

# Growth Comes from Palm Schools

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## Why Palm Schools?

The population of Florida continues to grow including Sumter County and surrounding counties. The primary audience for the Spring and Fall Palm Schools are both new residents and existing homeowners desiring palms for their Florida landscapes. The Palm School workshops review plant anatomy and educate residents on palm selection, fertilization requirements, proper pruning practices and to acquaint them with the insects and diseases that affect palms, including updates on lethal bronzing, as well as normal abnormalities.



Participants learn about palm pests on the horizon from Dr. Amanda Hodges during the Fall Palm School.

## Agenda-Spring Palm School

**8:45 a.m. Registration - Pre-Test**

**9:00-10:00 AM Palm Anatomy and Morphology/Diagnosing Palm Problems** – Dr. Bill Lester, UF/IFAS Extension Hernando County Master Gardener Coordinator and Residential Horticulture Agent II  
Break for 15 minutes

**10:15-11:00 AM Palm Physiological Disorders**– Jim Davis, UF/IFAS Multi-County Extension Director, Hernando County and Sumter County  
**11:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Palms for Central Florida** – Maxine Hunter, UF/IFAS Extension Marion County Master Gardener Coordinator and Residential Horticulture Agent

**Break for Lunch – 11:45 AM – 12:30 PM**

**12:30-1:30 PM Palm Nutritional Deficiencies**– Dr. Norma Samuel, UF/IFAS Extension Sumter County Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ and Urban Horticulture Agent IV  
Break for 15 minutes

**1:45-2:45 PM Palm Fertilization and Pruning**– Brooke Moffis, UF/UFAS Extension Lake County Master Gardener Coordinator and Residential Horticulture Agent III

**2:45: PM -3:30 PM Most Common Palm Diseases**– Jim Davis, UF/IFAS Multi-County Extension Director, Hernando County and Sumter County

**3:30 PM – 4:00 PM Palm Scene Investigation (PSI)** – Lisa Sanderson, UF/IFAS Extension Sumter County Master Gardener Coordinator and Residential Horticulture Agent II

**4:00 PM Adjourn Post-Test**



Leaves of South Florida Palms available to participants.

## Palm School Results

In the Spring Palm School, participants who participated in the pre- and post-quizzes, averaged a 27% increase of knowledge of palms. This knowledge will translate to a change in participant behavior in palm selection and care, and identification of palm problems including nutrient deficiencies, normal abnormalities and identification of possible insect and diseases of palms including lethal bronzing.



Participants are attentive to Palm School Speakers.



Steven Brown from Lee County demonstrates palm leaf types.

## 2019 Palm School Goals

- Palm Anatomy and Morphology
- Diagnosing Palm Problems
- Emerging Palm Problems
- Most Common Diseases + Lethal Bronzing
- Identifying Physiological Disorders of Palms
- Palms for Central and South Florida
- Palm Nutritional Deficiencies
- Fertilizing and Pruning Palms



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