October is Farm to School Month

Farm to School improves the health of children and communities while supporting local and regional farmers. Farm to School is the practice of sourcing local food for schools, or providing agriculture, health and nutrition education opportunities, such as school gardens, farm field trips and cooking lessons. Farm to School Month is about celebrating those who support farm to school and make it possible in communities across the country!

FAMU Cooperative Extension is celebrating Farm to School Month by highlighting its long time effort in SMALL FARM TO SCHOOL. Since 1996, the FAMU Cooperative Extension Program and New North Florida Cooperative Association have been working in collaboration to connect schools with local farms in order to promote healthy meals in schools, and provide educational opportunities for school children. Small Farm to School seeks to address two growing concerns: diet and health of school children and declining number of small-scale farmers. Through Small Farm to School efforts, schools can procure and feature farm fresh fruits and vegetables on their menus.

Small Farm to School efforts can allow for healthier food options in school meals. Farmers have access to a new market opportunity with schools, and can establish a connection in their community through participation in activities designed to educate kids about local food and agriculture. Schools can integrate nutrition-based curriculum and provide students experiential learning opportunities through farm visits, school gardens and fundraising activities. Children can better relate to how their food choices affect their own health, their family and the local farm community. Small Farm to School provides education that connects the food in the cafeteria to small farms and health.

FAMU and NNFC want to thank those school districts in Florida that successfully sourcing local products from small-scale farmers, including Gadsden County Schools, Leon County Schools and Miami-Dade Schools. For more information about Small Farm to School, contact FAMU Cooperative Extension at 850-599-3546.

Article and photos courtesy of Mrs. Vonda Richardson
Congratulations to Dr Ray Mobley, Florida A&M University (FAMU) Cooperative Extension Director of Veterinary Sciences; Dr. Mobley, along with five other “Servicing Florida Military Families” team leaders were presented as winners of the 2013 Jim App Team Award, at the Extension Professionals Association of Florida (EPAF) Conference at the Sawgrass Marriott in Ponte Verdra on Friday, August 30, 2013.

The winning team, including Dr. Mobley, consisted of Dale Pracht (UF-IFAS Associate Professor FCS), Georgene Bender (UF-IFAS Regional Specialized 4-H Agent), Cliff Lewis (Teams Florida 4-H Operation: Military Kids Coordinator), Janet Psigious (4H Military Base/OMK Assistant) and Buenita Lee (formerly of FAMU Cooperative Extension).

The Jim App Team Award is one of the Extension Initiative Innovation Team Awards presented to a team of state and county Extension faculty working to develop a program that address a priority associated with UF/IFAS Extension's initiatives or super-issues in Extension's Long-Range Plan. The amount awarded was $5,000.

We would like to extend a well deserved congratulations to Dr Alejandro (Alex) Bolques, FAMU Extension Agent/ Gadsden County Horticulture and Small Farms Agent, for being a recipient of two awards, the 2013 EPAF Faculty Association Distinguished Service Award and the Galaxy IV Conference National Award.

Dr. Bolques was presented as a winner at the 2013 Extension Professionals Association of Florida (EPAF) Conference at the Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa in Ponte Vedra from August 26 – August 30, 2013. He was also presented as winner at the 2013 Galaxy IV Conference, that was held in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania earlier this month (September).

Every five years, the Joint Council of Extension Professionals sponsors and provides leadership for a Galaxy Conference for the entire Extension system. This conference invites participation from all JCEP organizations, ECOP, and other partners critical to the Extension mission.
UPCOMING EVENTS

The Sunbelt Ag Expo has been at the forefront of showcasing the future of agriculture. The Sunbelt Expo will take place in Moultrie, Georgia. The event attracts upwards of 100,000 visitors from all over the country. Visitors come for three days to peruse 4,000 product lines from 1,200 commercial exhibitors, and capitalize on educational opportunities from university and college research specialists.

Show Hours
8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. - Tuesday & Wednesday
8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. - Thursday

Admission
Adults - $10 per person / per day
Children - (10 & Under) admitted free with parent
Multi-Day - $20 Multi-Day admission ticket

The Sunbelt Ag Expo has been at the forefront of showcasing the future of agriculture. The Sunbelt Expo will take place in Moultrie, Georgia. The event attracts upwards of 100,000 visitors from all over the country. Visitors come for three days to peruse 4,000 product lines from 1,200 commercial exhibitors, and capitalize on educational opportunities from university and college research specialists.

Florida Agriculture Financial Management Conference
Financial Strategies for Florida’s Ag Producers
October 21-22, 2013   *Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate

Cultivate, Connect, Collaborate.
The 2013 Florida Agriculture Financial Management Conference will highlight:
• Agriculture Risk Management from a Strategic Perspective
• Agribusiness Finance for Non-Finance Managers
• Latest Banking Regulatory and Lending Trends
• Agricultural Economic Forecast
• Affordable Care Act and Planning Strategies for Ag Producers
• Succession Planning for the Next Gen

For More Information and to Register Today, visit www.fafmc.org
FAMU FARM FEST 2013

PRESENTING

SOLUTIONS FOR FLORIDA CITIZENS

FALL CROP SHOWCASE

FAMU Research & Extension Center
4259 Bainbridge Highway, Quincy, Florida

DEMONSTRATIONS & PRESENTATIONS
Agro-forestry ~ Container Gardens ~ Farm-to-School
Gro-Boxes Horticulture ~ Hydroponics ~ 4-H Youth Program
Livestock ~ Urban Farmers Market ~ Vegetable Plots
and More!

Exhibits & Entertainment = FUN All Ages!
~ Door Prizes ~ Educational Tours ~ Food ~ Music ~

www.famu.edu/cep

SEEDS FOR SUCCESS!

Saturday, November 2, 2013
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the Florida A&M University
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAM
215 Perry Paige Building, South
Tallahassee, FL 32307
OFFICE: 850-599-3546
FAX: 850-561-2151
Registration: $5.00
Call or Email: extension@famu.edu
Florida A&M University
College of Agriculture and
Food Sciences
Cooperative Extension Programs

1740 Martin Luther King Jr, Blv
d215 Perry Paige Building South
Tallahassee, FL 32308
Phone: 850-599-3546
Fax: 850-561-2151
Website: http://www.famu.edu/cep

Cooperative Extension Faculty/Staff

Dr. Robert Taylor, Dean and Director of Land Grant Programs, College of Agriculture and Food Sciences (CAFS)
Vonda Richardson, Interim Director, Cooperative Extension Programs
Dr. Lawrence Carter, Director of Special Outreach Programs
Dr. Ray Mobley, Director of Veterinary Science
Dr. Jennifer Taylor, Extension Specialist – Small Farms/Sustainable Development
Tondalaya Nelson, EFNEP Coordinator/4-H Youth Development Specialist
Angela McKenzie-Jakes, Extension Animal Science Specialist/Program Leader Small Ruminant Program
Carmen Lyttle-N’guessan, Coordinator, Animal Healthcare/Veterinary Technology Program
Dr. Dreamal Worthen, Professor, Community Resource Development
Sandra Thompson, Community Resource Development Program Leader/ Extension Specialist
Dr. Glen Wright, Director of Animal Health
Dr. Robert Purvis, Extension Veterinarian
Gilbert Queeley, Research Associate
Dr. Keawin Sergeant, Asst. Professor, Animal Science/Trainer-HACCP
Trevor Hylton, County Extension Agent (Leon & Wakulla)
Dr. Alex Bolques, County Extension Agent (Gadsden)
Lester Muralles, County Extension Agent (Gadsden)
Melva Morfaw, County Extension Agent (Madison)
Donna Salters, Coordinator, Community Resource Development
Amelia Davis, Coordinator, Management Analysis/ Cooperative Extension SDA Newsletter Editor
Linda Sapp, Project Coordinator, Vet-Tech Program
Faith Clarke, Coordinator, OASDFR Project
Covey Washington, Extension Agent
Conchita Newman, Extension Agent
Sam Hand, Extension Agent
Sonji West, EFNEP Program Assistant (Gadsden County)
Tonia Torres, EFNEP Program Assistant (Hillsborough County)
Maria Jones, EFNEP Program Assistant (Gulf County)
Jimonica Geri, EFNEP Program Assistant (Escambia County)

The Florida A&M University Cooperative Extension Program is an equal employment/educational opportunity access organization which provides research-based educational information and other services only to eligible individuals and institutions regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, marital or veteran status.