

First Coast Specialty Crop Conference in Jacksonville to provide practical skills for strengthening local agricultural communities.

Online Registration Open!

Mark your calendars, the UF/IFAS Small Farms and Alternative Enterprise conference is coming to Jacksonville. This conference has evolved from an annual statewide event beginning in 2009 in Kissimmee, Florida, to more targeted, regional conferences across the state.

The Jacksonville conference, taking place on August 14 & 15, is designed to provide multiple networking and educational opportunities for farmers and other stakeholders in the regional food system. This conference is the first of the new regional events created by a team of UF/IFAS Small Farms and Alternative Enterprises extension agents and other stakeholders in the region. This local planning team has created a conference program designed to address the needs and concerns of Northeast Florida farmers.

Whether you are interested in improving your farming skills by enhancing your soils and pest management, obtain practical knowledge for food safety and post harvest practices, or diversifying your farm through cut flower production, mushrooms or microgreens, this is the place for you.

The conference will also provide attendees with marketing skills through a number of detailed skill-sessions. Finally, in a small group setting, there will be comprehensive, in-depth small group meetings that are created to provide attendees with specific skills like reading and interpreting your soil test and pest and disease identification.

Check out the Conference Program and Register online at www.firstcoastconference.eventbrite.com Early Bird registration is \$45 if you register on or before July 28. Registration is \$55 after this date. Your registration includes refreshments, lunch, and educational materials.



For more information about the conference, contact Jose Perez at 352-294-1692 or mailto:joseperezoro@ufl.edu