

**2026 FBGA Spring Meeting and Field Day**  
**Wednesday, March 4, 2026**  
**2556 Co Hwy 318**  
**UF PSREU, Citra, FL 32113**

**8:00 a.m.** Visit Trade Show

**9:00 a.m.** Welcome – Dr. Robert Gilbert, *Dean for Research, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.*

**9:15 a.m.** Weed management during harvest – Dr. Peter Dittmar, *Extension weed scientist, Horticultural Sciences Department, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.*

**9:45 a.m.** Fruit transpiration, fruit firmness and fruit quality – Dr. Gerardo Nunez, *plant physiologist, Horticultural Sciences Department, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.*

**10:15 a.m.** Break – visit trade show

**10:45 a.m.** Updates on leaf rust research and FBGA Research Committee – Dr. Phil Harmon, *Extension plant pathologist and Christ Mane Belizaire, Graduate Research Assistant, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.*

**11:15 a.m.** New leaf nitrogen sufficiency thresholds for southern highbush blueberries – Dr. Hanna Ibiapina de Jesus, *horticulturist, Dr. Jeff Williamson, Extension horticulturist, and Dr. Gerardo Nunez, plant physiologist, Horticultural Sciences Department, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.*

**11:45 a.m.** Lunch and trade show

**1:00 p.m.** Effects of pine bark decomposition on plant nutrient uptake – Ms. Paige Larsen *graduate assistant, and Dr. Gerardo Nunez, plant physiologist, Horticultural Sciences Department, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.*

**1:30 p.m.** Breeding program and Citra trial site update, pulse irrigation system – Dr. Patricio Munoz, *blueberry breeder, Horticultural Sciences Department, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.*

**2:00 p.m.** Leave for field portion of meeting

**2:15 p.m.** Field portion of blueberry breeding program update and pulse irrigation system – Dr. Patricio Munoz, *blueberry breeder, Horticultural Sciences Department, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.*

**2:45 p.m.** Field portion of blueberry plant physiology update - Dr. Gerardo Nunez, *plant physiologist, Horticultural Sciences Department, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla.*

**3:15 p.m.** Return to meeting room, distribution of signed CEU forms.