

BOTANY SECTION

Compiled by Richard E. Weaver, Jr., Ph.D., and Patti J. Anderson, Ph.D.

For this period, 190 specimens were submitted to the Botany Section for identification, and 1,583 were received from other sections for identification/name verification for a total of 1,773. In addition, 56 sheets were added to the herbarium. Some of the samples received for identification are discussed below:

Adonidia merrillii (Becc.) Becc. (A genus of one species found in the Philippines.) Palmae.

Christmas palm, Manila palm. The slender, gray trunk of this palm, ringed with pale leaf scars, may have a slight bulge at its base, but no spines for protection. Leaves, up to 2.5 m long, are pinnately compound and gracefully arching. The leaflets are green on both upper and lower surfaces, but may vary from light to dark green. These linear to lanceolate leaflets grow at an angle from the rachis, creating a characteristic V-shaped leaf profile. In contrast, similar species in the *Veitchia* genus have drooping leaflets. Separate staminate and carpellate flowers are borne on a white axis, with the former having many stamens. Fruits grow in large clusters that change from green to brilliant red or scarlet when ripe, with no intermediate orange stage. This solitary palm grows to about 10 m in cultivation, but may reach 17 m in its native habitat. Sadly, its native habitat is threatened by degradation and invasion by exotic species. This stately palm is quite popular and widely available in the nursery trade, but its susceptibility to lethal yellowing may lead to its decline even in cultivation. Still, the palm grows well as a containerized ornamental and can be found decorating indoor shopping malls and atria. (Palm Beach County; B2007-556; Lane M. Smith; 12 September 2007) (Johnson 1998; Llamas 2003; McCormack 2007; Staples and Herbst 2005; Zona and Fuller 1999; <http://cookislands.bishopmuseum.org>; <http://www.iucnredlist.org>).



Adonidia merrillii

Photograph courtesy of Gerald McCormack, Cook Islands Biodiversity Database, Version 2007.

Bulnesia arborea (Jacq.) Engler (A genus of nine species from South America.) Zygophyllaceae.

Maracaibo lignumvitae, verawood. Native to dry coastal forests of Colombia and Venezuela, this tropical tree suffers chill damage below 40° F. Reddish-brown bark covers the straight trunk, which grows up to 20 m tall. The opposite, pinnately compound leaves have eight to nine pairs of oblong, alternate leaflets. The bright, golden yellow flowers have five sepals, five clawed petals, and ten stamens with fringed appendages attached at the base. It is an attractive, drought-tolerant, slow-growing ornamental in South Florida. Like its relative, *Guaiacum sanctum* (lignum vitae), wood of the tree is useful because of its high density and self-lubrication and has been used for marine bearings, mallet heads, bowling balls, pulley wheels, and railway crossties. A relatively new use for the wood comes from the market in tropical timber. The heartwood of the tree dries to an olive



Bulnesia arborea

Photograph courtesy of David Lee, Florida International University

green color that, along with its extreme durability, makes it attractive for hardwood flooring. The resin of this tree was also distilled and used medicinally in the same manner as *lignum vitae* as a cure for syphilis before the advent of modern antibiotics and as a soothing lozenge for respiratory ailments. (Miami-Dade County; B2007-536; Gwen H. Myres; 12 September 2007) (Llamas 2003; Mabberley 1997; http://bio.fiu.edu/trees/sp_pages/Bulnesia_arborea.html; http://www2.fpl.fs.fed.us/techsheets/Chudnoff/TropAmerican/html_files/bulnesia_new.html).

Couroupita guianensis Aubl. (A genus of four tropical species from Central and South America.)
Lecythidaceae. **Cannonball tree.** Trees up to 35 m tall. Leaves, clustered at the ends of non-



Couroupita guianensis
Photograph courtesy of Gerald McCormack, Cook
Islands Biodiversity Database, Version 2007.

flowering branches, are usually obovate, but sometimes elliptical, with a cuneate base and entire margins. The inflorescences are usually racemes on leafless flowering branches that grow directly from the main trunk of the tree. The unusual zygomorphic flowers are 5-6 cm in diameter with six calyx lobes and six petals. The stamens form a staminal ring and infertile staminodes grow from a hood over the ring. Two kinds of pollen are produced by this species: one is the fertile pollen of the stamens, the other is “fodder” pollen from the staminodes, serving as a highly nutritious reward for the large bees that pollinate this species. In addition to being showy, the flowers are quite

fragrant, especially in the early morning. The fruits, from which the common name is derived, are 12-25 cm diameter spheres that resemble brown cannonballs. After ripening, these large heavy fruits fall and burst open to reveal pulp and seeds. The pulp turns bluish-green when exposed to air and is extremely malodorous, probably because of sulfur compounds in the fruits. Peccaries have been observed eating the fruits, but they are considered inedible by humans. The cannonball tree is found in the canopies of tropical forests from Panama through northern South America and Amazonia where it is sometimes cut for timber. Although the tree is occasionally found in South Florida landscapes, it is most often seen as a curiosity in botanical gardens. (Miami-Dade County; B2007-535; Gwen H. Myres; 10 September 2007) (Kaiser 2000; Mabberley 1997; Mori and Prance 2006; <http://sweetgum.nybg.org/lp/index.html>; <http://www.toptropicals.com>).



Couroupita guianensis
Photograph courtesy of
Top Tropicals

Liatris spicata (L.) Willd. (A genus of 43 North American species.) Compositae. **Blazing star; dense gayfeather.** One of our more spectacular fall wildflowers, this herbaceous species has glabrous (or very sparsely pubescent) stems that grow up to 80 cm tall from an underground corm. With its slender, alternate leaves (to 2 cm across and 30 cm long), this species can easily be mistaken for a grass early in the growing season, when only the leaves and stem are present. The inflorescence is a spike to 30 cm tall with dense heads in an involucre about 1 cm by 1 cm. The pappus bristles have fine barbs along the margins. Disk flowers have lavender, rose, or purple-colored tubular corollas. There are no ray flowers. *L. spicata* is very similar to another native *Liatris* received during this period, *L. tenuifolia*. The two species differ in that *L. spicata* (a facultative wetland species) has phyllaries that are rounded at the apex and flower heads that are sessile while



L. tenuifolia has acute phyllaries and pedunculate flower heads. This genus includes 14 Florida species, many of them native to our fire dependent sandhill and flatwoods communities. Although suppressed for many years to limit fire near homes and smoke on roads, fire has been reintroduced through prescribed burning of many natural areas. *Liatris* species are among those that show a significant response to burning. For example, *L. spicata* has produced greater numbers of inflorescences after a spring burn, while there was an increase in the area covered by *L. tenuifolia* following three burns over six years. A regularly burned sandhill offers the opportunity to observe the beauty of a Florida landscape with spectacular spikes of purple gayfeather and sparkling wire grass under a canopy of pines. Both species of *Liatris* provide nectar to butterflies and skippers and have been used medicinally by humans. (Gadsden County; B2007-590; Jim Aldrich; 19 September 2007) (*Liatris tenuifolia* Nutt.; Highlands County; B2007-640; Richard T. Bloom; 12 October 2007) (Austin 2004; Medve 1987; Reinhart and Menges 2004; Wunderlin and Hansen 2003; http://www.missouriplants.com/Pinkalt/Liatris_spicata_page.html).



Mimosa strigillosa Torr. & Gray (A genus of over 400 species, mainly from the tropical and subtropical Americas.) Leguminosae. **Powderpuff.** This herbaceous Florida native groundcover grows to 25 cm tall from a woody taproot, with creeping, strigose stems that often develop adventitious roots at the nodes. The alternate, bipinnate leaves are olive green, glabrous and sensitive (closing when touched) with 4-6 pinnae having 10-15 pairs of leaflets. The globose pink flower heads (about 2.5 cm across) are typical of mimosoid legumes with numerous showy stamens. The plant varies with soil and water conditions, with larger plants growing in wetter locations and those in drier places less likely to produce adventitious roots. This species has been described both as a weed of turf grass and as an excellent native for landscapes, restoration projects, and butterfly gardens. It is a host plant for caterpillars of a small butterfly, *Eurema lisa*, the little yellow sulphur. *M. strigillosa* can be distinguished from the similar *M. pigra* by the hooked prickles on the stems and leaves of the later. *M. strigillosa* has no prickles or thorns. (Levy County; B2007-587; Richard T. Bloom; 19 September 2007) (Barneby 1991; Minno *et al.* 2005; Murphy 1996; Wunderlin and Hansen 2003; <http://www.regionalconservation.org/beta/nfyn/plantdetail.asp?tx=Mimostri>).



Poinsettia cyathophora (Murray) Bartl. (A genus of 11 species.) Euphorbiaceae. **Wild poinsettia; fire-on-the-mountain; paintedleaf.** This herbaceous species can (rarely) reach 1 m in height and is considered an annual, but it can survive winters in Florida. Its highly variable leaves range from broadly ovate and fiddle-shaped to linear-lanceolate. The leaves lower on the stem are alternate, while those near the inflorescence opposite. A relative of the more spectacular cultivated *Poinsettia pulcherrima*, used for winter holiday decorations, this ruderal plant almost always has splashes of red at the base of green bracts surrounding the inflorescence, which is a cyathium, the characteristic inflorescence of the genus. The cyathium consists of a cup-like involucre with female flowers reduced to a single pistil and male flowers to a single stamen. The species name “cyathophora” means cup bearer. A nectar gland in the cyathium produces a sweet reward to attract pollinators. This



species can be distinguished from the similar species, *P. heterophylla*, which may have purple or green floral bracts, but never with red at the base. Its white latex is reportedly toxic enough to cause dermatitis after contact with skin or intestinal distress if eaten. A Florida native, this species is also widely distributed across the United States from the Atlantic Coast of Virginia to California and north to Michigan, but not reported from states in New England, the Pacific Northwest and the Intermountain Region. (Hillsborough County; B2007-504; James 'Jim' R. Martin; 28 August 2007). (Burch 1966; Dressler 1961; Nellis 1997; Taylor 1998; <http://plants.usda.gov>).

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Unless otherwise noted, all photographs are generously provided by the Institute for Systematic Botany, Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants: <http://www.plantatlas.usf.edu>.

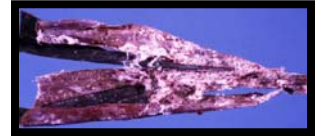
ENTOMOLOGY SECTION Compiled by Susan E. Halbert, Ph.D.

For the month of September, there were 705 samples (995 identifications), consisting of 33,194+ specimens. In October, there were 876 samples (1,202 identifications), consisting of 33,783+ specimens. Some of the samples are listed below:

ORNAMENTALS, WOODY PLANTS, AND PALMS:

Bambusa sp. (bamboo) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A moderate to severe infestation on two of five plants was found at a nursery in Rockland Key (Monroe County; E2007-6993; Lynn D. Howerton; 19 September 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Palmicultor lumpurensis (Takahashi), **a mealybug**: A slight infestation was found on one plant at a nursery in Hawthorne (Putnam County; E2007-7913; Sol F. Looker; 19 October 2007). Another infestation on 12 of 200 plants was found at a nursery in Saint Cloud (Osceola County; E2007-6876; Randall A. Dean; 17 September 2007). Both finds are NEW DPI COUNTY RECORDS.



Palmicultor lumpurensis
Photograph courtesy of
Dr. Greg S. Hodges, DPI

Cassia surattensis (cassia) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A slight infestation was found at a residence in St. Petersburg (Pinellas County; E2007-7427; Gabriela M. Bernard; 4 October 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Cocos nucifera (coconut palm) -- *Notostrix* sp., **an eriophyid mite**: An infestation was found on three plants at a residence in Hollywood (Broward County; E2007-1375; Trevor R. Smith, FDACS/DPI/CAPS and William A. Thiel, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 8 March 2007). NEW USA CONTINENTAL RECORD. Species in this genus are leaf vagrants and have not been reported to cause plant damage. This specimen is distinctly different from the 13 known species that range from Mexico to Brazil including the Caribbean. (Dr. W.C. 'Cal' Welbourn).

Enterolobium cyclocarpum (monkeysoap, ear-pod tree) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A severe infestation was found at a nursery in Palmetto (Manatee County; E2007-7541; Mark L. Runnals; October 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Ficus benjamina (weeping fig) -- *Singhiella simplex* (Singh), **fig whitefly**: A moderate infestation was found at a residence in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2007-5652; Keith J. Richardson; 3 August 2007). NEW USA CONTINENTAL RECORD. The fig whitefly, considered a minor pest of *Ficus* species in India, is native to Asia and reported from Burma and India. Only plants in the genus *Ficus* are listed in the literature as hosts (Dr. Greg S. Hodges).

Ficus lyrata (fiddle-leaf fig) -- *Singhiella simplex* (Singh), **fig whitefly**: A slight infestation was found at a residence in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2007-7954; Charles Gonzalez and Louis T. Lodyga; 23 October 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Howea forsteriana (kentia palm, sentry palm) -- *Vinsonia stellifera* (Westwood), **stellate scale**: An infestation was found at a residence in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2007-7884; Haydee L. Escobar; 18 October 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Ptychosperma elegans (Alexander palm, solitaire palm) -- *Gynaikothrips ficorum* (Marchal), **Cuban laurel thrips**: A slight infestation was found at a residence in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2007-6549; Haydee L. Escobar; 31 August 2007). The usual hosts of this species are various species of *Ficus*. It is not completely clear



Vinsonia stellifera
Photograph courtesy of Dr. Greg S. Hodges, DPI

whether these specimens were reproducing on the palm or just resting there (Dr. G.B. Edwards).

ORNAMENTALS, FLOWERING PLANTS:

Brunfelsia sp., (brunfelsia) -- *Pulvinaria ericicola* nr. (McConnell), **a soft scale**: A severe infestation on two plants was found at a nursery in Williston (Levy County; E2007-6994; W. Wayne Bailey; 21 September 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Odontonema strictum (firespike) -- *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood, **chili thrips**: A severe infestation was found on all of 15 plants at a nursery in Rockland Key (Monroe County; E2007-6769; Lynn D. Howerton; 12 September 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

FOREST AND SHADE TREES:

Ficus aurea (Florida strangler fig) -- *Singhiella simplex* (Singh), **fig whitefly**: A slight infestation was found at a residence in Coral Gables (Miami-Dade County; E2007-7638; Mario Jose Hernandez; 15 October 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Ficus microcarpa (Cuban laurel, Indian laurel, laurel fig) -- *Singhiella simplex* (Singh), **fig whitefly**: An infestation was found at a residence in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2007-7610; Mario Jose Hernandez; 12 October 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Quercus virginiana (live oak) -- *Scirtothrips dorsalis* Hood, **chili thrips**: An infestation was found at the UF-IFAS Extension office in Tavares (Lake County; E2007-7557; Leslie J. Wilber; 8 October 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

FOOD AND CROP PLANTS:

Acca sellowiana (pineapple guava) -- *Pseudaulacaspis cockerelli* (Cooley), **magnolia white scale**: A moderate infestation was found at a nursery in Odessa (Pasco County; E2007-6493; Richard A. White; 29 August 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Allium sp. (onion) -- *Rhizoecus floridanus* Hambleton, **a root mealybug**: A severe infestation was found at a nursery in Gulf Breeze (Santa Rosa County; E2007-6654; W.L. 'Robbie' Robinson; 6 September 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD. This mealybug is fairly common in Florida on a wide range of hosts. Large infestations can cause a severe decrease in host vigor (Dr. Greg S. Hodges).

Annona cherimola (cherimoya) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found at a residence in Bloomingdale (Hillsborough County; E2007-7402; Miryam Briceno, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; September 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Brassica oleracea (broccoli, cauliflower) -- *Acanthoscelides pauperculus* (LeConte), **a bruchid beetle**: A slight infestation was intercepted on plants from California at a discount garden center in Arcadia (De Soto County; E2007-7681; Susan Griego; 15 October 2007). This is a Western species, not reported from the Eastern United States. Its host is a clover, *Trifolium obtusiflorum* Hooker (Dr. Michael C. Thomas).

Cucurbita sp. (squash, pumpkin) -- *Phthia picta* (Drury), **a coreid bug**: Specimens were found on the University of Florida campus in Gainesville (Alachua County; E2007-7349; Christine A. Zamora, David C. Ziesk, and Susan E. Halbert; 5 October 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Malus pumila (cultivated apple) -- *Myllocerus undecimpustulatus undatus* Marshall, **a weevil**: A severe infestation was found at a residence in Boynton Beach (Palm Beach County; E2007-6880; Eduardo Solis; 14 September 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Pimpinella anisum (anise, anise seed, common anise) -- *Paracoccus marginatus* Williams & Granara de Willink, **papaya mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found at Florida Botanical Gardens in Largo (Pinellas County; E2007-7117; Mark A. Spearman; 19 September 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

WEEDS AND GRASSES:

Cenchrus sp. (sand spur) -- *Icerya genistae* Hempel, **a margarodid scale**: A moderate infestation was found on weeds at a location in Aventura (Miami-Dade County; E2007-6776; Olga Garcia; 11 September 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Muhlenbergia sp. (muhly grass) -- *Stemmatomerinx acircula* Howell & Miller, **a mealybug**: A severe infestation on 10 of 20 plants was found at a residence in Bradenton (Manatee County; E2007-6720; Jeffrey T. Price, University of Florida, and homeowner; 11 September 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. This mealybug has been fairly common on muhly grass and Fakahatchee grass in the past few years. It is thought to be a native species and may be common on native grasses (Dr. Greg S. Hodges).

Solanum viarum (tropical soda apple) -- *Bemisia tabaci* (Gennadius), **sweet potato whitefly**, A slight infestation was found on five of 27 plants at the DPI office in Fort Pierce (St. Lucie County; E2007-8077; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 25 October 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Palmicultor browni nr., **a mealybug**: A moderate infestation was found at the DPI office in Ft. Pierce (St. Lucie County; E2007-7453; Kenneth L. Hibbard; 2 October 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

NATIVE AND NATURALIZED PLANTS:

Coccoloba uvifera (seagrape) -- *Gynaikothrips uzeli* Zimmerman, **weeping fig thrips**: A slight infestation was found on a plant in a commercial landscape in North Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2007-8210; Olga Garcia; 30 October 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD. Usually, this species is found on *Ficus benjamina*. *Gynaikothrips ficorum* has been reported on this host, but this is the first record for *G. uzeli* (Dr. G.B. Edwards).

Hibiscus grandiflorus (swamp rosemallow) -- *Paracoccus marginatus* (Williams & Granara de Willink), **papaya mealybug**: A severe infestation was found on a plant at a residence in Tampa (Hillsborough County; E2007-7844; Richard A. White; 16 October 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Illicium parviflorum (anise tree, yellow anise) -- Cecidomyiidae, **a gall midge**: A moderate infestation was found on all of four plants at a nursery in Florahome (Putnam County E2007-7956; Sol F. Looker; 22 October 2007). This plant is not recorded as a host for gall midges (Dr. Gary J. Steck). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Sambucus canadensis (elderberry) -- *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green), **pink hibiscus mealybug**: A slight infestation was found on a plant at a residence in St. Petersburg (Pinellas County; E2007-8238; Gabriela M. Bernard; 1 November 2007). NEW DPI HOST RECORD.

Zanthoxylum fagara (wild lime, lime prickly-ash) -- *Leuronota fagarae* Burckhardt, **wild lime psyllid**: A slight infestation was found at Calusa Regional Park in Alva (Lee County; E2007-7275; Lorrie R. Rigby; 2 October 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

BENEFICIAL INSECTS:

Chilocorus nigritis (Fabricius), **a lady bird beetle**: A specimen was found at a residence in Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2007-8068; Catherine M. Mannion and Holly B. Glenn, University of

Florida, IFAS, Homestead; 17 October 2007). NEW USA CONTINENTAL RECORD. This is a South American coccinellid not recorded previously from Florida. It was introduced into California in 1985 as a biological control agent, but there is no evidence that it became established there (Dr. Michael C. Thomas).

FEDERAL AND STATE PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE PROGRAMS:

Spodoptera litura (Fabricius), **rice cutworm**: A specimen was intercepted in a pheromone trap at a nursery in Homestead (Miami-Dade County; E2007-7069; Wayne S. Montgomery, USDA/ARS; 20 April 2007). This is a potentially serious pest from Asia that is destructive to many agricultural crops during population explosions. It is listed as of quarantine significance by EPPO, CPPC, NAPPO, AND OIRSA (Julieta Brambila, USDA/APHIS/PPQ Regional Identifier). A nine square mile grid of pheromone traps, initiated on 25 September 2007 has not trapped another male moth as of 21 November 2007 (Dr. Wayne N. Dixon).

ARTHROPOD DETECTION:

Argiope aurantia Lucas, **common black and yellow garden spider**, A specimen of this common species was found at a residence in Gibsonton (Hillsborough County; E2007-6981; Ruben S. Cliatt, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 5 September 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Cyrtophora citricola (Forsk.) **a tentweb weaver**: A moderate infestation was found at a nursery in Boynton Beach (Palm Beach County; E2007-7240; Ellen J. Tannehill; 21 September 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Dilophus sayi (Hardy), **a March fly**: Specimens were found by mosquito trappers in Marathon (Monroe County; E2007-3217; Lawrence J. Hribar, employee, Monroe County Mosquito Central District; 7 May 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Emblyna florens (Ivie & Barrows), **meshweb weaver**: A specimen was found on *Carica papaya* (papaya) at a business in North Ft. Myers (Lee County; E2007-6982; Reuben E. Sibert, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 16 September 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Hibana decepta (Banks), **a spider**: A specimen was found at a residence in North Miami (Miami-Dade County; E2007-6962; Carlos M. Pelegrin; 19 September 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. This species was known previously in Florida only from the Panhandle. It occurs west to Texas and south to Costa Rica (Dr. G.B. Edwards).

Hoplocheiloma fabricii Steyskal, **a micropezid fly**: Specimens were found on a sticky board in West Palm Beach (Palm Beach County; E2007-7044; John D. Black, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 19 September 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

Lindquistula multisoleidiata Zacharda, **a rhagidid mite**: Specimens were found in leaf litter in the South Florida Water Management District Conservation Area 3A South, Tree Island #720A (Miami-Dade County; E2007-7100; W.C. 'Cal' Welbourn, J. Howard Frank, University of Florida, IFAS, Gainesville, and Michael S. Burton, University of Florida, IFAS, Ft. Pierce; 22 August 2007). NEW CONTINENTAL USA RECORD. This record represents a significant range extension for this mite, which is known from a single specimen described from Ontario, Canada (Dr. W.C. 'Cal' Welbourn).

Melormenis basalis Walker, **Puerto Rican planthopper**: A specimen was found in a multi-lure trap in *Psidium cattleianum* (Cattley guava, strawberry guava) at a residence in Bonita Springs (Collier County; E2007-6798; Patricia L. McMackins, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 13 September 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.

- Oxyopes salticus* Hentz, **striped lynx spider**: A specimen was found on *Chrysanthemum* sp. (chrysanthemum) at a nursery in Alva (Lee County; E2007-6980; David L. Renz, V-Anne Kemmerer, Ronald G. Lee, all USDA/APHIS/PPQ, Jo Ann Pate, Linda Combs, Matthew W. Brodie, Richard L. Blaney, Scott D. Krueger, and Walter W. Golden; 19 September 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Pholcus phalangoides* (Fuesslin), **cellar spider**: A specimen was found at a residence in Palm Coast (Flagler County; E2007-6800; Bug-Guard Services, Inc. employee and Lyle J. Buss, University of Florida; 24 August 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Sophonia* sp. probably *orientalis* (Matsumura), **two-spotted leafhopper**: A female specimen was collected in a multi-lure trap at a residence in Winter Springs (Seminole County; E2007-8180; Victor M. Zeno, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 22 October 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. *Sophonia orientalis* is a serious pest of many plants. The only previous collections of *Sophonia* in Florida have been in Miami-Dade County. Unfortunately, all specimens collected to date have been females. Without a male, we cannot confirm the species. (Dr. Susan E. Halbert).
- Spartocera fusca* (Thunberg), **a coreid bug**: A specimen was found in Tallahassee (Leon County; E2007-6908; Michael A. Bentley; 17 September 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD.
- Spodoptera puchella* (Herrich-Schäffer), **Caribbean armyworm**: Three specimens were collected in a pheromone trap at a nursery in Loxahatchee (Palm Beach County; E2007-8303; Michael L. Cartrett; 5 November 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. This species is known from southern Florida, Bahamas, and the Greater Antilles (Julieta Brambila, USDA/APHIS/PPQ Regional Identifier).
- Synaptonecta issa* (Distant), **a water boatman**: A specimen was collected on *Quercus virginiana* (live oak) at the USDA office in Fort Myers (Lee County; E2007-6752; David L. Renz; 11 September 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. This is an Asian water bug, probably introduced with aquarium plants. Its host is not oak (Dr. Susan E. Halbert).
- Syrirta flaviventris* Macquart, **a flower fly**: A specimen was collected at Three Lake Wilderness Area (Osceola County; E2007-5774; a middle school teacher; July 2007). NEW DPI STATE RECORD. This is a European species first recorded in North America (Mexico and Texas) in 1990. It is presently not known from elsewhere in the United States (Dr. Gary J. Steck).
- Toxytrypana curvicauda* Gerstaecker, **papaya fruit fly**: A specimen was collected in a multi-lure trap at a residence in Casselberry (Seminole County; E2007-7042; Oscar Orta, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 20 September 2007). NEW DPI COUNTY RECORD. This is near the northernmost limit of the papaya fruit fly in Florida (Dr. Gary J. Steck).
- Yabisi habanensis* Franganillo, **two-tailed spider**: A specimen was collected in a Jackson trap in *Murraya paniculata* (orange jasmine, Chinese box) at a residence in Davie (Broward County; E2007-6803; John Pieper, USDA/APHIS/PPQ; 12 September 2007). This species was previously reported only from Cuba and the Florida Keys. The entire family, Hersiliidae, is very rare in Florida. (Dr. G.B. Edwards).

NEMATOLOGY SECTION
Compiled by Janete A. Brito, Ph.D and Renato N. Inserra, Ph.D

A total of 3,112 samples (2,663 for morphological and 449 for molecular identifications) were processed in September and October 2007. Details are shown below:

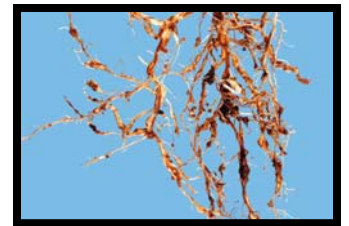
<p>Certification and Regulatory Samples:</p> <p>Multi-state Certification for National and International Export 1833</p> <p>California Certification..... 455</p> <p>Pre-movement (Citrus Nursery Certification) 43</p> <p>Site or Pit Approval (Citrus Nursery and Other Certifications)..... 30</p>	<p>Other Samples:</p> <p>Identification (invertebrate)..... 2</p> <p>Plant Problems 40</p> <p>Intrastate Survey, Random..... 260</p> <p>Molecular Identifications* 449</p> <p><small>*The majority of these analyses involved root-knot nematode species</small></p>
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Nematodes of Special Interest

Nematodes of special interest detected and/or identified in September-October 2007:

Ficus carica (common fig, edible fig) - *Meloidogyne incognita* (Kofoid & White, 1919) Chitwood, 1949, **southern root-knot nematode** was infecting the roots of this deciduous fruit tree (Palm Beach County, N07-01263, Lane M. Smith, 24 September 2007). The results of field observations and greenhouse experiments indicate that the damage of this nematode to fig trees is greater for small seedlings than older plants.

Callistemon sp. (bottlebrush) - *Meloidogyne mayaguensis* Rammah & Hirschmann, 1988, a **root-knot nematode** was infecting the roots of this ornamental shrub (Citrus County, N07-01334, Corinne M. Hermle, 10 October 2007). Many ornamental plants, including *Callistemon citrinus* and *C. viminalis*, are good hosts of this root-knot nematode in Florida.



Callistemon citrinus
Photograph courtesy of Dr. Janet A. Brito, DPI

COLLECTORS SUBMITTING FIVE OR MORE SAMPLES THAT WERE PROCESSED FOR NEMATOLOGICAL ANALYSIS DURING SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2007:

Anderson, James L.48	LeBoutillier, Karen W. 134
Bailey, Wayne W.45	Ochoa, Ana L. 145
Bentley, Michael A. 18	Pate, Jo Ann36
Echols, M. Jane39	Qiao, Ping85
Edenfield, Carrie S..... 185	Salisbury, Thomas L. 106
	Spriggs, Charles L.394

PLANT PATHOLOGY

Compiled by: Robert M. Leahy

For this period, the Plant Pathology Section received and processed 2,035 specimens. These included 644 Pathology, nine bee, 955 citrus greening, and eight soil samples. Six full pathogenicity tests for citrus canker were performed, and visual examinations were conducted for 43 samples from Southeast Florida, 58 from Central Gulf Coast Florida, 150 from Southwest Gulf Coast Florida, 142 from Central Florida and 20 from North Florida.

ORNAMENTALS, WOODY PLANTS AND PALMS:

Carissa macrocarpa (natal palm) - *Phytophthora palmivora* (E. J. Butler) E. J. Butler, **root rot**:

Collected at a dooryard in Merritt Island, Brevard County (21 September 2007, Angelina M. Toral, P2007-9110). NEW HOST RECORD.

Clusia rosea (pitch apple, autograph tree) - *Pycnoporus cinnabarinus* (Jacq.:Fr.) P. Karst, **wood rotting fungus**: Collected at a dooryard in Davie, Broward County (17 September 2007, Frank A. Burgos, P2007-9131). NEW HOST RECORD.

Coccoloba uvifera (sea grape) - *Mycovellosiella* sp., **leaf spot**: Collected at a dooryard in Miami, Miami-Dade County (13 September 2007, Juan L. Garcia Lopez, P2007-9071). NEW HOST RECORD.

Pachysandra sp. (pachysandra) - *Pseudonectria pachysandricola*, **blight**: Collected at a nursery in Williston, Marion County (4 October 2007, Cheryl A. Jones, P2007-9551).

Sabal palmetto (cabbage palm) - *Thielaviopsis paradoxa* & *Thielaviopsis* sp., **trunk rot**: Collected at a nursery in Gulf Breeze, Santa Rosa County (18 September 2007, William L. Robinson, P2007-9374).

Elaeagnus pungens (silverthorn) - *Nectria rigidiuscula* Berkeley & Broome & *Fusarium decemcellulare*, **opportunistic fungal pathogen**: Collected at a dooryard in Evinston, Alachua County (18 September 2007, Anne Mudra, P2007-9122). NEW HOST RECORD.

FOREST AND SHADE TREES:

Acer rubrum (red maple) - *Biscogniauxia* sp., **leaf rot**: Collected at a nursery in Navarre, Santa Rosa County (10 October 2007, William R. Robinson, P2007-9691).

Quercus sp. (oak) - *Cryptocline* sp. **leaf spot**: Collected at a nursery in Plant City, Hillsborough County (7 September 2007, Peter V. Brozetti, P2007-8631).

FOOD AND CROPS:

Cucurbita sp. (squash) - *Choanephora cucurbitarum*, **leaf/flower blight**: Collected at a nursery in Apopka, Orange County (25 September 2007, Lance A. Brown, P2007-9714).

Cymbopogon citratus (lemon grass) - *Puccinia nakanishikii*, **rust**: Collected at a nursery in Plymouth, Orange County (25 September 2007, Charles A. Leggett, P2007-9405).