

Florida Arborist



A Publication of the Florida Chapter ISA

www.floridaisa.org

Summer 2005

In This Issue:

New Disease of Queen Palms	1
No Evidence 'Yet' that SOD has Spread to Florida	1
President's Message	2
In the News	3
Education Schedule	3
Attendee Recommendations Incorporated into Educational Series	5
Changes Being Made at Tree Fund	7
Certified Arborist Numbers Growing	8
Propagating Sago Palms	10
Book Order Form	13
Consultant's Corner	14
Exam Schedule	15

New Disease of Queen Palms

Monica L. Elliott, Ph.D., Professor of Plant Pathology, University of Florida – IFAS Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center

A new and lethal disease affecting only queen palms (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*) has emerged in Florida. There are more questions than answers about this problem, but below is a summary of information that has been gathered to date.

The sporadic death of queen palms in one county in Florida was first brought to our attention in 2003. Recent conversations throughout the southern half of the state where queen palms are grown indicate the problem was observed in other counties at approximately the same time, which means we cannot blame the 2004 hurricane season for the spread of the problem. While initially less than 1% of the queen palms died in a single landscape, there are now sites where upwards of 5-10% of the queen palms have died. No other palm species are affected. Most of the queen palms observed have been

...there are now sites where upwards of 5-10% of the queen palms have died."

in the landscape for five or more years – i.e., it is affecting established palms and not necessarily new transplantings.

Initial analysis of the situation in 2003 was wrong. It was presumed at that time the problem was a disease caused by the fungus *Thielaviopsis paradoxa*, in part because of the extensive rot found in the trunk just below the bud. So, for those of you who have read an article entitled "Why are queen palms dying in Palm Beach County?" that information should be discarded. This is the nature of science – a constant learning process. However, we have recently had the opportunity to examine queen palms in the early stages of the disease.

We are fairly certain that the problem is a disease as no insects are observed in association with symptomatic palms, nor are

New Disease of Queen Palms, continued on page 4

No Evidence 'Yet' that Sudden Oak Death has Spread to Florida

E. L. Barnard, Forest Pathologist, Florida Division of Forestry

I have just returned from the Sudden Oak Death Research Symposium in Monterey, California, and since I am one of the few remaining "dinosaurs" of forest pathology in the South (and maybe the only one that writes for the Florida Arborist), I thought I'd share my thoughts. "Sudden Oak Death" (S.O.D.) continues to be a "hot topic" nationally and internationally, if not locally (yet?). So here are a few comments on the

situation. The symposium was attended by 350 persons, representing 28 states and 11 different countries. It is an understatement to say that a lot of activity is afoot regarding the nature of and threat posed by this potentially serious disease and its putative casual agent, *Phytophthora ramorum*.

Long story short; there is a monumental amount of research going on regarding

Sudden Oak Death, continued on page 6

A Message From the President



Hello again

As I sit here composing this Presidents message I am hoping that all my brothers and sisters who work as arborists are happy, healthy and safe.

You see I have just printed a compilation of statistics which was e-mailed to me from my good friend Tim Walsh. Tim and I had some discussion at the ANSI Z133 committee meeting in mid-April about his research on the accident data for our industry. No matter how many times I see the numbers it is still shocking. Reading the reports is quite upsetting. Mostly because it becomes obvious to me that the vast majority of these events could have been avoided if only the arborist had been exposed to proper training. Simply purchasing a copy of the ANSI Z-133, reading it and applying what lies between its covers would save many lives and prevent needless injury.

In my travels as a safety instructor, I have been astonished at the number of arborists that have never heard of the safety document for this industry. I am not saying

that these folks are ignorant fools, blindly making their way through their daily life as an arborist. Not at all. I'm, saying we are doing a poor job of exposing them to what might just save their lives. Now many of us are saying "Well that's not me, I train myself and my employees". Don't get me wrong, I commend those that provide training. But what about the folks that aren't getting it? For what ever reason. Too busy, not busy, too expensive, "I already know what I need to know to Get-R-Dun". We unfortunately work in an industry where many "trade secrets" are held close to the vest. Arborists generally don't share with the other Arborists in their community for fear of losing the edge.

What can be done to expose more arborists to the knowledge many of us are already applying? How do we reduce the numbers of accidents? Simply providing associations or training and assuming that "They will come" isn't working. Unfortunately, we need to lead the horse to the water and make him drink. Perhaps the time has come to step up and be counted as professionals and be licensed to practice our craft. Just like plumbers, roofers, cosmetologists, and massage therapists. To name just a few. I for one am ready to embrace this possibility. This will take time. Unfortunately some of us don't have a lot of that based on statistics. I have had the pleasure of having students that I have instructed come to me and say that some particular technique that I showed them made their job as an arborist better in one way or another. I wonder how I would feel if someone told me that I helped to save them from an injury or worse.

In my local community I am putting together a luncheon for the local arborists to come and meet one another away from the workplace. My hope is to foster an environment in which we can learn from each others experience. We can become exposed. I believe we all have something to add, no matter our experience level. I challenge some of you to do the same. Expose yourself. Well... you know what I mean. Let me know how it goes.

Be Safe,
Bruce

Florida Chapter ISA

2005 Board of Directors

Bruce Smith
President ('05)

Arborscape, Inc.
Phone (941) 378-5566
Arbor0@aol.com

Chuck Lippi
Vice President

Advanced Tree Care
clippi@bellsouth.net

Rick Joyce
President Elect ('05)

Lee County Environmental Sciences
Phone (239) 479-8182
joycerk@leegov.com

Michael Marshall
Past President ('04)

Marshall Tree Farm
Phone (352) 528-3880
Michael@marshalltrees.com

Cynthia Snell
Treasurer

City of Key West
(305) 293-6418
csmell@keywestcity.com

Patti Hoot-McLoed
Secretary

PH Consulting
treelady10@aol.com

Patricia Gomez
Administrative Assistant

Florida Chapter ISA
Phone (941) 342-0153
FloridaISA@aol.com

Mary Edwards
Commercial Arborist Rep.

ValleyCrest Tree Care
Phone (407) 293-0146
medwards@valleycrest.com

Joe Samnik
Consulting Arborist Rep.

Phone (727) 786-8128
joe.samnik@verizon.net

Alan Heinrich
Grower Rep.

Cherry Lake Tree Farm
Phone (352) 429-2171 Ext. 253
alan@cherrylake.com

Becky Jordi
Educator

Nassau County Extension
Phone (904) 879-1019
rljordi@ifas.ufl.edu

Dave Reilly
Municipal Arborist Rep.

City of Tampa - Parks
david.reilly@tampagov.net

Mike Robinson
Utility Arborist Rep.

JEA
Robimr@jea.com

Erline Luhrman
FUFC Representative

City of Gainesville - Parks
luhrmanek@ci.gainesville.fl.us

Dr. Ed Gilman
At Large
University of Florida - IFAS
Dept. of Ornamental Horticulture
Phone (352) 392-7944 ext. 373
egilman@ufl.edu

Administration
Norm Easey
Executive Director

Phone (941) 342-0153
FloridaISA@aol.com

Newsletter Editor
Chuck Lippi

Advanced Tree Care
clippi@bellsouth.net

Newsletter Layout and Design
Kelly Barber

Phone (352) 485-1687
kellybarber@gru.net

Florida Arborist newsletter is published quarterly by the Florida Chapter of The International Society of Arboriculture, Inc., 7853 South Leewynn Court, Sarasota, FL 34240, and is intended as an educational benefit to our members. Information may be reprinted if credit is given to the author(s) and this newsletter. Please submit all requests and articles to: Norm Easey, 7853 South Leewynn Court, Sarasota, FL 34240, Fax (941)342-0463 Email: FloridaISA@aol.com. Articles submitted will not be returned and are preferred in electronic format via disk or e-mail. All pictures, articles, advertisements and other data are in no way to be construed as an endorsement of the author, products, services, or techniques. Likewise, the statements and opinions expressed herein are those of the individual authors and do not represent the view of the FL-ISA, its executive director, board of directors, this newsletter its chairman or editor.

In the News

Ironically, Membership Committee Needs Members

The Florida Chapter membership committee needs your help.

We need your ideas for attracting new members and better serving existing members.

If you can serve, please contact Chuck Lippi at clippi@bellsouth.net or 904-794-4200 or Dave Reilly at david.reilly@tampagov.net.



Alice the Amorphophallus is Open for Sniffing and Seeing

She's fully open and odiferous. She began opening in late May, in anticipation of our Corpse Flower party. Alice put on quite a performance. The waves of stench began right around 6:00 pm. She's still stinking up the place and she's quite beautiful, so come out to Fairchild to see our girl Alice!

The "Titan Hotline" has been set up to provide blooming and odiferous updates. Please call 305.667.1651, ext. 3350.

For continuous updates, photos, blog, statistics and "Alice's Webcam"—where you can watch her grow, sometimes at the rate of six inches per day—please visit www.fairchildgarden.org. Fairchild is open 9:30 am – 4:30 pm.



Florida Arborist Advertising



To advertise in the Florida Arborist contact the Florida Chapter office at 941-342-0153.

Advertising rates are as follows:

Full Page - \$200

Half Page - \$150

Quarter Page - \$100

Business Card - \$50

Classified Ad - \$25

www.floridaisa.org

2005 Education Schedule

Date	Subject	Location
September 8	Trees and Hurricanes	Orlando
September 9	Trees and Hurricanes	Ft. Lauderdale
October 13	Gold Coast Tree Seminar	West Palm
October 14	Space Coast Tree Seminar	TBD
November 3	Sun Coast Tree Seminar	Tampa
November 4	Lee Island Coast Tree Seminar	Naples

New Disease of Queen Palms, continued from page 1

nutritional deficiencies implicated in the problem. Symptoms are as follows. The lowest (oldest) 2-3 leaves turn brown but do not break or hang down. The next 2-3 youngest leaves in the canopy will turn varying shades of yellow. The yellowing leaf symptoms alone are not indicative of the disease as these symptoms would be similar for natural senescence, especially when potassium deficiency is present. What makes the disease different from natural senescence is that usually within two months of initial symptoms, the entire canopy has turned brown, as if freeze-dried in place. The leaves do not break or hang limply parallel to the trunk, they simply turn brown in place within the canopy.

Closer examination of the yellowing leaves and the next green leaf in the canopy should reveal what we believe is the initial target of the pathogen – the leaf petiole at the point where it is bending out of the canopy. We have observed initial areas of discoloration (brownish-red color) at this point that then seem to spread in both directions on the petiole, toward the trunk and toward the leaf tip. The petiole is not rotted, but simply discolored. Cross-sections through the petiole reveal internal discoloration. Cross-sections must be done with a sharp saw and not with a crushing tool such as a clipper, as the crushing motion will discolor tissue also. Leaflet tips, even on lower green leaves, exhibit drought symptoms.

The bud of the palm is not killed until sometime probably a week or so) after the canopy turns brown. When cross-sections are made through the crown of a dead queen palm, the bud is still clean and white, but older leaf and inflorescence bases are discolored and usually rotted. The symptoms and their development suggest a pathogen, probably fungal, that is producing a toxin.

The pathogen is unknown at this time. We have isolated “potential” pathogens and will shortly be conducting pathogenicity tests. For the latter, we will first try to inoculate healthy queen palm seedlings. But, since the disease seems to be primarily associated with mature queen palms, this may not be successful. Furthermore, we may not have isolated the “real” pathogen yet or, as with the pathogen that causes Lethal Yellowing disease, the pathogen may not be culturable.

Without knowing the exact cause of the problem, no management recommendations can be made at this time, except that diseased palms should be removed immediately and destroyed. Based on the location of the disease throughout the southern half of the state, it would appear that the pathogen is spread by wind. Removing the palm removes the potential source of the disease. Until more is known about the problem, it would not be recommended to plant a queen palm back into the diseased site.

To view these photos in color, go to frec.ifas.ufl.edu then click on plant pathology to find the PDF file and photos in full color.



Yellowing lower leaves that are different from natural senescence of potassium deficient leaves.



Entire leaf canopy has died and turned brown.



Reddish-brown stripe running in both directions along leaf petiole.

New Disease of Queen Palms, continued on page 5

New Disease of Queen Palms, continued from page 4



Dying lower leaves do not break or droop and hang parallel to trunk.



Cross-section through discolored petiole exhibits internal discoloration.



Cross-section through canopy area exhibits clean, non-affected bud but discolored and rotted old leaf and inflorescence bases. 

Attendee Recommendations Being Incorporated into Upcoming Educational Series

By Joe Samnik, Education Chair

The Florida Chapter continued its history of excellence in educational offerings with recent seminars on, *Tree Ordinances, Advanced Tree Pruning, and Hazard Tree Evaluations*.

An important by-product of these exceptional offerings was comments from the attendees. These comments had the following common denominators:

- 1) Start early, end early – avoid rush hour traffic.
- 2) Creature comforts and good food – people learn on their stomachs.
- 3) Fewer speakers, more presentation time – less is more.
- 4) More emphasis on commercial arboriculture – climbing techniques, safety, *ANSI* series, cable and bracing.



These comments will be incorporated into our upcoming educational seminars, showcasing The Coast Series being offered in *The Gold Coast (West Palm Beach)* on October 27th, *The Space Coast (Melbourne)* on October 28th, *The Sun Coast (Tampa)* on November 3rd, and *The Lee Island Coast (Ft. Myers)* on November 4th, 2005.

If you have an idea for educational offerings, or would like to serve on the education committee, please contact me at 727-786-8128. Our next education committee meeting will be held on Monday, July 11th in Sarasota, Florida. Contact Norm Easey (941) 342-0153 for details.

Your education committee consists of Dr. Ed Gilman, Mike Marshall and Norm Easey. Please do offer them your thanks and appreciation for their commitment to the Chapter's educational excellence. 

Sudden Oak Death, continued from page 1

Phytophthora species in forests around the world – most of which has been stimulated by the “sudden oak death” situation in northern coastal California and southwest Oregon. Despite the fact that the pathogen (*P. ramorum*) was shipped around the nation last spring (2004) on infected/infested nursery stock (primarily camellias) from commercial ornamental nurseries in southern California, there is no evidence to date that the pathogen has “escaped” and/or established in eastern forest environs. The recent, and not so welcome, news is that this little event has now been repeated; a 2005 “shipment” of potentially contaminated nursery stock from the same California source has just been reported (January of 2005). Surveys are still being conducted nationwide to monitor the spread and/or potential introduction of the pathogen. These surveys have and will continue to include locations in Florida and other states where the pathogen was received from California on ornamental camellias. You can bank on some measure of hype and activity, should the pathogen be detected in natural environments. So far, despite thousands of samples – the pathogen has not been detected in such habitats in the eastern U.S.

There is considerable activity re *P. ramorum* and “sudden oak death” in Europe. Red oaks (*Q. rubra*) are infected with the pathogen in parts of the Netherlands, and there is one reported “sudden oak death” infection on southern red oak (*Q. falcata*) in the UK (southern England?).

Yes, there were some mavericks in the group. One presenter raised the question, “Is the current intensive response to the situation justifiable and sustainable?” Another, claimed that *P. ramorum* cannot be blamed for the sudden oak death because studies have not controlled for (taken into account) the presence of mosses, which he claimed could be the problem. He wanted to blame the sudden oak death problem on “worldwide forest decline.” What’s my take? I think that the latter of these two presenters is a bit of a “loose cannon” (to say the least, he was a brave man to so challenge the “establishment” – and on the establishment’s turf at that). I’m always glad to see folks challenge the “conventional wisdom” (you can’t fathom that, can you?), but I think the fellow needs a lot more data before his alternative view of the situation can rise to a level of substantial credibility. As

for the national/international “current intensive response”, I think that appropriate regulatory action (such as that taken by Florida and many other eastern states in the spring of ’04) is more than justified. We simply do not know enough about the pathogen and its potential in eastern oak forests to be cavalier about its movement. Good monitoring, regulation, and research will provide better information in the future. We in Florida’s Forest Health Section are evaluating possible actions that we can take to augment our local information and understanding.

On another note, in one of my earlier communiqués to Division of Forestry personnel, I indicated that I would be hiking through the “vast beech forests” of northern Florida with a fellow pathologist (Bill Jones) from the U.S. Forest Service. Well – I did, and I was impressed with Florida’s beech forests. There are a lot more beech in the sunshine state than I would have guessed. Some of our Florida Foresters participated in this venture, as we searched for evidence of “beech bark disease” and its associated insect vector/wounding agent (the introduced European beech scale, *Cryptococcus fagisuga*). Good news for a change – we found no evidence of the scale’s presence, or of beech bark disease! We did find an abundance of



the native “beech borer” and limited presence of a species of *Neonectria* (*Nectria*), one of the fungi associated with the disease (a native of little consequence without “assistance” from the introduced scale).

Interestingly, European beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) is one of the tree species that, in Europe, has been identified as a host for *P. ramorum*, the “sudden oak death” pathogen. If you remember your taxonomy or dendrology, you will recall that the genera *Fagus* and *Quercus* are both members of the Fagaceae family, as are tanoaks (*Lithocarpus* spp.), another of the known host genera for *P. ramorum*.

I knew you arborists just couldn’t wait to hear. Stay tuned!

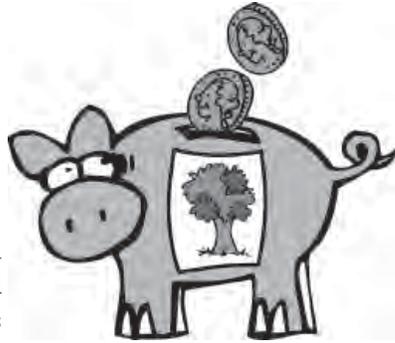

Changes Being made at TREE FUND

By John P. White

My job as TREE Fund Liaison is to function as a communication pipeline between the ISA Florida Chapter and the TREE Fund Leadership. This is a two-way street, and you, the members are an important part of this process. I'd like to hear from you regarding how you feel about TREE Fund activities. Please do contact me if you have questions or suggestions that pertain to the TREE Fund. I can be reached via e-mail at john.white@cherrylake.com. It is vitally important that we have good communication between all members of this team.

On that note, I am passing on some current information and news about the TREE Fund. The following notes are excerpts from a recent letter from the President of the TREE Fund Board, Al West.

In regards to moving the TREE Fund offices to Chicago (from the ISA Headquarters in Champaign, Illinois), the decision is based on several factors...we are seeking a cooperative arrangement within the green industry and/or the general non-profit communities. The availability of those opportunities was a factor in our choice of Chicago, which has the second largest concentration of non-profit organizations in the country...a concern is that the TREE Fund is perceived as part of the ISA (not true)... the challenge is the need to expand our visibility and name recognition with other green industry stakeholders...currently, the TREE Fund relies almost exclusively on the membership of our two parent organizations – the ISA and TCIA – to support our mission...there is an old saying in fund-raising: "You can't keep going back to the same well and expect continued support at a consistent level."...we must cultivate new sources of support...therefore, the TREE Fund is taking advantage of the opportunity presented by the vacancy in the Executive Director (ED) position to move its location and to spread its branches to reach out to other organizations within the green industry...regarding the current offices in Champaign – The TREE Fund board feels we need a location where its members and com-



mittees can easily and economically convene. Flying in and out of Chicago airports is both convenient and economical. We plan to advise our new ED to try and find offices convenient to O'Hare Airport...space is at a premium in the ISA building, and the offices now occupied by the TREE Fund are not adequate for our needs...an additional element in our decision to

move meshes with the importance of having a highly skilled and competent ED that could provide the professional leadership and guidance to bring the TREE Fund to its full potential...the TREE Fund has retained the services of Richard I. Goldbaum, Ph.D., founder and principal of his own consulting firm, *Transitions in Leadership*. Dr. Goldbaum (Dick) was hired as an independent contractor to provide interim ED services from January 1, 2005 through June 30, 2005. He was also retained as an independent contractor to conduct the executive search, with the goal of having the new ED hired by early to mid June...this process has proceeded and over 50 resumes were received. The final interviews will take place in Chicago, most likely at the Morton Arboretum. Dr. Goldbaum will coordinate the process, but will not have a vote on who is offered the position. The decision will be made by the Transitions/Search Committee: Ken Ottman, Tom Talkacz, Tim Gamma, Gary Watson, Mike Neal, Jerry Morey and Al West...

So, there you are – The TREE Fund in transition, which will be underway for the next 12-18 months. It is important to understand that during this time, all TREE Fund activities will continue to occur. We still have our same fund-raising goals – the ISA Chapter Challenge, TREE Fund Gala Auction (in Nashville) and Tour des Trees. These and other events are critical in keeping the TREE Fund true to its mission of *UNLOCKING THE SECRETS OF TREE CARE*.

See you all at Innisbrook. I look forward to working with you all during our Silent Auction and other events at TREES FLORIDA! 

Certified Arborist Numbers Growing in Florida and Nationwide Certification Committee Report

By Norm Easey, Florida Chapter Certification Liaison

Arborist Certification in Florida is growing rapidly. Florida now has 1099 Certified Arborists, and we are adding more and more with every exam. Globally there are:

17,481	Certified Arborists
444	Certified Tree Workers
853	Utility Specialists
70	Board Certified Master Arborists
57	Municipal Specialists
25	Exams given in May

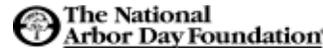
The Florida Chapter would like to congratulate the following 54 Florida individuals for earning their; Arborist Certification, Utility Certification, or Municipal Certification during the first quarter of 2005:

David Daberkoe, John Dougherty, Marvin Gross, Benjamin King, Juan Suarez, Paul Huryz (Utility), David Godson (Municipal), Brad Daley, Jonathon Frank, Terrell McCombs, Kevin Rose, Laura Sangoroski, Christal Segura, Giorgios Triant, Jonathan Tyler, Nicholas Varhola, Thomas White, Thor Youngblood, Cindel Alles, Daniel Audet, Katharine Belz, Kegan Berner, Alexander Castro, Herman Chutkan, Nicholas Downs, Brian Fisher, Todd Gentry, Patrick Greive, James Henry, Russell Hunt, Joshua Kennedy, Nathan Lowe, Charles Marshall, Thai-Hien Nguyen, Mark Roberts, Don Spalton, Michael Veneziano, Brandon Burke, David Crawley, Leon Jennings, Edward Sleyzak, Ralph Thoresen, Jeremy Vicent, Ralph Zirzow, William Cramer (Utility), William Fowler (Utility), Jason Richards (Utility), Shawn McMahon, Shawn Nichols, Angela Powell-Craney, Scott Renfro, Jon Shelton, Michael Smith, and Sherie Burch (Utility). 

Hazard Trees Workshop
&
Trees, People and the Law Seminar
October 4-5, 2005
Ashley Plaza Hotel, Tampa



Two full-day seminars
presented by



Visit www.arborday.org/hazardtrees
or
call 888-448-7337 for more information.



Morriston, Florida

Growing trees to meet the
Florida Grades & Standards

Growing improved cultivars and
species for our urban forests

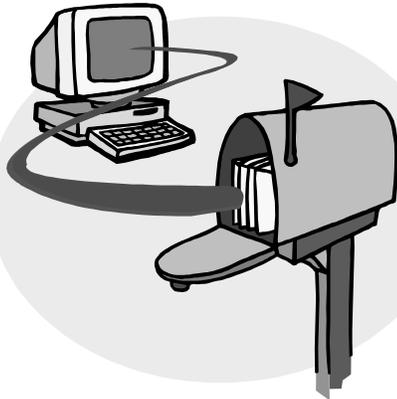
Growing Quality since 1984

Visit us at www.marshalltrees.com



Call for current availability
800.786.1422





Would you rather be getting your Florida Arborist in your E-mail?

The Florida Chapter now has the ability to send your copy of the Florida Arborist electronically. No more paper to throw away. All you need to do is send us an email asking for an email version. Your next issue will be sent as an easy to open pdf file. Be sure to give your name, membership number (not your certified arborist number), and your email address.

Send your request to Norm Easey at floridaisa@aol.com

'Cathedral Oak'[®]
Quercus virginiana 'SDLN' P.P.#12,015



Eight year old Cathedral Oak[®]

Looking for a large maturing shade tree?

Looking for a dark green, densely foliated, evergreen street tree?

Are consistency and uniformity important to you?

Are you tired of unruly seedling live oaks?

Then Cathedral Oak[®] is The Answer to your landscaping specifications!

For information on licensing and growers, contact:

SHADOWLAWN[®] NURSERY

P. O. BOX 515 ▲ PENNEY FARMS, FL 32079

904-269-5857 Ext. 305

www.shadowlawnnursery.com

Appropriate for USDA Plant Hardiness Zones 8-10.



SADDLES
 LANYARDS
 CLIMBERS
 ROPES
 ROOT BARRIERS



HAND SAWS
 SHEARS
 BOOKS
 POLE SAWS
 PRUNING HEADS

Arborist Supply House Inc.

P.O. BOX 23607
 FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33307

(954) 561-9527

1-800-749-9528

Fax: (954) 561-9550

GERALDINE HOYT

C. WAY HOYT

Propagating Sago Palms

by Chuck Lippi

Sago palms (*Cycas revoluta*) are sending up their new growth about now and I am often asked each year at this time asking about the flowers of the sago palm. The sago palm, a gymnosperm, is not really a palm but rather more closely related to a pine tree than to a palm. Sago palms are dioecious which means there are male plants and female plants. The male can easily be distinguished by the 12 to 18-inch floral spike that arises about this time from the center of the plant.

The male spike or cone is quite obvious but does somehow cause embarrassment for some homeowners who ask if they can cut it off. It is actually not a good idea to remove the male flower until it has started to senesce or dry up. If the male display is truly disconcerting to a homeowner, a towel or boxer shorts could be thrown over it.

There is some anecdotal evidence too that removing the male spike can cause the mature sago palm to form a forked or split head which is usually not desirable. A male flower can appear once a year and can even be followed by a flush of foliage growth the same season.

A female flower, on the other hand, may appear only once every two years and often is not followed by a flush of foliage growth during the same season. The female sago palm has a low, round dome in the center where the seeds are produced. But be careful! The sago palm seeds contain two carcino-

gens, macrozamin and cycasin, which are dangerous to handle and can be absorbed through the skin. Use impermeable gloves if you want to work with the sago palm seeds.

Sago palm seeds germinate slowly and irregularly because they have a thick waxy coat and a little-understood dormancy pattern. Recommended seed treatments can include either an acid bath, a gibberellic acid (plant growth regulator) bath or both.

It is easier to try to propagate the “pups” or smaller sucker plants that sprout from the base of the mother plant. After removing a small sago “pup” from the mother plant, let the base air-dry for a week in a shady area before planting it. If possible, plant the small sago in a pot with a good potting soil such as Jiffy Mix, Redi-Earth or Sam’s Best Potting Mix. Some growers prefer plain washed sand. You may have to use stakes or straps to hold the sago in the pot so the base remains in contact with the soil. Keep the potted sago in a bright place out of direct sunlight until it roots. Don’t let it dry out but don’t over-water it either.

There is one last thing while I am talking about sago palms. As I drive through some neighborhoods, I see sago palms that have been severely pruned so only the new flush of growth is left on the plant. Excessive pruning will weaken any plant making it more susceptible to pest and disease problems. For sago palms (and regular palms, too) do not remove any leaves until they are dead. Green leaves provide food for the plant. Removing a palm leaf that is still green will weaken a plant and possibly begin a downward spiral of nutrient deficiency problems. *✍*



Male sago palm



Female sago flower

JOIN US IN 2005

August 6–10

International Society of Arboriculture's 81st Annual Conference & Trade Show

REASONS TO ATTEND

-  Discover the newest techniques and learn about the latest research findings
-  Network and share ideas with other tree care professionals
-  The largest gathering of professional arborists from ALL fields and specialties of arboriculture
-  Earn CEUs and take advantage of opportunities to continue your training
-  29th International Tree Climbing Championship



GAYLORD OPRYLAND RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER



NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE



**Visit the
ISA Web site for
conference updates**

www.isa-arbor.com

or call

1-888-ISA-TREE



Career To Do's:

- buy quality equipment
- join ISA Chapter and Professional Affiliation
- become ISA member
- get ISA certification
- work hard
- retire young enough to enjoy it!

Contact the **International Society of Arboriculture** to complete your successful career plan in tree care.
Visit www.isa-arbor.com/mycareer or call **888 ISA-TREE** for details on the benefits of membership and certification.



Hardening-off Trees – Improving Quality Research & Education

- | | |
|---|---|
| Alturas Native Nursery
Alturas / 863-326-5639 | Keystone Farms
Tampa / 813-920-0894 |
| BE-MAC Farms
Odessa / 813-920-2247 | Marshall Tree Farm
Morriston / 800-786-1422 |
| Bent Oak Farm
Ocala / 352-245-5429 | Nature Coast Tree Corp
Bell / 386-935-9349 |
| Champion Tree Farm
Gainesville / 352-375-6001 | Skinner Nurseries
Bunnell / 800-741-2020 |
| Ellenton Nursery Growers
Parrish / 863-326-5639 | Southern Pride Tree Farm
Bell / 386-935-3636 |
| FMT Farms
Brooksville / 352-799-0056 | Stewart's Tree Service
Brooksville / 352-796-3426 |
| Fort Drum Growers
McAlpin / 386-776-2727 | Tiger Lake Nursery
Lake Wales / 863-602-1009 |
| J & J Tree Farm
Brooksville / 352-796-3426 | Walsh Brokerage
Parrish / 863-326-5639 |

Associate Members

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <i>Braun Horticulture</i> | <i>Grass Roots Nurseries</i> |
| <i>Caretree Systems</i> | <i>Jack Siebenthaler</i> |
| <i>Cherokee Manufacturing</i> | <i>Seaworld</i> |
| <i>General Cordage</i> | <i>Sunrise Landscape</i> |
| <i>Graco Fertilizer Company</i> | <i>Treemart</i> |
| <i>Crown Community Development</i> | |

To Subscribe to the RPG Times Newsletter or to request copies of the Tree Grading and Tree Planting Cue Cards contact an RPG member or visit www.rootsplusgrowers.org

Florida's Urban Forestry Professionals!

Specializing in:

- ✓ Urban Tree Inventory
- ✓ Urban Tree & Landscape Appraisal
- ✓ Tree Protection Planning & Construction Supervision
- ✓ Tree Health Assessment

Natural Resource Planning Services, Inc.

P.O. Box 564
San Antonio, Florida 33576

Eric Hoyer

ISA Certified Arborist
(863) 647-9888
Cell (863) 670-0734



Florida Chapter ISA

7853 S. Leewynn Court, Sarasota, FL 34240
 Order by Phone 941-342-0153, or fax 941-342-0463 FEIN 65-0667299

You can also order online at www.floridaisa.org



BOOK ORDER FORM

Name		Company		
Billing Address				
City	State	Zip	County	
Phone		Fax		
E-mail		Member Number (not Certification No.)		
Type: VISA MC Card No:		exp. date		
Check No.	PO No.	Name (as it appears on card)		
Tax Exempt No.		3 digit CC ID No. (on back of card)		
Quantity	Publication	Member	Nonmember	Total
	Arborist Certification Study Guide – English language	\$65	\$95	
	Arborist Certification Study Guide – Spanish language	\$65	\$95	
	Arborist Certification Study Guide – On Audio CD (English)	\$30	\$40	
	Tree Biology (CD ROM) English or Spanish <i>new!</i>	\$60	\$70	
	An Illustrated Guide to Pruning (Gilman) 2 nd Edition	\$50	\$60	
	Arboriculture & the Law	\$35	\$45	
	Chain Saw Safety & Maintenance (English & Spanish lang.)	\$35	\$45	
	Trees and Development – Guide to Preservation of Trees	\$35	\$45	
	Plant Health Care 3 rd Edition	\$45	\$50	
	Planting Trees and Shrubs by Watson & Himlick	\$35	\$40	
	ANSI – Z133.1 Safety Requirements for Tree Care Operators	\$17	\$22	
	ANSI – A300 Pruning Standards for Tree Care Operators	\$17	\$22	
	ANSI – A300 Fertilization Standards	\$17	\$22	
	ANSI – A300 Support Systems – Cabling & Bracing	\$17	\$22	
	ANSI – A300 Lightning Protection Systems	\$17	\$22	
	Guide to Plant Appraisal – 9 th Edition	\$75	\$125	
	Photo Guide to Hazard Tree Evaluation – Matheny & Clark	\$35	\$45	
	Spanish/English Dictionary of Arboricultural Terms	\$10	\$13	
	Spanish Tree Pruning Guide	\$4	\$6	
	Best Management Practices – (circle one or more) Pruning, Fertilization, Cabling & Bracing, or Lightning Protection	\$6	\$8	
	Grades & Standards for Florida Nursery Plants	\$30	\$30	
	Landscape Below Ground I or II (circle one)	\$30	\$40	
	Reducing Infrastructure Damage by R. L. Costello	\$25	\$30	
	TREES for Urban and Suburban Landscapes – Dr. Gilman	\$80	\$90	
	Trees of Florida - Dr. Gil Nelson	\$20	\$25	
	Shrubs & Woody Vines of Florida by Dr. Gil Nelson	\$20	\$25	
	Ornamental Tropical Shrubs by Amanda Jarrett	\$20	\$30	
	Poisonous Plants & Animals of Florida and the Caribbean	\$30	\$40	
	Tree Structure & Mechanics – How Trees Stand and Fall	\$35	\$45	
	Plant Health Care for Woody Ornamentals – John Loyd	\$45	\$50	
	Horticopia Arborist Edition (CD ROM)	\$275	\$325	
	Certified Arborist Hard Hat Decals - 4 in pkg. (provide CA #)	\$5	\$5	
	Abiotic Disorders of Landscape Plants by Dr. L. Costello	\$35	\$40	
	Certified Arborist Patch – 4 in pkg. (must provide CA No.)	\$10	\$10	
	Flowering Trees of Florida by Mark K. Stebbins	\$17	\$20	
	Priceless Florida – Natural Ecosystems and Native Species	\$22	\$25	

Order Amount	Shipping & Handling 2 Day Express Mail	Total Price of Items	\$
\$0 - \$25	\$4.00	Add 6% Sales Tax plus any County Surtax	\$
\$25.01 - \$50	\$5.00	Shipping & Handling – See left	\$
\$50.01 - \$100	\$7.00	Total due	\$
\$100.01 - \$200	\$9.00		
\$200 plus	\$13.00		

Form Revised: Dec. 7, 2004

Consultant's Corner



This is a new regular feature for information of interest to those doing consulting work.

Gallo V. Heller: **Be Very Cautious**

*By Joe Samnik, Samnik & Associates, LLC,
"Expert Tree Consultants"*

Gallo V. Heller is the Florida landmark case for self-help for trees and tree parts encroaching into and onto the property of others.

Gretchen Gallo asserts that certain trees growing on her neighbors', David and Beverly Heller, land have damaged her property. Specifically, that Heller's Ficus and Melaleuca trees damaged Gallo's roof and house, caused sidewalks to

crack, shaded certain vegetation causing it to die, and caused a pet dog to contract a severe allergy.

The rule at common law and the majority rule in this country, which is followed in Florida, is that a possessor of land is not liable to persons outside the land for a nuisance resulting from trees and natural vegetation growing on the land. The adjoining property owner to such a nuisance, however, is privileged to trim back, at the adjoining neighbor's own expense, any encroaching tree roots or branches and other vegetation which has grown onto his property.

Gallo V. Heller is not a carte blanche authorization to trim trees or parts of trees, such as roots, at property lines. There seem to be certain criteria involved with self-help which include: 1) ample notification to the owner of nuisance tree(s) that action is pending and needed, 2) do not trespass onto another's property, 3) the self-help cannot cause irreparable harm to the nuisance tree or damage to property, and 4) the peace must be kept.

When dealing with a client who is asking you to prune trees or parts of trees belonging to a neighbor, on a property line, it is always best to recommend that an attorney be consulted before self-help action is initiated. *✍*

Chapter Bucks!

Do you recruit new ISA members?

Now you can be rewarded for your efforts to the grow the Florida Chapter by taking advantage of our new **CHAPTER BUCKS PROGRAM!**

All you need to do is recruit a new member then send us an email with their name and your name and address. When we get conformation from International that they have joined we will send you a coupon that you can redeem for a \$25 discount to any Florida Chapter sponsored class, (does not include the Trees Florida Conference). It's just that easy!

Send your recruits name and your name and address to Norm Easey at floridaisa@aol.com."



Florida Chapter ISA

Florida Chapter ISA
7853 South Leewynn Court
Sarasota, FL 34240

Chapter Bucks Coupon

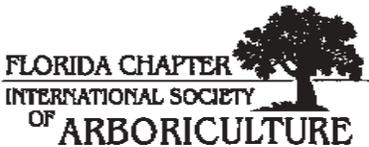
This certificate entitles _____

to _____

Authorized by _____ **Number** _____

Expires _____

Not redeemable for cash. Redemption value not to exceed \$ _____.



**FLORIDA CHAPTER
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
OF ARBORICULTURE**

2005 Certification Exam Schedule

The **FLORIDA CHAPTER** of ISA is pleased to announce our revised 2004-2005 schedule of Certification Exams and Study Guide Review sessions. See the chart below for the site nearest you. This schedule is subject to change as additional tests and review sessions may be added.

Date	Exam / Class	Location	Time	Proctor or Instructors	Last Date to Register	Cost
May 14, 2005	Exam	Duval County Extension 1010 N. McDuff Avenue Jacksonville, FL 32254	7:30 am to Noon	Larry Figart and Rebecca Jordi	April 29, 2005	\$125/\$225
June 11, 2005	Class	Trees Florida 2005 Westin Innisbrook Resort 36750 US Hwy. 19 North Palm Harbor, FL 34684	9:00 am to 4:00 pm	Norm Easey, Mary Edwards, Chuck Lippi, Dave Leonard, Rick Joyce	May 27, 2005	\$145/\$175
June 12, 2005	Exam	Westin Innisbrook Resort 36750 US Hwy. 19 North Palm Harbor, FL 34684	7:30 am to Noon	Greg Charles & Loren Westenberger	May 27, 2005	\$125/\$225
June 17, 2005	Class	Maclay Gradens State Park 3540 Thomasville Rd. Tallahassee, FL 32309 (850) 487-4115 for info.		Sam Hand & TBA	June 3, 2005	\$125
June 18, 2005	Exam	Maclay Gradens State Park 3540 Thomasville Rd. Tallahassee, FL 32309	8:30 am to 1:00 pm	Sam Hand & Perry Odom	June 3, 2005	\$125/\$225

For an application to any of the Exams, call the ISA Office in Champaign, IL at 888-472-8733.
To register for the Review Class call the Florida Chapter ISA at 941-342-0153.
To purchase an ISA Certification Study Guide, call the Florida Chapter ISA at 941-342-0153.

Arborists, Don't Miss this Workshop!

Electrical Hazard Awareness Program (EHAP) Workshop



hosted by:

TREE CARE INDUSTRY Association established 1938

with a grant from OSHA, U.S. Department of Labor,
and with help from local host partners:

**Florida Urban Forestry Council
and Florida Power & Light**



June 27, 2005

Signature Grand • 6900 State Road 84 • Davie, FL 33317
8:30 am - 4:30 pm (Check-in at 8:00 am)

*Food & beverage cost: \$15 -- 6.5 ISA CEU Credits

**Register online at www.trecareindustry.org/ehap
or call TCIA at (800) 733-2622**

This material was produced under grant number 46A4-HT33 from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. It does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Department of Labor, nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.



Florida Arborist
Florida Chapter, ISA
7853 South Leewynn Court
Sarasota, FL 34240

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MANASOTA, FL
PERMIT 388



International Society of Arboriculture-Florida Chapter

Our Mission: "To Promote and Improve the
Scientifically Based Practice of Professional Arboriculture"

Arborist Code of Ethics

- ✎ Strive for continuous self-development by increasing their qualifications and technical proficiency by staying abreast of technological and scientific developments affecting the profession.
- ✎ Not misuse or omit material facts in promoting technical information, products or services if the effect would be to mislead or misrepresent.
- ✎ Hold paramount the safety and health of all people, and endeavor to protect property and the environment in the performances of professional responsibilities.
- ✎ Accurately and fairly represent their capabilities, qualifications and experience and those of their employees and/or agents.
- ✎ Subscribe to fair and honest business practices in dealing with clients, suppliers, employees and other professionals.
- ✎ Support the improvement of professional services and products through encouraging research and development.
- ✎ Observe the standards and promote adherence to the ethics embodied in this code.