

Agricultural Justice, Age of Organics, and Alligators Protecting health, biodiversity, and ecosystems

The 33rd National Pesticide Forum

April 17-18, 2015

Florida A&M University
College of Law
Orlando, Florida

Convened by



Farmworker Association of Florida
La Asociación Campesina de Florida
Asosiyasyon Travayè Latè nan Florid



Co-sponsored by

Agricultural Justice Project, Alliance for Fair Food, Coalition of Immokalee Workers, Earthjustice, Food and Water Watch Florida, Orange Audubon Society, and Youth and Young Adult Network (YAYA) of the National Farmworker Ministry

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Florida A&M University College of Law ■ Orlando, FL ■ April 17-18, 2015

A Chronological Summary of the Program

Friday, April 17

12:00 - 4:30pm	Lake Apopka Toxic Tour and Uncle Matt's Organic Citrus Farm
5:00 - 6:30pm	Registration
5:30 - 6:30pm	Pesticides 101
6:30 - 10:30pm	Welcome and Keynote
	6:30 - 7:00pm Reception
	7:00 - 7:30pm Welcome
	7:30 - 8:30pm Keynote Panel: Sylvia Wu, Esq., Sonia Faruqi, Marty Mesh
8:30 - 9:00pm	Keynote: Hari Pulapaka, PhD
	9:00 - 10:30pm Reception

Saturday, April 18

8:00 - 8:30am	Continental Breakfast and Registration
8:45 - 9:00am	Welcome
9:00 - 9:45am	Keynote: Louis Guillette, PhD
9:45 - 11:00am	State of the Science and Law Panel: Elizabeth Guillette, PhD, Joan Flocks, Esq., Richard Callahan, PhD, Jeffrey Calvert, MD
11:00 - 11:15am	Break (<i>move to workshops</i>)
11:15am - 12:45pm	Workshop Block I
	Pesticides and Farmworker Health: In-Depth Discussion ■ Water Quality and Pesticides ■ Protecting Pollinators ■ Pest Management without Pesticides ■ Law Panel: Recent Developments in Agricultural Law
12:45 - 2:45pm	Lunch and Keynotes
	12:45 - 1:30pm Lunch served
	1:30 - 2:00pm Panel: Tirso Moreno, Leah Cohen, Sean Sellers
	2:10 - 2:40pm Benny McLean
2:45 - 4:00pm	Organic Management Approaches and Cutting Edge Alternatives: Lani Malmberg, Chip Osborne, Jordan Brown, Ariel Lugo, PhD, Philip Stoddard, PhD
4:00 - 4:15pm	Break (<i>move to workshops</i>)
4:15 - 5:45pm	Workshop Block II
	Organic: Successes and Challenges ■ Mosquitoes and Unwanted Species ■ Local and Institutional Policies ■ Social and Environmental Justice in Agriculture
5:45 - 7:15pm	Dinner
7:15 - 10:30pm	Plenary, Keynote and Reception
	7:15 - 7:30pm Introduction
	7:30 - 8:30pm Keynote: Tyrone Hayes, PhD
	8:30 - 10:30pm Reception

This is a fragrance-free event. No scented body products, please.

Agricultural Justice, Age of Organics, and Alligators

Call to the Conference

There is no more important time than now in the course of modern history to rally a cross section of societal interests for a clearer and more forceful nationwide commitment to protect health and the environment from toxic chemicals –with leadership from farmworkers, consumers, farmers, conservationists, and scientists. Key foundational principles and values are emerging that embrace ethical standards for a healthy and sustainable environment and workplace that is socially just, as the threat from toxic chemical-intensive practices and products and the cost-effectiveness of alternatives come into sharper focus on a daily basis.

We are seeing greater scientific and public understanding that calls for bold action for a broader and deeper shift away from pesticides, previously viewed as a necessary tool in food production and land and building management. Organic systems with clear definitions and allowable practices, transparent and accountable to public oversight, are in high demand in the management of farmland and the places where we live, work, and play. But, workers and consumers must keep corporate interests in alignment with the organic ethic and clear protective standards.

The urgency for an expedited transition to sustainable and organic systems is necessitated by the hazards associated with pesticides and other synthetic fossil fuel based inputs –given their adverse impacts on complex biological systems, ecological balance, and the web of life. The rationale for toxic pesticide use has reached a higher level of scrutiny as the effectiveness of pesticides has been called into question by evidence that weeds and insects are exhibiting unprecedented levels of resistance to the chemicals.

Last month, the most widely used weedkiller in agriculture and home and garden use, glyphosate (Roundup), touted as a safe pesticide, was ranked by the International Agency for Research on Cancer/World Health Organization as a cancer causing substance based on animal studies used to determine effects in humans. Monsanto, the product's manufacturer, is pushing back, challenging independent science with industry science. Similarly, the body of scientific literature on declining pollinator health, including bees, butterflies, and birds, is criticized by manufacturers of bee-toxic pesticides. The preponderance of independent science puts neonicotinoid pesticides in the forefront as a contributor to pollinator decline, given that they are highly toxic, persistent, and systemic (moving through the entire plant and turning pollen and nectar poisonous). Those first in the line of exposure, farmworkers and farmers, are not adequately protected by federal and state regulatory standards and exposed to the most highly neurotoxic pesticides no longer used in residential areas, and putting farmworker children at elevated risk.

The studies in Lake Apopka, Florida over a decade ago that identified endocrine disrupting effects of chemicals in alligators, opened up areas of scientific understanding and uncovered deep deficiencies in the regulatory assessment of pesticides. Contaminated farmland in the area resulted in high toxic chemical exposure for farmworkers. Thank you for joining us at the Forum. We look forward to sharpening our understanding of relevant science and policy as we improve our effectiveness as agents for change.



Jay Feldman
Executive Director, Beyond Pesticides



Routt Reigart, MD
Board President, Beyond Pesticides

Agricultural Justice, Age of Organics, and Alligators

The 33rd National Pesticide Forum

Florida A&M University College of Law ■ Orlando, FL ■ April 17-18, 2015

Schedule of Events

Friday, April 17

12:00 - 4:30pm

[PICK-UP AT EMBASSY SUITES
DOWNTOWN ORLANDO AND
FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LAW]

■ Lake Apopka Toxic Tour and Uncle Matt's Organic Citrus Farm

Jeannie Economos, *pesticide safety and environmental health project coordinator, Farmworker Association of Florida, Apopka, FL*
Benny McLean, *production manager, Uncle Matt's Organic Farm, Clermont, FL*

5:00 - 6:00pm

Registration

5:30 - 6:30pm

[MAIN ROOM 240]

■ Pesticides 101

Caroline Cox, *research director, Center for Environmental Health; board member, Beyond Pesticides, Oakland, CA*
Evangelos Vallianatos, *author, "Poison Spring," Claremont, CA*

6:30 - 7:00pm

Reception

7:00 - 7:30pm

[MAIN ROOM 240]

■ Welcome

Routt Reigart, MD, *president, Beyond Pesticides board; professor emeritus of pediatrics, Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC*
Tirso Moreno, *general coordinator, Farmworker Association of Florida, Apopka, FL*
Randall Abate, JD, *professor of law and director, Center for International Law and Justice, Florida A&M University College of Law, Orlando, FL*

7:30 - 8:30pm

[MAIN ROOM 240]

■ Keynote Panel: From Field to Table

Sylvia Wu, Esq., *staff attorney, Center for Food Safety, San Francisco, CA*
Sonia Faruqi, *author, "Project Animal Farm," Toronto, ON*
Marty Mesh, *executive director, Florida Organic Growers, Gainesville, FL*

8:30 - 9:00pm

[MAIN ROOM 240]

■ Keynote

Hari Pulapaka, PhD, *chef and co-owner, Cress Restaurant, Deland, FL*

Jay Feldman, *moderator, executive director, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC*

9:00 - 10:30pm

Reception

Saturday, April 18

8:00 - 8:30am

[LOBBY]

Organic Continental Breakfast

8:45 - 9:00am

[MAIN ROOM 240]

■ **Welcome**

Jay Feldman, executive director, *Beyond Pesticides*, Washington, DC

9:00 - 9:45am

[MAIN ROOM 240]

■ **Keynote: Sentinel Wildlife Species –What are they telling us about our health**

Louis Guillette, PhD, director, *Marine Biomedicine and Environmental Sciences Center* and professor, *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, *Medical University of South Carolina*, Charleston, SC

Terry Shistar, PhD, moderator, board member, *Beyond Pesticides*, Lawrence, KS

9:50 - 11:00am

[MAIN ROOM 240]

■ **Panel: State of the Science and Law**

Elizabeth Guillette, PhD, associate research scientist, *University of Florida*, Gainesville, FL

Joan Flocks, Esq., director, *Social Policy Division*, *University of Florida*, *Levin College of Law*, Gainesville, FL

Geoffrey Calvert, MD, team leader, *National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)*, *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*, Cincinnati, OH

Richard Callahan, PhD, director, *Worcester County Bee Association*, Worcester, MA

Rutt Reigart, MD, moderator, professor emeritus of *pediatrics*, *Medical University of South Carolina*; *Beyond Pesticides* board president, Charleston, SC

11:00 - 11:15am

Short break, please move to workshops

Workshops will be held in the Main Room 240 as well as breakout rooms 259, 253, 255, and 257.

Please move to workshops quickly as sessions will begin promptly at 11:15 am.

Saturday, April 18 *continued*

11:15am - 12:45pm ■ Workshops I

1) Pesticides and Farmworker Health: An In-Depth Discussion

[MAIN ROOM 240]

Elizabeth Guillette, PhD, *associate research scientist, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL*

Joan Flocks, Esq., *director, Social Policy Division, University of Florida, Levin College of Law, Gainesville, FL*

Geoffrey Calvert, MD, *team leader, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Cincinnati, OH*

Tyrone Hayes, PhD, *professor, Integrative Biology, University of California Berkeley, CA*

Routt Reigart, MD, *moderator, professor emeritus of pediatrics, Medical University of South Carolina, Beyond Pesticides board president, Charleston, SC*

■ **Continuing from science and law panel, and in-depth discussion on the latest science on pesticides and their impact on public health, with a particular focus on farmworker exposure. Connect with scientists and experts for an in-depth discussion on their latest research.**

2) Water Quality and Pesticides

[ROOM 259]

Louis Guillette, PhD, *director, Marine Biomedicine and Environmental Sciences Center and professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC*

Marty Baum, *riverkeeper, Indian Riverkeeper, Jensen Beach, FL*

Boyce Thorne Miller, PhD, *science and policy coordinator, Northwest Atlantic Marine Alliance, Washington, DC*

Deborah Green, PhD, *moderator, president, Orange Audubon Society, Winter Park, FL*

■ **From Lake Apopka to the gulf coast, water quality issues are critically tied to environmental and human health in Florida. Learn about the impacts of pesticides and chemically-intensive agriculture on water quality, and how this affects humans, from the water we drink and the fish we eat, and what we can do to help keep our waterways clean.**

Saturday, April 18 *continued*

11:15am - 12:45pm ■ Workshops I *continued*

3) Pollinator Protection

[ROOM 253]

Bill Rhodes, owner, *Bill Rhodes Honey, Lake County, FL*

Larissa Walker, policy campaign director, *Center for Food Safety, Washington, DC*

Richard Callahan, PhD, director, *Worcester County Bee Association, MA*

Nichelle Harriott, moderator, science and regulatory director, *Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC*

■ The struggle to address the pollinator crisis continues to face obstacles, even in face of a growing scientific understanding that identifies systemic pesticide use as a key factor in species decline. Discuss with a commercial beekeeper, scientist, and national policy expert the problems and protective strategies.

4) Managing Pests without Pesticides

[ROOM 255]

Chip Osborne, founder and president, *Osborne Organics; board member, Beyond Pesticides, Marblehead, MA*

Lani Malmberg, owner, *Ewe4ic Ecological Services; board member, Beyond Pesticides, Cheyenne, WY*

Alan Cohen, owner, *BioLogical Pest Management, Washington, DC*

Matt Wallach, IPM in Health Care Facilities project director, *Beyond Pesticides, and Maryland Pesticide Education Network, Washington, DC*

Robina Suwol, moderator, *California Safe Schools; board member, Beyond Pesticides, Van Nuys, CA*

■ With a “how-to” focus, this workshop provides participants with practical advice on adopting organic practices at home and in local park and playing field management.

5) Law Panel: Recent Developments in Food and Agricultural Law – Factory farming, urban agriculture, and the right to food

[ROOM 257]

Sid Ansbacher, Esq., attorney, *Upchurch, Bailey & Upchurch, St. Augustine, FL*

Kristen King Jaiven, Esq., director of communications and development, *Farm Share, Inc., Homestead, FL*

Megan Herzog, Esq., Emmett Frankel Fellow in Environmental Law and Policy, *UCLA Law School, Los Angeles, CA*

Andrew Irvin, Esq., moderator, attorney, *Robert F. Green & Associates, Winter Park, FL*

■ This panel, featuring four attorneys experienced in food and agricultural law, will focus on cutting-edge topics, including discussion of urban agriculture regulation in Florida, animal and environmental impacts of concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), and international human rights protections addressing the right to food.

Saturday, April 18 *continued*

12:45 - 2:45pm

[MAIN ROOM 240]

■ **Lunch and Keynotes**

Lunch will be served at 12:45pm. Please pick up your lunch before the plenary speakers begin at 1:15pm.

■ **Panel: Agricultural Justice Initiatives**

Tirso Moreno, general coordinator, Farmworker Association of Florida, Apopka, FL

Leah Cohen, program coordinator, Agricultural Justice Project, Gainesville, FL

Sean Sellers, senior investigator/monitor, Fair Food Standards Council, Sarasota, FL

Nelson Carrasquillo, moderator, executive director, El Comité de Apoyo a los Trabajadores (CATA-The Farmworkers' Support Committee); board member, Beyond Pesticides, Glassboro, NJ

■ **Organic Citrus Production in Florida**

Benny McLean, production manager, Uncle Matt's Organic Farm, Clermont, FL

Marty Mesh, moderator, executive director, Florida Organic Growers, Gainesville, FL

2:45 - 4:00pm

[MAIN ROOM 240]

■ **Organic Management Approaches and Cutting-Edge Alternatives Panel**

Chip Osborne, owner, Osborne Organics; board member, Beyond Pesticides, Marblehead, MA

Lani Malmberg, owner, Eew4ic Ecological Services; board member, Beyond Pesticides, Cheyenne, WY

Jordan Brown, owner, The Family Garden Organic Farm, Bell, FL

Ariel Lugo, PhD, ecologist and director, International Institute of Tropical Forestry (IITF), USDA Forest Service, San Juan, PR

Philip Stoddard, PhD, mayor, South Miami; professor, Department Biological Sciences, Florida International University, South Miami, FL

Jennifer Taylor, PhD, moderator, coordinator, Small Farms Programs and associate professor, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL

4:00- 4:15pm

■ **Short break, please move to workshops**

Workshops will be held in breakout rooms 259, 253, 255, and 257. Please move to workshops quickly as sessions will begin promptly at 4:15pm.

Saturday, April 18 *continued*

4:15 - 5:45pm ■ Workshops II

1) Social and Environmental Justice in Agriculture

[Room 259]

Tirso Moreno, general coordinator, Farmworker Association of Florida, Apopka, FL

Leah Cohen, program coordinator, Agricultural Justice Project, Gainesville, FL

Margaret Reeves, PhD, senior scientist/program coordinator, Pesticide Action Network North America, Oakland, CA

Nataly Azcurra, member, YAYA Network of the National Farm Worker Ministry, Orlando, FL

Nelson Carrasquillo, moderator, executive director, El Comité de Apoyo a los Trabajadores (CATA-The Farmworkers' Support Committee); board member, Beyond Pesticides, Glassboro, NJ

■ Examine the true costs of chemical-intensive agriculture from the perspective of America's farmworkers, who work long hours and confront incessant pesticide exposure. Learn about the impact of consumer food choices on farmworkers and their families, organizing efforts, and different certification standards.

2) Organic: Successes and Challenges

[Room 253]

Marty Mesh, executive director, Florida Organic Growers, Gainesville, FL

Sylvia Wu, Esq., staff attorney, Center for Food Safety, San Francisco, CA

Jordan Brown, owner, The Family Garden Organic Farm, Bell, FL

Benny McLean, production manager, Uncle Matt's Organic Farm, Clermont, FL

Paula Dinerstein, Esq., senior counsel, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER); board member, Beyond Pesticides; Washington, DC

Jay Feldman, moderator, executive director, Beyond Pesticides, Washington, DC

■ Explore the successes and challenges of restricting chemical-intensive practices and advancing organic food production. Learn from Florida organic farmers as well as national leaders to discuss practices, strategy, and legal approaches to strengthen organic agriculture.

Workshops continued on next page

Saturday, April 18 *continued*

4:15 - 5:45pm ■ **Workshops II *continued***

3) **Local and Institutional Policies**

[ROOM 255]

Ling Tan, *co-founder, Safe Grow Montgomery County, Boyds, MD*

Lisa Arkin, *executive director, Beyond Toxics, Eugene, OR*

David Wheeler, *co-founder, Bee Safe Boulder, Boulder, CO*

Rella Abernathy, PhD, *moderator, integrated pest management coordinator, City of Boulder, Colorado; board member, Beyond Pesticides*

■ **Inadequate regulation at the federal level requires localities to take action for public health and the environment. Discuss the strategies needed to pass and implement effective pesticide policies to protect your community.**

4) **Mosquitoes and Species Management**

[ROOM 257]

Lori Ann Burd, Esq., *environmental health director, Center for Biological Diversity, Portland, OR*

Philip Stoddard, PhD, *mayor, South Miami; professor, Department Biological Sciences, Florida International University, South Miami, FL*

Ariel Lugo, PhD, *ecologist and director, International Institute of Tropical Forestry (IITF), USDA Forest Service, San Juan, PR*

Boyce Thorne Miller, PhD, *moderator, science policy advisor, Northwest Atlantic Marine Alliance, Washington, DC*

■ **Defining and managing unwanted organisms, particularly mosquitoes and invasive species, often involves the use of toxic chemicals that can have devastating effects on the ecosystem. This discussion will focus on applying scientific knowledge to policy and action.**

6:00 - 7:30pm

[LOBBY]

Dinner

7:30 - 8:30pm

[MAIN ROOM 240]

■ **Keynote:**

Learning from an Environmental Tragedy: Ethics, Environmental Justice, and Frogs

Tyrone Hayes, PhD, *professor, Integrative Biology, University of California Berkeley, Berkeley, CA*

Deborah Green, PhD, *moderator, president, Orange Audubon Society, Winter Park, FL*

8:30 - 10:30pm

[LOBBY]

Reception

Thank You!

Beyond Pesticides, Farmworker Association of Florida, and Florida A&M University College of Law would like to thank the organizations that helped make this event possible:

Agricultural Justice Project, Alliance for Fair Food, Coalition of Immokalee Workers, Earthjustice, Florida A&M University Small Farms Program, Florida Organic Growers and Consumers, Food and Water Watch Florida, Orange Audubon Society, Youth & Young Adult Network (YAYA) of the National Farmworker Ministry

Also, a very special thank you to:

Major Supporters: Dr. Bronner's, Frey Vineyards, Organic Valley, and Tabard Inn
Supporters: National Cooperative Grocers, Natural Grocers, Uncle Matt's Organic

Special photo exhibit,
Farmworkers of Florida, Decades of Workplace Poisoning,
by David Getzschman, are on display at the
33rd National Pesticide Forum courtesy of Earthjustice.

Thank you to Uncle Matt's Organic for donating orange juice,
and to Frey Vineyards for donating wine.

We appreciate the work of the chef and staff at Rollins College Catering
for arranging and preparing the organic menu.

And, an especially warm thanks to the faculty and staff at
Florida A&M University College of Law for welcoming the conference and
facilitating the logistics.