

# LEE COUNTY MOSQUITO/HYACINTH CONTROL DISTRICTS



# Newsletter

January, 2009

**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL EMPLOYEES AND THEIR FAMILIES!**

**Two big events this month: 2009 FMCA Aerial Short Course, Jan 12-15, LCMCD, and the Dodd Short Courses, Jan. 26-30th at the Ocala Hilton, Gainesville.**

**The Aerial courses will be hosted by the US Air Force and classes will be pertinent to their type of work.**

**The following LCMCD personnel will be attending Dodd Short Courses in Ocala, FL the week of Jan. 25-30th: Brian Cotterill, Sandy Gross, Robert Hedrick, Chuck Herzog, Tom Miller, Paul Morgan, Shelly Redovan, Tommy Stewart, Rodney Wolford and Susan Merris**

The Aerial Short Course classes will be an abbreviated version of the USAF Reserve spray wing class usually given at the Youngstown (Ohio) Air Force Base for DoD category 11 (Aerial Spray) certification.

The organizers of these classes are Major Karl Haagsma and Major Mark Breidenbaugh and they will have demo flights on the C-130.

We should see some interesting air planes here during their stay and we welcome them to our base.

**New Larvicide Soon:** Clarke Mosquito and Dow AgroSciences have joined forces to bring a new larvicide called *Natular* to mosquito control. Clarke Mosquito invited approximately 30 mosquito control agencies to attend a focus group meeting on December 11th to announce their new product and gain feedback from the participants on how best to move forward with the product.

Five (5) Mosquito Control Districts from Florida were in attendance. Stephen Sickerman from South Walton Co. MCD, Mark Latham from Manatee Co. MCD, Dennis Moore from Pasco Co. MCD, Doug Carlson from Indian River MCD and Shelly Redovan representing our District. The Florida five were given a tour on December 10th of the Clarke research facilities.

At the December 11th meeting, in Lisle, IL, Clarke and Dow provided information on how they came to develop *Natular*. It is produced from spinosad (spinosyn A and spinosyn D) which is a new chemical class of insecticide. The active ingredient is derived from a naturally occurring soil dwelling bacterium called *Saccharopolyspora spinosa*, a rare actinomycete collected from soil in an abandoned rum distillery on a Caribbean Island in 1982 by a Dow Agrosciences scientist on vacation. It has not been found in nature since that time, and was subsequently described as a new species. The bacteria produce compounds (metabolites) while in a fermentation broth. The first fermentation-derived compound was formulated in 1988. Spinosad has since been formulated into insecticides that combine the efficacy of a synthetic insecticide with the benefits of a biological pest control organism. This larvicide and all inert materials in the formulation will carry approval from OMRI, which is the Organic Materials Review Institute.



(Pictured: The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL)

## FIELD ACTIVITY — 2008 Finals

| ACRES TREATED       | GROUND ADULTICIDING | AERIAL ADULTICIDING | GROUND LARVICIDING | AERIAL LARVICIDING | SERVICE REQUESTS |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| January             | 5,155.3             |                     | 1.4                | 469.0              | 28.0             |
| February            | 3,696.5             |                     | 34.3               | 5,624.9            | 47.0             |
| March               | 178.0               | 0.0                 | 35.6               | 1,069.1            | 95.0             |
| April               | 34,961.1            | 35,632.1            | 58.3               | 5,512.6            | 534.0            |
| May                 | 46,362.0            | 71,591.0            | 33.6               | 4,732.3            | 957.0            |
| June                | 79,490.0            | 138,707.0           | 198.0              | 19,487.8           | 826.0            |
| July                | 153,682.1           | 531,803.3           | 540.2              | 33,286.9           | 2,174.0          |
| August              | 80,442.6            | 360,226.3           | 471.2              | 11,592.6           | 1,885.0          |
| September           | 47,836.6            | 91,764.5            | 494.2              | 13,458.3           | 142.0            |
| October             | 21,984.4            | 0.0                 | 161.7              | 3,959.6            | 87.0             |
| November            | 2,813.2             | 0.0                 | 3,443.0            | 0.0                | 50.0             |
| December            | 0.0                 | 0.0                 | 11.6               | 845.8              | 29.0             |
| <b>Y-T-D Totals</b> | <b>494,225.1</b>    | <b>1,229,645.0</b>  | <b>2,039.2</b>     | <b>100,294.1</b>   | <b>6,816.0</b>   |

One of our new Projects: Pictures of our two new open-end Hangars which are 133 ft wide, 88 ft in length and 33 ft high and will be used to house our DC-3's from the hot sun and inclement weather.



LCHCD staff has been busy. Don Doggett and Kevin Watts attended the 9th Annual Exotics Workshop at FGCU that was sponsored by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Kevin Watts was a judge at the Alva Middle School Science Fair. Ernesto Lasso de la Vega spoke at the Urban Pond Management Seminar sponsored by IFAS and John Casani is a co-author of an article *in press* for the Journal of Aquatic Plant Management on “Grass Carp Risk Assessment.”



The new mixing/loading building—that was initiated by LCHCD was recently completed and is ready for use. Carmen McKinney worked diligently with staff and permitting folks to get the job done. Thanks to our BOARD for approval and to all who contributed. NOW—let the mixing and loading begin!