up to 17 cm long, alternate and even-pinnately compound, with four to seven pairs of opposite, oblong or obovate leaflets. In South Florida, flowering begins in February and March, often while the trees are leafless, with flowers borne in axillary panicles on the old wood. Petals are absent or inconspicuous, but the bright crimson sepals and stamens are quite showy. The flowers produce nectar so copiously that it reportedly overflows and drips to the ground, giving rise to the common name "weeping" boerboon. The flowers are followed by large flat pods to 12 cm long and 5 cm broad. These fruits dehisce in an odd manner with the sides of the valves falling away, leaving the margins intact with the seeds attached, while the pods are still hanging on the branches. The seeds are edible after roasting or boiling. (Pinellas County; B2005-587; Gabriela M. Bernard; 18 October 2005) (Palmer and Pitman 1972)

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## ENTOMOLOGY SECTION

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

For the month of September, there were 590 samples, consisting of 41,421+ specimens. In October, there were 678 samples, consisting of 37,440+ specimens. Some of the samples are listed below:

#### ORNAMENTALS, WOODY PLANTS AND PALMS:

*Morus alba* (white mulberry) -- *Aceria mori* (Keifer), **an eriophyid mite**: A slight infestation was found in Coral Gables (Miami-Dade County; E2005-5458; Olga Garcia; 28 September 2005). NEW DPI STATE RECORD. This species was recorded previously from California, Kansas and South Dakota. No plant damage has been reported (Dr. W.C. 'Cal' Welbourn).

*Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A severe infestation was found at a nursery in Oviedo (Seminole County; E2005-5620; Tirzah M. Lyons; 10 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD. A moderate infestation was found at a nursery near Immokalee (Hendry County; E2005-5680; Lori A. Richards; Jo Ann Pate, Alan D. Chisholm, Richard L. Blaney and Walter W. Golden; 13 October 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Phoenix roebelenii* (pygmy date palm) -- *Ceroplastes rusci* (Linnaeus), **fig wax scale**: A slight infestation was found on one of two plants at a discount store in Sebring (Highlands County; E2005-6236; Yen M. Dao and Greg S. Hodges; 3 November 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Phoenicococcus marlatti* (Cockerell), **red date scale**: An infestation was found at a residence in Bradenton (Manatee County; E2005-5711; homeowner; 7 October 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Phoenix* sp. (a palm) -- *Zaprionus indianus* Gupta, **a fruit fly**: A moderate infestation was found in fruit collected on the ground in Fort Pierce (St. Lucie County; E2005-6354; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 27 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Rhapis excelsa* (lady palm) -- *Anageshna primordialis* (Dyar), **a pyralid moth**: A slight infestation was found on two plants at a USDA facility in Fort Pierce (St. Lucie County; E2005-5771; Cindy L. McKenzie, USDA/ARS; 11 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

#### ORNAMENTALS, FOLIAGE PLANTS:

*Euphorbia obesa* (baseball plant) -- *Ferrisia virgata* (Cockerell), **striped mealybug**: A moderate infestation on 300 of 500 plants was found at a nursery in Apopka (Orange County; E2005-5065; Leslie J. Wilbur; 9 September 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Inga* sp. (ice-cream bean) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found at a nursery in Immokalee (Hendry County; E2005-5689; Lori A. Richards, Jo Ann Pate, Alan D. Chisholm, Richard L. Blaney and Walter W. Golden; 13 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Ixora* sp. (ixora) -- *Myloccerus undatus* Marshall, **a weevil**: A moderate infestation was found at a residence in Miami Shores (Miami-Dade County; E2005-1195; Hevys Guerrero; 11 March 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Murraya paniculata* (orange jessamine, orange jasmine, Chinese box) -- *Aleuroclava jasmini* (Takahashi), **a whitefly**: A slight infestation was found at a discount store in Sebring

(Highlands County; E2005-6255; Yen M. Dao and Greg S. Hodges; 3 November 2005).  
NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Philodendron* sp., (philodendron) -- *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood, **chili thrips**: An infestation was found at the UF/IFAS Mid-Florida Research and Education Center in Apopka (Orange County; E2005-6372; Lance S. Osborn, University of Florida, IFAS; 10 November 2005).  
NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Stromanthe sanguinea* (stromanthe, never-never plant) -- *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood, **chili thrips**: An infestation was found at the UF/IFAS Mid-Florida Research and Education Center, Apopka (Orange County; E2005-6371; Lance S. Osborn, University of Florida, IFAS; 10 November 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

### ORNAMENTALS, FLOWERING PLANTS:

*Allamanda schottii* (bush allamanda) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found on 12 plants at a residence in Tarpon Springs (Pinellas County; E2005-5231; Thomas S. Lastrapes; 22 September 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Artabotrys hexapetalus* (climbing ylang-ylang) -- *Zaprionus indianus* Gupta, **a fruit fly**: A moderate infestation was found in ripe fruit collected from the ground in Jensen Beach (Martin County; E2005-5777; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 3 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Gaillardia pulchella* (fire-wheel, Indian blanket) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A moderate infestation on all of eight plants was found at a discount store in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2005-5073; Christine A. Zamora; 14 September 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* (hibiscus) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found at a discount store in Jacksonville (Duval County; E2005-4930; Cheryl A. Jones; 7 September 2005). A slight infestation was found at a discount store in Sarasota (Sarasota County; E2005-4953; K. Lea Etchels and Mark L. Runnals; 7 September 2005). A severe infestation was found on two plants at a residence in Port Richey (Pasco County; E2005-4969; Diane E. Bozeman; 6 September 2005). A slight infestation was found at a discount store in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2005-5072; Christine A. Zamora; 14 September 2005). A severe infestation was found at a discount store in Daytona Beach (Volusia County; E2005-5193; Raymond C. Jarrett; 21 September 2005). A moderate infestation on all of three plants was found at a discount store in Bradenton (Manatee County; E2005-5242; Albert L. Wright; 22 September 2005). A moderate infestation on all of 1,000 plants was found at a nursery in Zolfo Springs (Hardee County; E2005-5461; Carrie S. Stone; 29 September 2005). A moderate-severe infestation was found on 60 of 62 plants at a discount store in Leesburg (Lake County; E2005-5587; Wayne L. Nichols and Lyman M. Hatcher; 7 October 2005). A severe infestation was found on all of 29 plants at a discount store in Dunnellon (Marion County; E2005-5782; Cheryl A. Jones; 18 October 2005). A moderate infestation was found on all of seven plants at a residence in Auburndale (Polk County; E2005-6229; Georgina Becerra and Linda C. Webb; 2 November 2005). A moderate infestation on six of 26 plants was found at a discount store in Sebring (Highlands County; E2005-6245; Yen M. Dao and Greg S. Hodges; 3 November 2005). All finds are NEW DPI COUNTY RECORDS.

- Hypoestes aristata* (ribbon bush) -- *Insignorthesia insignis* (Browne), **greenhouse orthezid**: A moderate-severe infestation was found on a plant at a residence in Palmetto (Manatee County; E2005-5219; Mark L. Runnals; 21 September 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Jasminum sambac* (Arabian jasmine) -- *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood, **chili thrips**: A severe infestation was found at a residence in Palm Beach (Palm Beach County; E2005-5714; homeowner and B. Marie Clark; 13 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD, NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Jatropha integerrima* (peregrina) -- *Philephedra tuberculosa* Nakahara & Gill, **a soft scale**: A severe infestation was found at a nursery in Brooker (Bradford County; E2005-5772; Christine A. Zamora; 18 October 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Justicia brandegeana* (shrimp plant) -- *Asterolecanium pustulans* (Cockerell), **oleander pit scale**: An infestation was found on all of 15 plants at a discount store in Orange Park (Clay County; E2005-5052; M. Janie Echols; 13 September 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Leonotis leonurus* (lion's-ear) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found on a plant at a residence in Tarpon Springs (Pinellas County; E2005-5566; Thomas S. Lastrapes; 30 September 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Rosa* sp. (rose) -- *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood, **chili thrips**: A severe infestation was found at a residence in Palm Beach (Palm Beach County; E2005-5676; homeowner and B. Marie Clark; 13 October 2005). A slight infestation was found at a discount store in Mount Dora (Lake County; E2005-5988; James R. Holm and Mary C. Sellers; 26 October 2005). A slight infestation was found at a discount store in Spring Hill (Hernando County; E2005-5999; Wayne L. Nichols; 27 October 2005). A slight infestation was found at a discount store in Inverness (Citrus County; E2005-6098, 6099; Wayne L. Nichols; 28 October 2005). A slight infestation was found at a discount store in Lake Mary (Seminole County; E2005-6127, 6128; Tracey Jensen; 28 October 2005). A slight infestation was found at a discount store in Summerfield (Sumter County; E2005-6215, 6217; Harry L. Morrison and Mary C. Sellers; 3 November 2005). A moderate infestation was found at a nursery in Auburndale (Polk County; E2005-6225; John P. Tice and Linda C. Webb; 3 November 2005). A slight infestation was found at a discount store in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2005-6312, 6318; Christine A. Zamora; 8 November 2005). A slight infestation was found at a discount store in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2005-6331; Eduardo G. Camero; 8 November 2005). A moderate infestation was found at a discount store in Pinellas Park (Pinellas County; E2005-6366, 6368; David M. Mooney; 9 November 2005). An infestation on three plants was found at a discount store in Key West (Monroe County; E2005-6445, 6446, 6448; Edward T. Putland and Eduardo G. Camero; 9 November 2005). All finds are NEW DPI COUNTY RECORDS.
- Schaueria flavicoma* (golden plume) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found on three plants at a nursery in Big Pine Key (Monroe County; E2005-6081; Lynn D. Howerton; 13 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Tabernaemontana divaricata* (crepe jasmine, pinwheel gardenia) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: An infestation on six plants was found at a discount store in Orange Park (Clay County; E2005-5051; M. Janie Echols; 13 September 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

**FOREST AND SHADE TREES:**

*Persea* sp. (red bay) -- *Xyleborus glabratus* Eichhoff, **a scolytid beetle**: Several specimens were collected from the outer sapwood of a dead red bay with extensive fungal staining in the xylem in Jacksonville (Duval County; E2005-5507; Albert E. 'Bud' Mayfield and Jeffrey M. Eickwort, both Division of Forestry; 4 October 2005). NEW DPI STATE RECORD.

**FOOD AND CROP PLANTS:**

*Anacardium occidentale* (cashew, maranon) -- *Zaprionus indianus* Gupta, **a fruit fly**: Several specimens emerged from fruit collected in Fort Pierce (St. Lucie County; E2005-5060; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 27 July 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Artocarpus heterophyllus* (jackfruit) -- *Ditrymacus integrifoliae* Mohanasundaram, **an eriophyid mite**: An infestation was found at the UF/IFAS Tropical Research and Education Center in Homestead (Miami-Dade County; E2005-5741; Jorge E. Peña, University of Florida, IFAS; 30 September 2005). NEW USA RECORD. This species is known only from collections on jackfruit trees. The mites are found as vagrants in buds and under leaf surfaces with no reported damage to the plants. Related mite species live on olive trees (Dr. W.C. 'Cal' Welbourn).

*Capsicum* sp. (pepper) -- *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood, **chili thrips**: A moderate infestation was found at a nursery in Orlando (Orange County; E2005-5929; Lance S. Osborne, University of Florida, IFAS; 21 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD. A slight infestation was found at a discount store in Punta Gorda (Charlotte County; E2005-6377; Richard L. Blaney; 9 November 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. A moderate infestation was found at a discount store in Key Largo (Monroe County; E2005-6449; Eduardo G. Camero and Edward T. Putland; 9 November 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Dimocarpus longan* (longan) -- *Zaprionus indianus* Gupta, **a fruit fly**: Several specimens emerged from ripe fruit picked off a tree in Fort Pierce (St. Lucie County; E2005-4776; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 26 July 2005). NEW USA CONTINENTAL RECORD.

*Ficus carica* (common fig) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A slight infestation was found at a residence in Port Richey (Pasco County; E2005-4970; Diane E. Bozeman; 6 September 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Malpighia emarginata* (Barbados cherry, acerola) -- *Zaprionus indianus* Gupta, **a fruit fly**: Several specimens emerged from ripe fruit picked in Fort Pierce (St. Lucie County; E2005-4775; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 26 July 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Malus pumila* (common apple) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A severe infestation was found at a nursery in Oviedo (Seminole County; E2005-5619; Tirzah M. Lyons; 10 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Passiflora* sp. (passion fruit) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found at a nursery near Immokalee (Hendry County; E2005-5685; Lori A. Richards, Jo Ann Pate, Alan D. Chisholm, Richard L. Blaney and Walter W. Golden; 13 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Pimenta* sp. (probably allspice or bay rum) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A severe infestation was found at a nursery in Oviedo (Seminole County; E2005-5625; Tirzah M. Lyons and Leslie J. Wilber; 11 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Psidium guajava* (common guava, apple guava) -- *Zaprionus indianus* Gupta, **a fruit fly**: Over 100 specimens emerged from ripe fruit collected off the ground in Fort Drum (Okeechobee

County; E2005-5358; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 16 September 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD, NEW DPI HOST RECORD. A severe infestation in fruit was found in Vero Beach (Indian River County; E2005-6072; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 4 October 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Piper methysticum* (kava, kava-kava) -- *Pulvinaria urbicola* Cockerell, **urbicola soft scale**: A slight infestation was found on one of five plants at a residence in Clermont (Lake County; E2005-5346; Anthony Puppelo; 25 September 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Punica granatum* (pomegranate) -- *Zaprionus indianus* Gupta, **a fruit fly**: Several specimens emerged from three damaged fruit collected in Fort Pierce (St. Lucie County; E2005-6034; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 2 September 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

### CITRUS:

*Citrus aurantiifolia* (lime) -- *Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama, **Asian citrus psyllid**: A slight infestation was found on about ten plants at a discount store in Marianna (Jackson County; E2005-5968; Susan E. Halbert; 26 October 2005). Both citrus and *Murraya paniculata* were infested in discount stores in Marianna, but no *D. citri* were found in local satsuma groves in a survey of the area. NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Citrus sinensis* (sweet orange) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A severe infestation was found at a residence in Rockledge (Brevard County; E2005-5453; Angelina M. Toral; 28 September 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Zaprionus indianus* Gupta, **a fruit fly**: Several specimens emerged from four ripe fruit collected from the ground in Vero Beach (Indian River County; E2005-6591; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 31 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

### WEEDS AND GRASSES:

*Alternanthera sessilis* (sessile joyweed) -- *Hypogeococcus pungens* Granara de Willink, **a mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found on all of 25 plants at a nursery in Venice (Sarasota County; E2005-5017; K. Lea Etchells; 9 September 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD, NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Leguminosae (a weedy legume) -- *Icerya* sp. nr. *rileyi* Cockerell, **a margarodid scale**: An infestation was found at Port Everglades in Hollywood (Broward County; E2005-3743; Margarita A. Lahens and Heather N. Hursh, USDA/APHIS/PPQ, 7 July 2005). NEW USA CONTINENTAL RECORD. This is an invasive scale. Its origin is not entirely clear, but according to DNA data, this species matches an unidentified species collected in Aruba and Brazil (Dr. Greg S. Hodges).

*Pilea microphylla* (rockweed, artillery plant) -- *Rhizoecus floridanus* Hambleton, **a root mealybug**: An infestation was found in a DPI greenhouse in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2005-6129; Susan E. Halbert; 30 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Polygonum microcephalum* (smart weed) -- *Paracoccus marginatus* Williams & Granara de Willink, **papaya mealybug**: A slight infestation was found at the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2005-5505; Christine A. Zamora and Stephen A. Hildebrandt; 5 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Psidium cattleianum* (Cattley guava, strawberry guava) -- *Zaprionus indianus* Gupta, **a fruit fly**: A few specimens were reared from ripe fruit picked up off the ground in Martin County; E2005-5280; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 8 September 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

- Ruellia brittoniana* (Mexican petunia) -- *Melanagromyza ruelliae* Spencer, **an agromyid fly**: A severe infestation was found in fruit collected in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2005-6136; Lisa A. Huey, University of Florida; 28 October 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Saccharum ravennae* (pampas grass) -- *Duplachionaspis divergens* Green, **an armored scale**: A moderate infestation was found on a plant in the Veterans Memorial at Kanapaha Park in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2005-5508; Christine A. Zamora; 5 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Solanum diphyllum* (twoleaf nightshade) -- *Paratachardina lobata* Chamberlin, **lobate lac scale**: A severe infestation was found on a plant at a residence in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2005-5756; Olga Garcia; 13 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Solanum torvum* (Thai eggplant, turkeyberry, susumber, devil's-fig, gullybean) -- *Phenacoccus solani* Ferris, **solanum mealybug**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at a small farm in Palm City (Martin County; E2005-5700; Kenneth L. Hibbard, Brian D. Saunders, Greg S. Hodges and Susan E. Halbert; 12 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Sphagnetocola trilobata* (creeping oxeye, wedelia) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: An infestation was found at a nursery in Bradenton (Manatee County; E2005-5773; Mark L. Runnals; 17 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Thysanolaena latifolia* (tiger grass) -- *Duplachionaspis divergens* Green, **an armored scale**: A slight infestation was found on two of 20 plants at a discount store in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2005-6314; Christine A. Zamora; 8 November 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Tripsacum floridanum* (Florida eastern gamagrass, dwarf Fakahatchee grass) -- *Duplachionaspis divergens* Green, **an armored scale**: A moderate infestation was found on six plants at a discount store in Sebring (Highlands County; E2005-6250; Yen M. Dao and Greg S. Hodges; 3 November 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

#### NATIVE AND NATURALIZED PLANTS:

- Annona glabra* (pond apple) -- *Zaprionus indianus* Gupta, **a fruit fly**: About 60 reared specimens emerged from ripe fruit collected on the ground in Port Salerno (Martin Co.; E2005-5000; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 9 September 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD; NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. More infested fruit was found at the UF/IFAS Ft. Lauderdale Research and Education Center in Davie (Broward County; E2005-5191; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 9 September 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Chiococca alba* (snowberry, West Indian milkberry) -- *Icerya purchasi* Maskell, **cottony cushion scale**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at a residence in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2005-6039; Olga Garcia; 14 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Illicium floridanum* (Florida anise, purple anise, stink-bush) -- *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood, **chili thrips**: A slight infestation was found at a nursery in Williston (Levy County; E2005-6470; Floyd J. McHenry; 10 November 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD, NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Krugiodendron ferreum* (black ironwood, leadwood) -- *Aphis spiraecola* Patch, **spirea aphid**: An infestation was found along a roadside in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2005-5207; Olga Garcia; 21 September 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.
- Morus rubra* (red mulberry) -- *Tetranychus merganser* Boudreaux, **a spider mite**: A moderate infestation was found on a plant at a residence in Fort Myers (Lee County; E2005-4852; David L. Renz and Patricia L. McMackins, USDA/APHIS; 29 August 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A moderate infestation on 20 of 25 plants was found at a nursery near Immokalee (Hendry County; E2005-5686; Lori A. Richards, Jo Ann Pate, Alan D. Chisholm, Richard L. Blaney and Walter W. Golden; 13 October 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

*Psychotria nervosa* (wild coffee) -- *Dysmicoccus radinovskiyi* Miller & Miller, **a root mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found at the UF/IFAS Ft. Lauderdale Research and Education Center in Davie (Broward County; E2005-5626; Bryan Steinberg and Sergio A. Gallo, University of Florida, IFAS; 3 October 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Stachytarpheta* sp. (porterweed) -- *Paracoccus marginatus* Williams & Granara de Willink, **papaya mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found on three plants at a residence in Tarpon Springs (Pinellas County; E2005-5571; Thomas S. Lastrapes; 30 September 2005). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

#### ARTHROPOD DETECTION:

*Curtara insularis* (Caldwell), **ringspot leafhopper**: A specimen was found on a Jackson trap in a sweet orange tree in Orlando (Orange County; E2005-5112; Angel Arce, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 15 September 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Euthera tentatrix* Loew, **a tachinid fly**: A specimen was found in a Jackson trap in a sweet orange tree in Deltona (Volusia County; E2005-5473; Luis O. Torres, USDA/APHIS/PPQ, 29 September 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Griburius equestris* (Olivier), **a chrysomelid beetle**: A specimen was found in a multi-lure trap in a sweet orange tree in Thonotosassa (Hillsborough County; E2005-1451; Kathleen A. Miller, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 25 March 2005). This is a rare beetle (Dr. Michael C. Thomas).

*Latrodectus geometricus* C.L. Koch, **brown widow spider**: A specimen was found in Valdosta (Lowndes County; E2005-5100; Owner; 14 September 2005).

*Myllocerus undatus* Marshall, **a weevil**: Several specimens were found in Cape Coral (Lee County; E2005-6326; James Conner; March 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Pachymerus nucleorum* (Fabricius), **a bruchid beetle**: A specimen was found on a vehicle in South Bay (Palm Beach County; E2005-5788; Adam J. Silagyi, USDA/CAPS; 5 October 2005). This is only the second known specimen from Florida of this South American species (Dr. Michael C. Thomas).

*Sobarocephala quadrimaculata* **author, a clusiid fly**: Specimens were found in a multi-lure trap in Plant City (Hillsborough County; E2005-6112; Miryam Briceno, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 27 October 2005) and Casselberry (Seminole County; E2005-5855; Oscar Orta, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 18 October 2005). Both finds are NEW DPI COUNTY RECORDS.

*Syrmococcus spirapunctus* (Lobdell), **a mealybug**: Specimens were found on mixed roots in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2005-6091; Susan E. Halbert; 29 October 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. This mealybug probably is native and may have a wide distribution in Florida. It is detected rarely due to its cryptic habitat, living on the roots of many plants in the natural environment (Dr. Greg S. Hodges).

*Trigoniulus corallinus* (Gervais), **a millipede**: Two specimens were found at a nursery in Naples (Collier County; E2005-5197; Scott D. Kreuger; 14 September 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

*Zaprionus indianus* Gupta, **a fruit fly**: A specimen was collected in a multi-lure trap in a guava tree at a residence in Boca Raton (Palm Beach County; E2005-6074; Victor L. Reaume; 29 September 2005). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

**NEMATODOLOGY SECTION**

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

A total of 2,632 samples (1,675 for morphological and for 957 molecular identifications) were processed in September and October 2005. Details are shown below:

<p><b>Certification and Regulatory Samples:</b></p> <p>Multi-state Certification for National and International Export.....1,075                  California Certification .....422                  Pre-movement (Citrus Nursery Certification) .....48                  Site or Pit Approval (Citrus Nursery and Other Certifications).....2</p>	<p><b>Other Samples:</b></p> <p>Plant Problems..... 20                  Intrastate Survey, Random ..... 108</p> <p><b>Molecular Identifications*</b> ..... 957</p> <p><small>*The majority of these analyses involved root-knot nematode species.</small></p>
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**Nematodes of Special Interest**

*Miscanthus sinensis* ‘Zebrinus’ (zebra grass) -- *Afenestrata orientalis* Kazachenco, 1990, a **cyst forming nematode** was extracted from roots of this ornamental grass (Escambia County; N05-00741, William L. Robinson, May 17, 2005). This finding is a NEW USA RECORD.

*Afenestrata orientalis* was described in the Primorsky Krai (Maritime Territory) of eastern Russia, where *Miscanthus* species are indigenous grasses. The type of Russian nematode population was collected from *M. sinensis* ‘Purpureus.’ The morphological identification of the Florida population was confirmed by the results of the molecular (rDNA) analysis conducted at the University of California, Riverside, by Dr. Sergei Subbotin. The results of the rDNA analysis of the Florida population were congruent with those of a nematode population from Russia. The nematode was probably introduced from the Far East into the American continent through the intensive trade of ornamental grasses between nurseries from the two continents. This trade may have spread the nematode into other geographical areas of the United States and other countries in the Americas. No other information is available about the distribution, host range, damage and economic importance of this cyst-forming nematode. Our report has been also posted on the website of the National Agricultural Pest Information System (U.S. Department of Agriculture-APHIS-PPQ).

**COLLECTORS SUBMITTING FIVE OR MORE SAMPLES THAT WERE PROCESSED FOR NEMATODOLOGICAL ANALYSIS DURING SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2005:**

Anderson, James L .....37	Salisbury, Thomas L ..... 39
Bailey, W. Wayne ..... 14	Spriggs, Charlie L ..... 232
LeBoutillier, Karen W..... 52	Stone, Carrie S ..... 85
Ochoa, Ana L ..... 108	Zamora, Christine A..... 20
Pate, JoAnn..... 70	
Qiao, Ping ..... 144	

## PLANT PATHOLOGY SECTION

### Compiled by Robert M. Leahy

For the period, the Plant Pathology Section received and processed 2,296 specimens. These included 544 pathology, 14 miscellaneous, 9 soil, 27 bees and 920 citrus greening samples. Full pathogenicity tests for citrus canker were performed on 27 samples. Visual inspections for citrus canker were also carried out on 31 samples from Southeast Florida, 201 from Southwest Gulf Coast Florida, 100 from Central Gulf Coast Florida, 232 from Central Florida and 191 from North Florida.

#### ORNAMENTALS, WOODY PLANTS AND PALMS:

*Rhododendron* sp. (azalea) -- *Phytophthora* sp., **leaf spot**: Collected at a nursery in Zolfo Springs, Hardee County (11 October 2005, Richard T. Bloom, P2005-03584).

#### ORNAMENTALS, FOLIAGE PLANTS:

*Plectranthus* 'Pineapple' (coleus) -- *Peronospora lamii*, **downy mildew**: Collected at a nursery in Ft. McCoy, Marion County (19 September 2005, nursery employee, P2005-03342).

#### ORNAMENTALS, FLOWERING PLANTS:

*Clethra alnifolia* (sweet pepperbush) -- *Pseudocercospora* sp., **leaf spot**: Collected at a dooryard in Quincy, Gadsden County (1 September 2005, Robert M. Leahy and Timothy S. Schubert, P2005-03267). NEW HOST RECORD.

*Sphagnetica* sp. (creeping daisy) -- *Sphaceloma* sp., **scab/spot anthracnose**: Collected at a dooryard in Hobe Sound, Martin County (8 September 2005, Kenneth L. Hibbard, P2005-03350). NEW HOST RECORD.

#### FOREST AND SHADE TREES:

*Quercus laurifolia* (laurel oak) -- *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, **trunk canker**: Collected at a nursery in Newberry by Division of Forestry staff, Alachua County (28 September 2005, David S. Conser and Edward L. Barnard, P2005-03444).

*Ulmus* sp. (elm) -- *Phloeospora ulmi* (Fr. ex Kzel) Wallr., **leaf spot**: Collected at a nursery in Alachua, Alachua County (1 September 2005, nursery employee, P2005-03247). NEW STATE RECORD.

#### FOOD OR CROPS PLANTS:

*Cucurbita pepo* (zucchini squash) -- *Microdochium tabacinum* Van Beyma, **leaf/petiole spot**: Collected at a dooryard in Sumter County (5 October 2005, homeowner, P2005-03544). NEW STATE RECORD.