

# LEE COUNTY MOSQUITO/HYACINTH CONTROL DISTRICTS



## Newsletter

April, 2009



**"Comings & Goings"** Ernesto Lasso de la Vega spoke at the Florida Yards and Neighborhoods Conference on February 28th— and hosted the Lee County Hyacinth Control District Annual Pond Watch meeting on March 9th. Approximately, 40 people were in attendance to discuss their pond issues and ways to improve the quality of their lakes. Thanks to Shelly Redovan, Brian Cotterill, Pat Ferrara and Linda Willard for their assistance with the luncheon.



On March 13th, Frank Clarke, of Clarke Mosquito Control, presented a Workshop to include all new products and services in our market. He had a very good visual presentation with his staff of entomologists, a salesman that could explain his new product lines and gave our staff, along with Charlotte County's staff, an update on Research and Development's new products that are being registered.

Mr. Clarke also hosted a barbecue luncheon for us at the noon hour. Our employees were very happy to receive five (5) Public Health Continuing Education Credits toward the renewal of our PH license.



*Above bee picture was provided by the University Of Suffolk. The bee hive picture is courtesy Of Iowa State University.*

**Brian Cotterill and Shelly Redovan were invited to attend the Bee Keepers' Association of Southwest Florida. They were asked to provide an overview of the District's mosquito control program. In attendance, were approximately 50 beekeepers and hobbyists.**

**The group was interested in the way LCMCD performs control measures, possible toxicity to bees and ways to protect bees from mosquito control activities.**

**This meeting was held at IFAS — Terry Park — on March 11th.**



**Congratulations to Marco Workman who took his FAA Inspection Authorization test at Kings School of Aeronautics in Daytona. He passed his test and was issued his Certificate from the FAA on March 23rd.**

**Aircraft maintenance is in the final stages of completing a custom built ULV Adulticiding System for the Bell 407 Helicopter as reported by Al Bennett. The system is presently being prepared for a flight test using an inert material treated with a dye prior to being tested with pesticide.**

**Please welcome Mr. Robert Roper, "Rope," our new full-time pilot. "Rope" and his wife live in Alva and have two children at home and one child away at advanced school. "Rope" has worked for us over the years as a part-time pilot.**

## FIELD ACTIVITY — 2009

ACRES TREATED	GROUND ADULTICIDING	AERIAL ADULTICIDING	GROUND LARVICIDING	AERIAL LARVICIDING	SERVICE REQUESTS
January	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	24.0
February	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.0
March					9.0
April					
May					
June					
July					

### *“Employees on the Move”*



- *Sandy Gross completed the Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory Advanced Mosquito Identification course held March 2—13, 2009, Vero Beach, FL. This two-week course provides intensive training to experienced mosquito identifiers. The objective of the course is to improve the student’s ability to identify mosquito species. Sandy passed the four (4) hour comprehensive practical laboratory and written examination at the conclusion of the course. Sandy was awarded the Florida DACS/FMEL Certification as a Certified Mosquito Identifier.*

- *FMCA Tallahassee Days— Board Chairman, Pat Mann, Commissioner Joe Burgess, Deputy Director George Wichterman and Executive Director Wayne Gale traveled to Tallahassee March 17th through 18th on behalf of LCMCD and FMCA to encourage legislators to maintain funding for mosquito control programs and mosquito control research that is provided through the Waste Tire Trust Fund. There was a good turnout of the FMCA membership and most visits with the legislators received positive responses. However, the meeting with Agriculture Commissioner Charles Bronson did not go well. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Department of Environmental Protection both offered up the mosquito control funding as potential cuts to their budgets, which in effect, eliminates all State support for mosquito control funding. It is early in the session and we will have to wait and see how the governor and the legislature respond to the agencies’ recommendations for cutting mosquito control funding. We will continue to monitor the budget process and encourage continuance of the mosquito control funding.*

- *March 24th, Shelly Redovan and Pat Ferrara provided an overview of our work at LCMCD to Friends of the Library group at the North Fort Myers Library. After Shelly’s power-point presentation, the group had many questions and asked if we could provide tours for them and their affiliate groups.*

- *March 31st, LCMCD and LCHCD are hosting the annual EPA Tour.*