

# TRI-OLOGY

A PUBLICATION OF THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES, DIVISION OF PLANT INDUSTRY  
CHARLES H. BRONSON, COMMISSIONER RICHARD D. GASKALLA, DIVISION DIRECTOR

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DPI's Bureau of Entomology, Nematology and Plant Pathology (the botany section is included in this bureau) produces TRI-OLOGY six times a year, covering two months of activity in each issue. The report includes detection activities from nursery plant inspections, routine and emergency program surveys, and requests for identification of plants and pests from the public. Samples are also occasionally sent from other states or countries for identification or diagnosis.

## Highlights

Following are a few of the notable entries from this volume of TRI-OLOGY. These entries are reports of interesting plants or unusual pests, some of which may be problematic. See Section Reports for complete information.

***Coloptera* sp. (an issid planthopper), a new Continental USA record** for the genus, was detected in Florida for the first time on January 4, 2010, in a Multi-Lure trap. The Florida specimen more closely resembles Mexican species of *Coloptera* than Caribbean ones, but it might be an undescribed species.



***Coloptera* sp. (an issid planthopper)**  
Photograph courtesy of Susan E. Halbert, [DPI](#)



***Nipaecoccus viridis* (Lebbeck mealybug)**  
Photograph courtesy of Lyle J. Buss, University of Florida

***Nipaecoccus viridis* (the Lebbeck mealybug), a new record for the Western Hemisphere**, was collected on dodder (*Cuscuta exaltata*) in November 2009 by CAPS surveyors working in the Rosemary Scrub Natural Area in Palm Beach County. This species has been intercepted at United States ports of entry on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, but its establishment in a natural area away from a port is currently unexplained. See the [DPI Pest Alert](#).

***Septoria mikania-micranthae*, a new Northern Hemisphere record**, was previously known only from Brazil, and is considered a potential biocontrol pathogen. It was found on the invasive vine, *Mikania micrantha*, a noxious weed that was recently detected in Miami-Dade County, also for the first time in this country. The sexual stage of this pathogen (*Mycosphaerella mikania-micranthae*) has not been detected on Florida material so far. There are only two *Septoria* spp. on *Mikania* now reported in the United States, and this one is the only *Septoria* on *Mikania* reported from Florida.



***Mikania micrantha* (climbing hempweed, mile-a-minute vine)**  
Photograph courtesy of Patti J. Anderson, [DPI](#)

***Lilium catesbaei* (Catesby's lily, pine lily), a**

## Section Reports

**Botany**

**Entomology**

**Nematology**

**Plant Pathology**

## Our Mission...getting it done

The mission of the Division of Plant Industry is to protect Florida's native and commercially grown plants and the State's apiary industry from harmful pests and diseases. To carry out that mission, our five bureaus employ scientists, environmental specialists, agricultural and laboratory technicians along with administrative and support staff. Perhaps you'd be interested in some of the things we do to protect our state from pest plants and animals.

For example, how do we control potential pests that might enter the state?

Anyone who ships commercial nursery stock into Florida must be registered with the originating state, each separate container of stock must have a certificate of inspection, and all



*Lilium catesbaei* (pine lily)

Photograph courtesy of Glenn Fleming, [Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants](#)

spectacular wildflower, with among the largest flowers of any indigenous North American monocot, was collected in Lee County. It is native to wet pine flatwoods and savannahs, especially in pitcher plant bogs, in the Coastal Plain from Virginia to Louisiana. It is found throughout Florida, but is less common in the extreme south and is absent from the Keys. The flowers are as much as 10 cm across and are made up of six similar tepals. They are mostly scarlet with a purple-spotted yellow blotch at the base. The six stamens are held stiffly erect. This beautiful plant is not yet rare in Florida, but it is declining and is on Florida's list of threatened plants.

**Meloidogyne mayaguensis, the Guava root-knot nematode.**

infects weed plants as well as agronomic and

horticultural crops. This root-knot nematode has been found to reproduce on 13 weed species worldwide and has been reported in Africa, Asia, South America, Central America, North America and the Caribbean region. In North America, it is known to occur only in Florida. Infected plants exhibit root galling, which is the major symptom induced by this nematode species. Weeds can serve as a major reservoir of root-knot nematodes not only in the field, but also in nurseries, and should be included in nematode management programs.



*Opuntia humifusa* (pricklypear cactus) infected by *Meloidogyne mayaguensis*

Photograph courtesy of Darlene J. George-Hill, [DPI](#)

**Acknowledgements:**

The editors would like to acknowledge the work of all those who contributed information and explanations by providing data, photographs or text and by carefully reading early drafts. We also thank Scott Weinberg for his skillful use of web authoring tools to produce this report.

shipments of nursery stock entering peninsular Florida by road are required to stop at an agricultural inspection station. The inspections focus on plants and plant products or anything else that might carry plant pests. If the material is found to be infested or infected with a plant pest, noxious weed or arthropod, the material can be treated, refused entry or destroyed.

Of course, the risk of importing pests with any nursery stock requires us to control commercial shipments into the state, but in addition, plants coming into the state with new residents or visitors might also contain pests. Plants coming into Florida in a passenger's baggage or included in household effects must have a valid certificate of inspection. Recently, our plant inspection team has begun a program to assist in these agricultural inspections to better coordinate the process. You might see some examples of pests detected from those inspections in Tri-ology.

We welcome your comments and suggestions for improvement on the new format of TRI-OLOGY. Please feel free to contact me at [dixonw@doacs.state.fl.us](mailto:dixonw@doacs.state.fl.us) or Dr. Patti Anderson at [andersp1@doacs.state.fl.us](mailto:andersp1@doacs.state.fl.us) and let us know.

Wayne N. Dixon, Ph.D., editor  
Assistant Director, DPI

## Botany Section

Compiled by [Richard E. Weaver, Jr., Ph.D.](#), and [Patti J. Anderson, Ph.D.](#)

This section identifies plants for the Division of Plant Industry, as well as for other governmental agencies and private individuals. The Botany Section maintains a reference herbarium with over 10,000 plants and nearly 1,400 vials of seeds.

***Carmona microphylla* (Lam.) G. Don (Fukien tea)**, a genus of one Asian species. Boraginaceae. This shrub or tree with silver gray bark can grow to 10 m tall, but is often seen as a bonsai plant. The alternate, obovate leaves of Fukien tea, like many species in this family, are hispid, having unusual stiff, bristly hairs; they are shiny above and a dull, pale, green below with crenate or dentate margins towards the apex. The flower has a white corolla to 6.5 mm long with a limb to 9 mm. The fruit is a red or yellow drupe to 6 mm diameter. The scale of these tiny, long-lived flowers and fruit make this plant especially attractive to bonsai enthusiasts. Other members of this family might be more familiar to Florida gardeners, such as the forget-me-not (*Myosotis* spp.) or the once-thought-to-be-native Geiger tree (*Cordia sebestena*). Now escaped from cultivation, it can be found growing wild in South Florida. (Lee County; B2010-60; Roberto Delcid; 2 December 2009.) (Huxley 1992; Mabberly 1997; Wunderlin and Hansen 2003; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boraginaceae>.)

***Chromolaena odorata* (L.) R.M. King & H. Robins (Jack-in-the-bush, bitterbush or Siamweed)**, a genus of 165 species in subtropical and tropical America. Compositae/Asteraceae. This rambling shrub or subshrub is widely distributed in the Americas from Florida to the West Indies and from Texas to Argentina, but it has become naturalized throughout the Old World tropics. It is a noxious weed in many areas. It was formerly classified in *Eupatorium*, bearing a strong general resemblance to plants of that genus. It grows to about 3 m tall, with rambling, but not twining branches. The leaves are opposite; the blades are generally ovate in shape, with an acuminate apex; a broad, almost truncate base; and a margin that is entire or crenate with four to five coarse, rounded teeth on each side. The leaves are hairy, at least beneath, and range from 7-14 cm long and 30-80 cm wide, with petioles that are 1-2 cm long. Inflorescences are terminal, flat-topped panicles to 8 cm broad. The individual heads are cylindrical, about 1 cm long, with imbricated phyllaries and up to 25 white or pale purple disk florets. The achenes are crowned with a pappus of bristles, acting like parachutes and allowing the dry fruit to be widely dispersed by the wind. In Florida, this plant is commonly found in disturbed habitats such as roadsides, ditch banks, canal spoils and vacant lots, but also hammocks, in the peninsula south of Lake Okeechobee and also in Polk and Hillsborough counties. It has been mistaken for a noxious weed, *Mikania micrantha*, recently discovered in Florida, but that plant is a twining vine, with much smaller flower heads made up of only four non-imbricated phyllaries and four florets. Jack-in-the-bush is often somewhat weedy here in Florida, but it is a serious pest of plantation crops such as oil palms, teak, rubber and

### Sample Submissions

	Jan/ Feb	Year to Date
Samples submitted by other DPI sections	982	982
Samples submitted for botanical identification only	94	94
Total Samples Submitted	1,076	1,076
Specimens added to the herbarium	10	10



***Carmona microphylla* (Fukien tea)**  
Photograph courtesy of Keith Bradley, [Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants](#)

citrus in tropical Asia, Africa, the Pacific islands and Australia. It is also invading natural areas in these regions. Like many invasives, it was originally introduced as an ornamental and subsequently escaped from cultivation. (Miami-Dade County; B2010-81; Maria C. Acosta; 15 February 2010; and Miami-Dade County; B2010-84; Brian D. Saunders, USDA/CAPS; 17 February 2010.) (Liogier 1997; <http://www.invasive.org/publications/Xsymposium/proceed/01pg81.pdf>.)

***Forestiera segregata* (Jacq.) Krug & Urban (Florida swampprivet)**, a genus of 15 American species. Oleaceae. This species, sometimes also called wild olive or ink-bush, is an evergreen or semideciduous shrub or small tree to 3 m tall. Its gray twigs have a scattering of lenticels, and its opposite, 1.5-5 cm long leaves are punctate (marked by tiny dots) below. The leaves are sessile or have short (1-6 mm) petioles and entire margins. Small, greenish-yellow, staminate and pistillate flowers are borne in the leaf axils, usually early in spring. The fruits are ovoid, 5-7 mm in diameter, blue-black drupes that can stain skin and other surfaces, perhaps leading to the common name, "ink-bush." This Florida native member of the olive family is found in almost every peninsular coastal county from Duval to Dixie. It was traditionally used to make arrows by the Miccosukee people. Warblers and vireos eat its fruit, making this species an excellent addition to wildlife-attracting landscapes as a hedge or specimen plant. (Miami-Dade County; B2010-92; Douglas A. Restom Gaskill and Brian D. Saunders, USDA/CAPS, and Trevor R. Smith, DPI/CAPS; 18 February 2010.) (Austin 2004; Godfrey 1988; [www.floridaplants.com/landscape/birds](http://www.floridaplants.com/landscape/birds); [www.fs.fed.us/global/iitf/pdf/shrubs/Forestiera%20segregata.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/global/iitf/pdf/shrubs/Forestiera%20segregata.pdf).)

***Gladiolus x hortulanus* Bailey (florists' gladiolus)**, a genus of approximately 195 species in Europe, the Mediterranean area, tropical Africa and especially South Africa. Iridaceae. This popular and beautiful plant has a complex history. Gladiolus breeding began in the 1820s when Dean Herbert hybridized several South African species in England. Some of these hybrids were named and distributed to nurseries. Other breeders added new species to the mix, and by the beginning of the Twentieth Century, the modern large-flowered hybrids were taking shape. As many as a dozen species may have been involved in their parentage. Today, these hybrids, with many named cultivars, are popular both as cut flowers and as garden plants. They grow from a modified, underground stem called a corm, often incorrectly referred to as a "bulb." The two structures are actually quite distinct: a corm has a homogeneous consistency, while a bulb has layers or



***Carmona microphylla* (Fukien tea) bonsai form.**

Photograph courtesy of [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Carmona_microphylla_bonsai.jpg)



***Chromolaena odorata* (Jack-in-the-bush)**  
Photograph courtesy of Pat Howell, [Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants](https://www.floridaplants.com/landscape/birds)



***Forestiera segregata* (Florida swampprivet)**

segments that can be easily separated, as in an onion. The corm is replaced every season by a new one, and each produces numerous cormlets (or cormels) from its base; each of these small propagules will grow into a blooming-size plant identical to its parent in a few years. The sword-shaped leaves are borne in a fan-like arrangement, as in many plants in the Iris family. The beautiful flowers have six tepals in a wide array of colors, and only three stamens, unlike other showy monocots such as lilies and daffodils, which have six stamens. Gladiolus are easy to grow in full sun and a sandy, well-drained soil. The spikes of flowers are very heavy, and they often cause the plant bearing them to fall over. To minimize the chances of this happening, the corms should be planted about six inches deep, but staking may still sometimes be necessary. The plants are perfectly cold-hardy here in Florida, but further north, the corms must be lifted each fall and stored for the winter. (Hendry County; B2010-35; Isaac Deal, *et al.*, 20 January 2010.) (Mabberley 1997; <http://lists.ibiblio.org/pipermail/pbs/2005-August/022572.html>.)

***Lilium catesbaei* Walter (Catesby's lily, pine lily)**, a genus of approximately 100 species, distributed throughout the North Temperate Zone, with a few extending into the subtropics. Liliaceae. This spectacular wildflower has among the largest flowers of any indigenous North American monocot. It is native to wet pine flatwoods and savannahs, especially in pitcher plant bogs, in the Coastal Plain from Virginia to Louisiana. It is found throughout Florida, but is less common in the extreme south and is absent from the Keys. The pine lily grows from a small bulb, less than an inch in diameter, and the solitary stems are usually less than 80 cm tall. Leaves are borne at the base of the stem and scattered along it. They are narrowly elliptical to linear, up to 8 cm long and 1 cm broad. Most plants have a solitary, up-facing flower at the apex of the stem, but vigorous individuals may have two or three. The flowers are as much as 10 cm across and are made up of six similar tepals. These have a broadened blade with a narrowly pointed, reflexed tip and an elongate, slender base, called a "claw." They are mostly scarlet, or occasionally orange or pink, with a purple-spotted yellow blotch at the base. The six stamens are held stiffly erect. This beautiful plant is not yet rare in Florida, but it is declining as its habitat steadily decreases, and the fires to which it is adapted are suppressed. Therefore, it is placed on Florida's list of threatened plants. Although it is relatively easy to propagate and is certainly garden worthy, the pine lily is rarely seen in cultivation, basically because it is difficult to grow. (Lee County; B2010-58; Roberto Delcid, 3 December 2009.) (Skinner 2002.)

***Piriqueta cistoides* (L.) Griseb. subsp. *caroliniana* (Walter) Arbo (pitted stripeseed)**, a genus of 21 tropical African and American species. Turneraceae. This perennial species, 15-50 cm tall, has spreading roots that form new sprouts and a stem that is sometimes woody near the base. The plants in Florida are more or less covered with stellate hairs and may have long, unbranched, brownish hairs along the stem. The alternate leaves have short or no petioles and linear to lanceolate blades (2-5 cm long and 1-1.5 cm wide) with entire or crenate margins and dense, stellate pubescence covering the underside. The five petals of the flower are a bright yellow to yellow-orange; the fringed stigma is shorter than the five stamens in some individuals and longer in others, a characteristic known as "heterostyly." The seeds, which inspired the common name, are light-brown or gray, 1.5-2

Photograph courtesy of Dennis Girard, [Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants](#)



***Forestiera segregata* (Florida swampprivet) with fruit**

Photograph courtesy of Walter K. Taylor, [Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants](#)



***Gladiolus x hortulanus* (gladiolus)**

Photograph courtesy of William Pembroke and [Wikipedia](#)

mm long, and both pitted and striped. The seed also has an oil-rich aril, or elaiosome, often associated with seed dispersal by ants that carry seeds to their nest. The ant larvae eat the aril, but not the seed itself. This charming wildflower has been documented to grow in almost every county in Florida. (Miami-Dade County; B2010-93; Olga Garcia; 23 February 2010.) (Correll and Correll 1982; Hammer 2004; McBreen and Cruzan 2004; Wunderlin and Hansen 2003.)

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*Lilium catesbaei*  
photo by Glenn Fleming  
USF Herbarium Slide Collection

***Lilium catesbaei* (pine lily)**  
Photograph courtesy of Glenn Fleming, [Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants](#)



*Piriqueta cistoides* subsp. *caroliniana*  
Photo by Shirley Denton

***Piriqueta cistoides* subsp. *caroliniana* (pitted stripeeed)**  
Photograph courtesy of Shirley Denton, [Atlas of Florida Vascular Plants](#)



***Piriqueta cistoides* subsp. *caroliniana* (pitted stripeeed) seeds**  
Photograph courtesy of Patti J. Anderson, DPI

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## Entomology Section

Compiled by [Susan E. Halbert, Ph.D.](#)

This section provides the division's plant protection specialists and other customers with accurate identifications of arthropods. The entomology section also builds and maintains the arthropod reference and research collection (the Florida State Collection of Arthropods - with over 9 million specimens), and investigates the biology, biological control and taxonomy of arthropods.

***Colpoptera* sp., an issid planthopper, a new Continental USA record** for the genus, was detected in Florida for the first time on January 4, 2010, in a Multi-Lure trap hung in a *Blighia sapida* (akee). The biology of these bugs is unknown, but no species in this genus is known to be a pest. The Florida specimen more closely resembles Mexican species than Caribbean ones, but it might be an undescribed species. (Miami-Dade County; E-2010-185; Gloria Gonzalez; 4 January 2010.) (Dr. Susan E. Halbert, Dr. Stephen W. Wilson, University of Central Missouri, and Dr. Lois O'Brien, Visiting Scholar, University of Arizona.)

***Nipaecoccus viridis*, the Lebbeck mealybug, a new Western Hemisphere record**, was collected on dodder (*Cuscuta exaltata*) in November 2009 by CAPS surveyors working in the Rosemary Scrub Natural Area in Palm Beach County. The mealybug was subsequently found on other species in the area. This species has been intercepted at United States ports of entry on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, but its establishment in a natural area away from a port is currently unexplained. This species is widely polyphagous in regions where it has been introduced, and it has been especially destructive on mango, citrus and cotton. Two species of *Anagyrus* wasps (Encyrtidae) are effective biocontrol agents. See the DPI Pest Alert. (Palm Beach County; Andrew I. Derksen, CAPS/DPI, and Karolynne M. Griffiths, CAPS/USDA; E-2009-8598; 13 November 2009.) (Dr. Ian C. Stocks.)

## Entomology Specimen Report

Following are tables with entries for records of new hosts or new geographical areas for samples identified in the current volume's time period as well as samples of special interest. An abbreviated table, with all the new records, but less detail about them, is presented in the body of this web page and another version with more complete data is downloadable as a PDF or an Excel spreadsheet.

The tables are organized alphabetically by plant host, if the specimen has a plant host. Some arthropod specimens are not collected on plants and are not necessarily plant pests. In the table below, those entries have no plant information included and are organized by arthropod name.

### Sample/Specimen Submissions

#### January

Samples Submitted	490
Specimens Identified	27,875

#### February

Samples Submitted	547
Specimens Identified	28,393

#### Year to Date

Samples Submitted	1,037
Specimens Identified	56,268



***Colpoptera* sp. (an issid planthopper)**  
Photograph courtesy of Susan E. Halbert, DPI



***Nipaecoccus viridis* (Lebbeck mealybug)**  
Photograph courtesy of Lyle J. Buss, University of Florida

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Plant Species Name	Plant Common Name	Arthropod Species Name	Arthropod Common Name	County	New Records
<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	salt bush, groundsel bush	New genus, new species	croton scale	Broward	HOST
<i>Bambusa</i> sp.	bamboo	<i>Chaetococcus bambusae</i>	bamboo mealybug	Alachua	COUNTY
<i>Batis maritima</i>	saltwort, turtleweed	<i>Icerya purchasi</i>	cottony cushion scale	Pinellas	HOST
<i>Beaumontia grandiflora</i>	herald's trumpet	<i>Tetranychus urticae</i>	twospotted spider mite	Monroe	HOST
<i>Blighia sapida</i>	akee	<i>Colpoptera</i> sp.	an issid planthopper	Miami-Dade	CONTINENTAL
<i>Borrichia arborescens</i>	sea oxeye, tree seaside tansy	<i>Asphondylia borrichiae</i>	a gall midge	Monroe	COUNTY
<i>Bursera simaruba</i>	gumbo-limbo; West Indian birch	<i>Anthocoptes</i> sp.	eriophyid mite	Miami-Dade	possibly a new species
<i>Bursera simaruba</i>	gumbo-limbo; West Indian birch	<i>Theoborus ricini</i>	a scolytid beetle	Broward	COUNTY
<i>Ceratiola ericoides</i>	Florida rosemary; sand-heath	<i>Ceroplastes floridensis</i>	Florida wax scale	Palm Beach	HOST
<i>Ceratiola ericoides</i>	Florida rosemary; sand-heath	<i>Eriococcus azaleae</i>	azalea bark scale	Palm Beach	HOST
<i>Chamaedorea</i> sp.	Chamaedorea palm	<i>Bothropolys rugosus</i>	a centipede	Miami-Dade	REGULATORY INCIDENT
<i>Chrysobalanus icaco</i>	cocoplum, icaco	<i>Aleurodicus rugioperculatus</i>	a whitefly	Miami-Dade	HOST

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## Nematology Section

Compiled by [Janete A. Brito, Ph.D.](#) and [Jason D. Stanley, M.S.](#)

This section analyzes soil and plant samples for nematodes, conducts pest detection surveys and provides diagnosis of plant problems, in addition to completing identification of plant parasitic nematodes involved in regulatory and certification programs. State of Florida statutes and rules mandate the principal part of the regulatory activity of the section. Analyses of plant and soil samples include those from in-state programs, plant shipments originating in Florida destined for other states and countries, as well as samples intercepted in Florida from outside the United States.

### Nematodes of Special Interest

Nematodes of special interest detected and/or identified in January – February 2010

*Meloidogyne mayaguensis* infects agronomic and horticultural crops as well as natives and weed plants. Infected plants exhibit root galling, which is the major symptom induced by this nematode species. This nematode species has been reported in Africa, Asia, South America, Central America, North America and the Caribbean region. In North America, it is known to occur only in Florida. This root-knot nematode reproduces on 13 non-agronomic species worldwide. Certain weeds species are of particular importance because they can serve as a major reservoir of root-knot nematodes not only in the field, but also in nurseries, and should be included in nematode management programs.

*Meloidogyne mayaguensis* Rammah & Hirschmann, 1988, (the Guava root-knot nematode) a new Host record, was found infecting the root system of a wild-growing plant, *Opuntia humifusa* (prickly pear cactus). (Miami-Dade County, N10-00103, Ana L. Ochoa, 26 January 2010.)

*Meloidogyne mayaguensis* Rammah & Hirschmann, 1988, (the Guava root-knot nematode) a new Host record, was found infecting the root system of an ornamental plant, *Lagerstroemia indica* (crape myrtle). (Lake County, N10-00089, Charles L. Spriggs, 11 November 2009.)

*Meloidogyne mayaguensis* Rammah & Hirschmann, 1988, (the Guava root-knot nematode) a new Host record, was found infecting the root system of a wild-growing plant, *Paederia cruddasiana* (sewer vine). (Miami-Dade County, N09-01142, Ana L. Ochoa, 4 September 2009.)

### Collectors submitting five or more samples that were processed for nematological analysis in January - February 2010

Anderson, James L.	94
Bailey, Wayne W.	22
Bentley, Michael A.	21
Burgos, Frank A.	216

### Sample Submissions

	Jan/ Feb	Year to Date
Morphological Identifications	2,193	2,193
Molecular Identifications	113	113
Total Samples Submitted	2,306	2,306

### Certification and Regulatory Samples

Multistate Certification for National and International Export	1,466	1,466
California Certification	539	539
Pre-movement (Citrus Nursery Certification)	56	56
Site or Pit Approval (Citrus Nursery and Other Certifications)	17	17

### Other Samples

Identifications (invertebrate)	1	1
Plant Problems	16	16
Intrastate Survey, Random	98	98
Molecular Identifications*	113	113

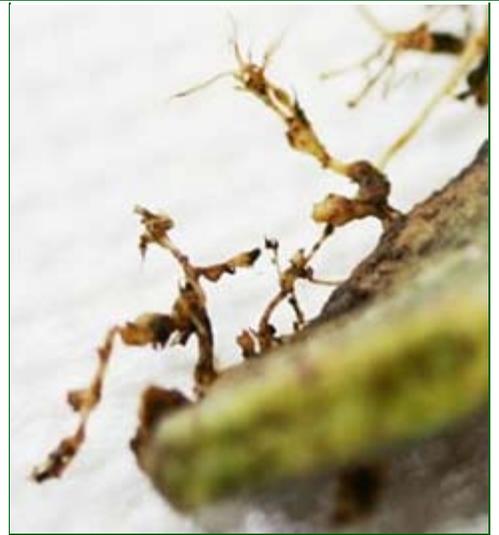
\*The majority of these analyses involved root-knot nematode species

Edenfield, Carrie S.	65
LeBoutillier, Karen W.	105
Ochoa, Ana L.	191
Pate, Jo Ann	57
Qiao, Ping	164
Smith, Larry W.	11
Spriggs, Charles L.	119
Tannehill, Ellen J.	6

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***Opuntia humifusa* infected with *Meloidogyne mayaguensis*.** Note the root galling induced by this nematode species. Photograph courtesy of Darlene J. George-Hill, [DPI](#).

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## Plant Pathology Section

Compiled by [Robert M. Leahy](#)

This section provides plant disease diagnostic services and conducts a citrus germplasm introduction program. The agency-wide goal of protecting Florida agriculture very often begins with accurate diagnosis of plant problems. Disease management recommendations are offered where appropriate and available. Our plant pathologists are dedicated to keeping informed about plant diseases outside Florida in order to be prepared for potential introductions of new pathogens.

### ***Septoria mikania-micranthae* (leaf spot), a new Northern**

**Hemisphere record**, was previously known only from Brazil and is considered a potential biocontrol pathogen. It was found on the invasive vine, *Mikania micrantha*, a noxious weed that was recently detected in Miami-Dade County, also for the first time in this country. The sexual stage of this pathogen (*Mycosphaerella mikania-micranthae*) has not been detected on Florida material so far. There are only two *Septoria* spp. on *Mikania* now reported in the United States, and this one is the only *Septoria* on *Mikania* reported from Florida. (Miami-Dade County; P2010-33451; Douglas A. Restrom Gaskill, Shi-Yih Edward Hung, Warren J. "Jim" Dowling, Levina D. Hancock, Charles D. "David" Wolfe; 14 January 2010.)

***Cercospora mikaniicola* (leaf spot), a new Host record**, also found on *Mikania micrantha*, has been previously found on other species of *Mikania* in Florida. It is also known from Brazil, India and elsewhere around the world where this weed is a problem. Though it is an aggressive pathogen that sporulates abundantly on the host, it would be difficult to develop as a biocontrol agent because it grows so slowly in culture. (Miami-Dade County; P2010-33064; Carrie L. Karppe, Jose L. Llanos, Rosamaria M. Quinones, Warren J. "Jim" Dowling, Brian D. Saunders; 14 January 2010.)

***Corniculariella* sp. (fungus), a new State record**, found on *Prunus persica*, is probably an undescribed anamorph of a discomycete fungus, *Durandiella*, that is saprophytic with some host specificity on twigs of many different hosts. Although the peach trees from which this fungus was recovered are experiencing premature decline and death, this fungus is probably not a contributing agent to the syndrome. (Alachua County; P2010-34211; homeowner; 3 February 2010.)

## Plant Pathology Sample Report

Following is a table with entries for records of new hosts or new geographical areas for samples identified in the current volume's time period as well as samples of special interest. The tables are organized alphabetically by plant host.

### Sample Submissions

	Jan/ Feb	Year to Date
Pathology	208	208
Bee	1	1
Citrus Canker	323	323
Citrus Greening	2,762	2,762
Soil	8	8
Miscellaneous	11	11
Total Samples Submitted	3,313	3,313



***Mikania micrantha* (climbing hempweed, mile-a-minute vine)**  
Photograph courtesy of Patti J. Anderson, DPI

Plant Species	Plant Common Name	Causal Agent	Disease Name	Location Type	County	Sample Number	Collector	Date	New Records
<i>Dracaena</i> sp.	dracaena	<i>Kutilakesopsis macalpineae</i>	stem rot	nursery	Lake	34638	Mary C. Sellers	26-Feb-10	
<i>Ficus</i> sp.	figus	<i>Botryotinia fuckeliana</i>	leaf and stem blight	dooryard	Pasco	33612	Daniel Merced	25-Jan-10	
<i>Mikania micrantha</i>	climbing hempweed, bittervine	<i>Cercospora mikaniicola</i>	leaf spot	roadside	Miami-Dade	33064	Carrie L. Karppe, Jose L. Llanos, Rosamaria M. Quinones, Warren J. "Jim" Dowling, Brian D. Saunders	12-Jan-10	Host
<i>Mikania micrantha</i>	climbing hempweed, bittervine	<i>Septoria mikania-micranthae</i>	leaf spot	roadside	Miami-Dade	33451	Douglas A. Restrom Gaskill, Shi-Yih Edward Hung, Warren J. "Jim" Dowling, Levina D. Hancock, Charles D. "David" Wolfe	14-Jan-10	Northern Hemisphere
<i>Mikania micrantha</i>	climbing hempweed, bittervine	<i>Septoria mikania-micranthae</i>	leaf spot	roadside	Miami-Dade	33742	Andrew I. Derkson, Karolynne M. Griffiths	3-Feb-10	
<i>Prunus persica</i>	peach, nectarine	<i>Corniculariella</i> sp.	fungus	dooryard	Alachua	34211	homeowner	15-Feb-10	State
<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>	Chinese tallow tree	<i>Oidium</i> sp.	powdery mildew	dooryard	Alachua	32778	Sedonia Steininger	6-Jan-10	Host

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