International Symposium on Protected Culture in a Mild-Winter Climate

23-27 March 2004
Kissimmee, Florida, USA

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
- Emilie Brillante, SoxFarms, Inc., Wellington, FL, USA
- Daniel Cantliffe, Symposium Organizer, UF/IFAS Horticultural Sciences Department, Gainesville, FL, USA
- Bob Houchmuth, North Florida REC, Suwannee Valley, Live Oak, FL, USA
- Betsy Lamb, UF/IFAS Indian River REC, Ft. Pierce, FL, USA
- Lance Osburne, Mid-Florida REC, Apopka, FL, USA
- Fred Pettit, Epcot Science at Walt Disney World Co., Lake Buena Vista, FL, USA
- Pete Stoffella, UF/IFAS Horticultural Sciences Department, Gainesville, FL, USA
- Nicole Shaw, UF/IFAS Horticultural Sciences Department, Gainesville, FL, USA
- Eric Simmena, UF/IFAS Horticultural Sciences Department, Gainesville, FL, USA
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CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The purpose of this symposium is to gather and disseminate international expertise in the area of protected culture. The program will target worldwide concerns of production, non-chemical pest management, and global competition. The most widely used soil fumigant, methyl bromide, will no longer be available in many countries for vegetable production in 2005. Protected cultivation of horticultural crops is expanding worldwide, not only because crops can be grown without soil, but eliminating the need for methyl bromide, but also, high-quality produce is achieved using reduced chemicals, water, and other fuels inputs when grown in areas with a mild-winter climate. However, there are several worldwide concerns which will be brought to the table at the meeting in 2004, those being the challenges of soilless production such as water restrictions, reduced pesticide use and biological control of both insects and diseases, and the overall economics of such ventures, including product quality and marketing. This will be a multi-disciplinary meeting of researchers, growers, and industry members to share international information at both the practical and scientific levels.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Attendees will include academicians, scientists, students with interest in protected culture, private consultants and commercial industry representatives. Most occupations of interest will be those in research or commercial production of horticultural crops using protected cultivation, primarily vegetables and fruits and possibly cut flowers. Attendees may be involved in cultural production, pest management, postharvest fruit quality and/or economics and marketing.

TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

Map your calendar for the International Symposium on Protected Culture in a Mild-Winter Climate scheduled March 23-27, 2004 in Kissimmee, Florida, USA. This international symposium will provide numerous opportunities for participants to share up-to-date information and research, and to discuss common concerns with colleagues from around the world. This exchange of information is vital to the continued improvement and international advancement of protected culture in mild-winter climates. We invite you to join us.

Visit the symposium web site for detailed information. Submit your abstract online, register for the symposium and even fill out about airline, hotel and other travel arrangements. And, you will be able to conveniently pay for your registration fee with a Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express credit card. So take a moment to add the symposium web site address to your bookmark list.

http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/ISHS

SYMPOSIUM OBJECTIVE

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INTRODUCTION

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FIELD TOUR

An all-day tour of commercial ornamental, vegetable, and possibly fruit, greenhouse and protected structures, including transplant plug operations will be a feature of the Symposium. The three major themes for this Symposium, i.e. production, pest management, and economics and product quality, will be highlighted on the tour. Visits to commercial operations which utilize hydroponic culture, biological control, and long distance marketing of ornamentals, vegetables and herbs will amplify talks and discussions given during the Symposium for a greenhouse industry located in a mild-winter climate.

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEETING SITE

The Symposium will be held at the beautiful Renaissance WorldGate Hotel in Kissimmee, Florida, just one mile from the magic of Walt Disney World with complimentary scheduled transportation to all Disney theme parks. The hotel offers a heated pool, sun deck, exercise room and lighted tennis and basketball courts. A suburb of Orlando, Kissimmee is located just 18 miles from the award-winning Orlando International Airport.