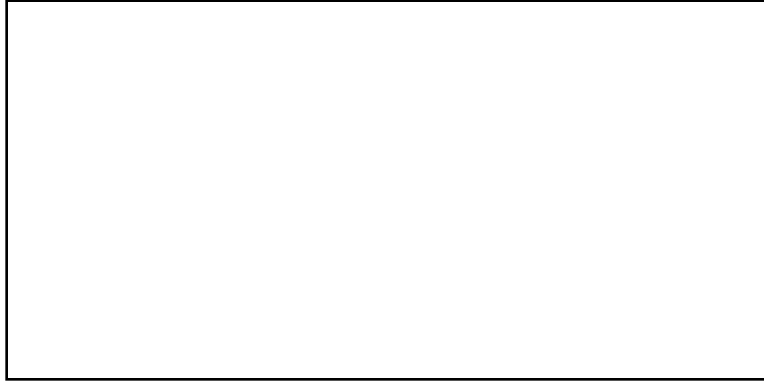
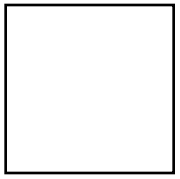




Bonita Springs Tropical Fruit Club Inc.
PO Box 367791
Bonita Springs, FL 34136



January 2015 - Citrus



Who we are and what we do:

The Bonita Springs Tropical Fruit Club, Inc., is an educational not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to inform, educate and advise members and the public in the selection of plants and trees, to encourage their cultivation, and to provide a social forum where members can freely exchange plant material and information. The club cooperates with many organizations, and provides a basis for producing new cultivars. We function in any legal manner to further the above stated aims.

Meetings:

Regular membership meetings that include an educational program are held the second Tuesday of each month, except July and August. Meetings begin promptly at 7 PM, at the First United Methodist Church, 27690 Shriver Avenue, Bonita Springs. The meetings are held in the "Freedom Hall" meeting room.

Workshops:

Workshops (monthly discussions) are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7 PM at the Methodist Church, when practical. This open format encourages discussion and sharing of fruits and information. Bring in your fruits, plants, seeds, leaves, insects, photos, recipes, ect.. This is a great chance to get answers to specific questions, and there always seems to be a local expert on hand!

Tree sale:

Semi-annual tree sales in February and November at Riverside Park in downtown Bonita Springs raise revenue for educational programs for club members and other related purposes of the club.

Trips:

The club occasionally organizes trips and tours of other organizations that share our interests. The IFAS Experimental Station and the Fairchild Nursery Farm are examples of our recent excursions.

Membership:

Dues are \$20 per person for new members, and \$15 per person for renewals. Send checks to: PO Box 367791, Bonita Springs, FL 34136, or bring to any regularly scheduled meeting. Madeline Bohannon is our membership person. For information, call her at 239-851-4448.

Directions:

From the intersection of Old 41 Road and Bonita Beach Road SE, proceed north to Dean Street. Turn right on Dean St. and go two blocks to Shriver, then turn left on Shriver and go two blocks to the Methodist Church. Free parking on both sides of the street.

Newsletter:

This newsletter is available to anyone via email, and to paid members via Post office mail upon request. You may join our email communications group by emailing Berto Silva at BNS58@aol.com.

Officers and Board of Directors:

Madeline Bohannon - President

Rachel Stone - Vice President

Trudy Moynihan - Secretary

Gerda Gyori - Treasurer

Tom Betts - Director

Joe Busa - Director

Berto Silva - Director

Message from the President

I hope your holidays were as wonderful as mine were! We have all been so lucky to have no frost or freeze warnings so far. So many times, during the holidays, I've had to cover things I worried about. Not this time! Yaaay!

Please be sure to come to the January meeting, as new officers and board members may change. This is your chance to "make a difference".

Also, possible new bus trips and a picnic may be planned. We need your input.

-Madeline

Guest Speaker for January:



Guest Speaker for January was Denise Houghtaling, who'll be spoke about soils: top soil, potting soil, compost and garden soils, and stressed the importance of improving growing conditions.

A new member of BSTFC, Denise brought examples of products from MW Horticulture Recycling Facility.



This & That for December

PRUNING

ITS TIME – Grapes, Peaches, Nectarines.

Each has a very particular way to be pruned. Check reliable information on how it should be done.

MANGOS are blooming, yea! Yea! So now is the time to fertilize with either 0-0-18 has a good package of minors including iron which mangos need. 0-0-22 is OK as well. Both available at Helena in Immo-kalee. Also hang the water bottle in the mango tree (example will be shown at the January meeting), to attract the blow flies that fertilize the flowers.

COLD PROTECTION – Be prepared, if you don't need it, yea yea, BUT, if a really cold night is coming, watering at the highest temp of the day, 20 minutes is enough, will help, covering the trees if you can, especially those that suffer at 40F never use plastic re the cover, have the seam on the south east side, because cold wind will come from the north. If it's a really strong nor'easter then check for salt on the leaves, especially on Lychees and Jaboticabas and Jackfruit.

ENJOY THE BLESSINGS OF YOUR FRUIT TREES, if you have an abundance, Helps Outreach on J&C Blvd would be very glad to receive your fruit.

Calendar

January 13 - Regular Meeting

Fruit of the Month - Citrus

Pumello, Key Lime, Rangpur Lime, Kumquat, and other rare citrus.

Genus: *Citrus*

Family: *Rutaceae*



Citrus is a common term and genus (*Citrus*) of flowering plants in the rue family, *Rutaceae*. These plants are large shrubs or small trees, reaching 5–15 m tall, with spiny shoots and alternately arranged evergreen leaves.

The fruit is a hesperidium, a specialized berry, globose to elongated. Citrus fruits are notable for their fragrance, partly due to flavonoids and limonoids (which in turn are terpenes) contained in the rind, and most are juice-laden. The juice contains a high quantity of citric acid giving them their characteristic sharp flavor. The genus is commercially important as many species are cultivated for their fruit, which is eaten fresh, pressed for juice, or preserved in marmalades and pickles.

Citrus trees hybridize very readily – depending on the pollen source, plants grown from a Persian lime's seeds can produce fruit similar to grapefruit. Thus all commercial citrus cultivation uses trees produced by grafting the desired fruiting cultivars onto rootstocks selected for disease resistance and hardiness.

