



UF/IFAS Extension Office



Public & Administrative Services
Dr. Cindy Sanders



UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County- Mission

- To provide scientifically based agricultural, human, and natural resource knowledge that citizens use in making informed decisions, which contribute to an improved quality of life in Alachua County.





UF/IFAS Extension Alachua County

- Unique cooperative partnership between land grant college (UF/IFAS), USDA and county governments
- Areas of expertise
 - Agriculture
 - Family & Consumer & Sciences
 - Food & Nutrition Program
 - 4-H Youth Development
- 6 Extension Agents/Faculty





Extension Program Areas

- **Agriculture**
 - **Livestock/Director**
 - **Ag & Natural Resources**
 - **Commercial Horticulture**
 - **Environmental Horticulture**



Agriculture in Alachua County

- **\$255.4 million Value added Impact**
- **The extension office is the only research-based programming source for agriculture in Alachua County**
- **Extension agents served over 25,000 agricultural producers last year**
- **We provide: Site Visits for plant disease diagnosis, weed ID, fertilization recommendations, soil and forage testing, animal health, family nutrition, and financial management**
- **The Extension Office is mandated to provide Pesticide Trainings & Certifications**



Livestock

Dr. Cindy Sanders

- **48,000 head of Cattle in Alachua County**
 - **13th in the state in cow/calf production**
 - **2nd in Meat Goats**
 - **5th in Horses**
- **240,000 Acres in production agriculture in Alachua County**
- **Average farm size 113 acres**





Ag & Natural Resource Program- Dr. Kevin Korus

**Area of specialty: agriculture row crops,
pesticide training, small farms, ponds, weed
management, natural resources management**

- Field days, pesticide trainings, pesticide exams, workshops, seminars, publications
- Florida Master Naturalist Program
- The Extension Office is mandated to provide Pesticide Trainings & Testing through FI Dept of Ag.





Agronomic Crops

- **Peanuts**
8,000 acres
- **Corn for Silage**
3,500 acres
- **Tobacco**
400 acres
- **Soybeans**
2,000
- **Cotton**
2,000
- **Hay/Forages**
25,000 acres (4th in State)





Commercial Horticulture Program- Dr. Tatiana Sanchez

Areas of specialty

- Best Management Practices
- Disease, and nutrient management

Target audience vegetable farmers, fruit growers, nurserymen, and landscape maintenance professionals





Commercial Horticulture

Crop Value, including Nursery

\$65,039,000

- **Vegetables (16th in State)**

10,000 acres

Watermelon, green beans, cantaloupe, greens

5th in State in Snap Beans

- **Fruit crops (16th in State)**

2500 acres

\$10 million annual sales

Blueberries, strawberries, grapes, persimmon, pecans

- **Nursery and Landscape (19th in State) \$2mil in Sales**





Environmental Horticulture, Dr. Denise DeBusk

- **Master Gardener Coordinator**
- **Florida Yards and Neighborhoods**
- **Florida Friendly Landscaping**
- **Environmentally friendly landscaping**
- **Irrigation & Water Conservation**

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Environmental Horticulture Program

- Residential horticulture
- FYN Classes on Environmentally friendly landscaping
 - Public
 - Builders and developers
 - Homeowner associations
- Master Gardeners
2015- 130 volunteers
donated over 15,000 hours





Family & Consumer Science, Dr. Brenda Williams

- Financial planning, food safety (ServSafe), nutrition, family work through budgeting, home buying and retirement planning, bankruptcy classes
- Master Money Mentoring
- Before You Tie the Knot
- Food & Nutrition Program
- Financial Fitness





Food & Nutrition Program

- **Meagan Collins – Program Manager**
- **FNP program teaches participants who qualify for the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**





Food & Nutrition Program

Partners:

- **SWAG Family Resource Center**
- **Cone Park Library Family Resource Center**
- **UF Health Street**
- **Gainesville Housing Authority**
- **City of Newberry**
- **School Board of Alachua County**
- **Alachua County Public Library**
- **Girls Place**
- **Alachua County Farmers Markets**



4-H Youth Development, Amanda Morgan

- Area of specialty: Youth Development and Ag. Education
- Focus areas: Volunteer systems management, Youth leadership
- 20 4-H clubs --some after school programs
- Summer Day Camps





4-H Youth Development, Amanda Morgan



- 20 Community Clubs
- School Enrichment with Embryology Project (2500 students annually)
- 60 broad based project categories
 - Public speaking, science, engineering technology, environmental education, family and consumer sciences
- 160 volunteers- 11,000 volunteers hours in 2106
- \$242,880 in Value



Alachua County Extension Impacts 2016



- 530,000 Educational Contacts
- 200 Educational Materials Prepared
- 2005 Field Consultations
- 350+ Educational Programs Offered
- 27,000 Volunteer Hours \$596,160
- For every \$1 invested in Ag Research/Extension there is a \$20 return to the community

Questions

