

Highlights in

Horticulture

Baker County

Jan/Feb 2008

Dear Extension Friends,

A new year is here, and that means a new beginning for our gardens. This year, let's strive to lessen our impact on the environment as we garden by making wise choices. We can learn more about the needs of our plants, then choose appropriate fertilizers and use the least toxic method when we want to control garden pests or weeds. When we make good choices, we can grow beautiful gardens and at the same time we can help protect our water supply from contamination, protect beneficial insects needed for natural pest control and for pollination, and make the world cleaner and safer for all involved. Start this new year in a new way. Become a more informed gardener. Call us, we can help!

Barbara

Barbara A. Smith
 UF/IFAS - Baker County Horticulture Extension Agent

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A New Master Gardener Training Class is forming!

- Do you want to learn more about plants and gardening?**
- Are you looking for a group of folks with similar interests?**
- Do you have time to attend training classes this spring?**
- Would you enjoy volunteering for the extension service?**



If you'd like to become an extension service volunteer in the horticulture area, here's your chance. Master Gardener Training classes meet on Wednesdays from Feb. 27 - Apr. 23, 2008.

To Apply: fill out the *interest form* on page three & return it to our office by 5 pm on Friday, Feb. 8th.

All classes will be telecast to the Baker County Extension office from the University of Florida, with local input by Barbara Smith. See page three for a list of topics that will be covered during training.

**Attention
Small Farmers &
Backyard Producers:**



I am looking for growers in and around the Baker County area who are interested in selling to the public. Call me if you or someone you know would like to be listed in the new Baker County Grower's Guide. It will list crops and who has them for sale in this area.

Barbara Smith, Baker County Extension Horticulture Agent , 904-259-3520.

HOT ITEMS :



Would you like to become a small farmer, growing crops and marketing them locally?

Some possibilities include growing vegetables, fruits, flowers, herbs, or ornamental trees and shrubs for sale at one of the many farmer's markets in nearby counties. Call our office for a list.

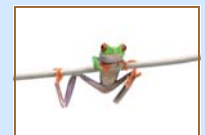
Bradford County just opened a new farmer's market in Starke at 2222 North Temple Highway . For information on buying and selling at this market, contact Terry Driggers (904) 329-3713, Fax: (904) 329-3771. This market is open year-round and needs growers.

Baker County Extension has information on choosing a small farm enterprise, growing, marketing, and more. Ask for this publication at our office to get you started:

Keys to Successfully Choosing Enterprises That Suit Your Small Farm HS338. Also visit the Small Farms Website <http://smallfarms.ifas.ufl.edu>.

Gardening in Baker County

- Plan now for your spring vegetable garden.
- Plant fruit trees, flowering trees, and shade trees now while there is rain to help keep them watered.
- Take advantage of the cooler weather to do some yard clean-up.
- Teach a child something you know about gardening or nature.
- Get outside and soak up the sights and sounds in your garden.
- Design a new addition to your garden, maybe a butterfly garden, wildlife garden, or quiet corner for sitting.
- Call the Extension office for publications on growing grass, trees, or anything else you are interested in.



Florida Vegetable Garden Guide SP103

Organic Vegetable Gardening CIR375

Getting Started in Butterfly Gardening ENY722

Dispelling Misconceptions about Trees SSORH3 2

Selecting a Turfgrass for Florida Lawns ENH04

Natural Enemies and Biological Control ENY822

Drought Tolerant Plants for North FL CIR 807

Insect Management in the Home Garden ENY478

Master Gardeners Training Schedule for 2008 - Spring class	
2/27	Intro to Plant Pests -Entomology Intro to Plant Pests -Weeds
3/5	Intro to Plant Pests - Basic Nematology Intro to Plant Pests - Plant Pathology
3/12	Pesticides and Pesticide Labeling Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Soils and Fertilizers Nutrient Deficiencies and Their Causes
3/19	Basic Botany/Plant Science FL Yards and Neighborhood Program
3/26	To be determined
4/2	Vegetable Gardening Dooryard Fruits
4/9	Landscape Pitfalls Trees
4/16	Mistaken Identities in the garden Customer Service as a Master Gardener
4/23	Florida Lawns Turf and Ornamental Pests Turf and Ornamental Diseases

**Master Gardener Program
Interest Form**

Dear Baker County Horticulture Program:

I am interested in applying for the Master Gardener program. Please send me an application packet .

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

MASTER GARDENER TRAINING SPRING 2008

Do you like to learn? Would you enjoy teaching people about gardening? Are you a problem solver? Do you have time to volunteer?

Baker County Master Gardeners must volunteer 75 hours for Baker County Extension within one year following their training, doing plant-related work at the extension office, in local schools, or elsewhere in Baker County. After the first year, 35 hours/year are required to maintain Active status.

There are Master Gardeners throughout the U.S. In Florida, most counties have Master Gardener programs. This creates a large network of volunteers to help extension educate the public. Master Gardeners help the county agent to extend educational information about gardening from the University of Florida to people in Baker County who can benefit from it.

If you are curious about becoming a Master Gardener, give our office a call. We love talking about our great volunteers. Phone: 904-259-3520.

Baker County Extension Service
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Upon request, for individuals with documented print related disabilities, this publication is available in alternative format. Contact the Baker County Extension Service for more information. For individuals with disabilities requiring special accommodations, please contact the Baker County Extension Service at least 5 working days prior to the program in order for proper consideration to be given to the request. For TDD service, call the Florida Relay Service Center at 1-800-955-8771

Upcoming Extension Programming

Series of four Florida Yards & Neighborhoods (FYN) Programs for Baker County Feb & March:

1. Feb 6th - 6-7:30 pm **FYN-Ornamental Trees for Baker County**, Baker County Extension office, 1025 W. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny. Cost is \$2.
Call 904-259-3520 to register by Wednesday, Feb 6th at 5pm.
2. Feb 26 - 6-7:30 PM **FYN- Planning a FL Friendly Landscape**, Baker County Extension office, 1025 W. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny. Cost is \$2.
Call 904-259-3520 to register by Friday, Feb. 22nd at 5pm.
3. Mar 6th - 6-7:30 PM, **FYN - Growing and Maintaining Lawns**, Baker County Extension office, 1025 W. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny. Cost is \$2.
Call 904-259-3520 to register by Tuesday, Mar 4th at 5pm.
4. Mar 18 - 6-7:30PM, **FYN- Drought Tolerant Landscaping**, Baker County Extension office, 1025 W. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny. Cost is \$2.
Call 904-259-3520 to register by Friday, Mar 14 at 5pm.

Feb. 27- April 23 - **New Master Gardener Training** on Wednesdays, Baker County Extension office (see page 2) and call 904-259-3520 for more info. Application to Master Gardener Program required.

FEB. 23, 8:45 AM – 2:30 PM - BE A HOBBY BEEKEEPER SHORT COURSE, CLAY COUNTY EXTENSION CENTER, 2463 SR 16 W, GREEN COVE SPRINGS. Course fee is \$10; please register by February 21, 2008 at (904) 284-6355. Note: As this activity involves direct contact with a stinging insect, no children under the age of 18 will be admitted to the Open Hive portion of the program.

Mar 13-15 **Bee College & Master Beekeeper Program, Mid-FL REC, Apopka.**

Visit <http://entnemdept.ifas.ufl.edu/honeybee> or contact Mike O'Malley UF Honey Bee Lab at 352-392-1901, ext. 189. for more info.