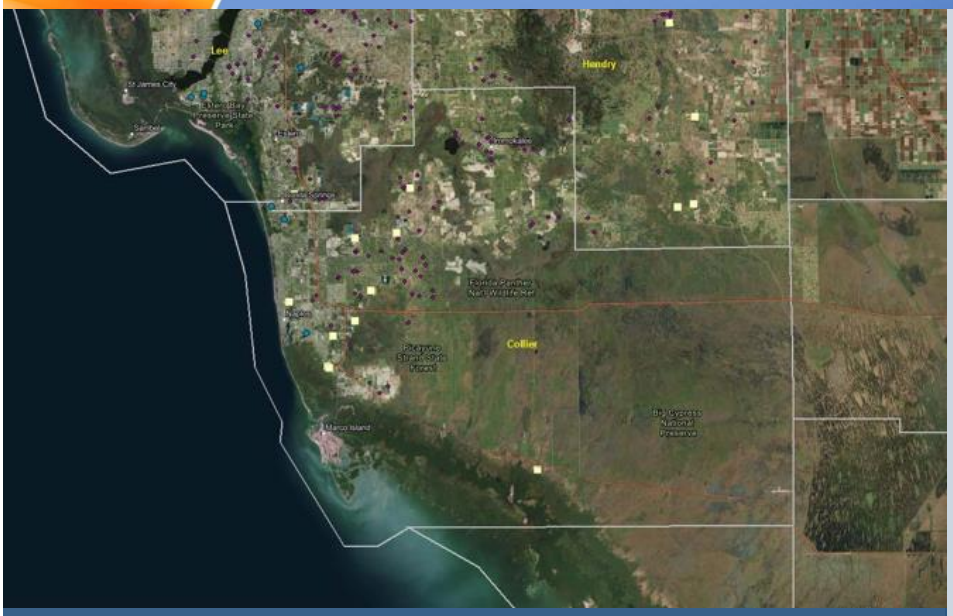
The Sentinel

Newsletter of the Florida State Agricultural Response Team



A satellite image of Collier County used during the ESF 17 IMT training.

Special Features of this Issue:

- *Counties, is Your Contact Information Up-to-Date on the SART Website?*
- *Disaster Preparedness for Animals Information Available*
- *UF VETS to Host Technical Rescue Awareness Training*
- *Commissioner Nikki Fried on Florida Hemp Bill Signed into Law*

ESF 17 Holds Planning and Finance Section Training

On June 5-7, 2019, the Emergency Support Function (ESF) 17 Incident Management Team's (IMT) Planning and Finance Sections held a training at the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' (FDACS) Connor building in Tallahassee.

The purpose of the training was for IMT personnel to improve their understanding of e-ISuite, a software program used to manage incident resources, improve financial documentation, and create operational planning documents such as Incident Action Plans.

The training involved setting up a simulated Incident Command Post (ICP) and operating the ICP with e-ISuite following the landfall of a major hurricane in Southwest Florida.

The exercise also tasked our Situation Unit Leaders to prepare situational awareness maps using our FDACS ESF 17 Web Mapping Tool (pictured above).

Overall, the training was productive and furthered understanding of the e-ISuite program.

The IMT members in attendance decided to use the e-ISuite program for responses in the future. There are plans for another e-ISuite training in the coming months.

"Florida has the potential to become the gold standard on hemp — our deep agricultural heritage, climate and resources, and farming infrastructure will make Florida a national leader in this emerging new economy."

— Nicole "Nikki" Fried
Commissioner of Agriculture,
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

Hurricane Season Begins

On June 1st, the 2019 Atlantic hurricane season began. This year the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts a near-normal hurricane season. But what does that mean? This season NOAA predicts a range between 9 – 15 named storms in the Atlantic Ocean: 4-8 hurricanes with 2-4 of those being major hurricanes (Category 3-5).

In anticipation for these storms and the potential for the opening of a pet-friendly shelter in your area, please refer to our Pet-Friendly Shelter Set Up Supplies Lists for basic and comprehensive lists of supplies needed to run a pet-friendly shelter. The 2019 Atlantic Hurricane Seasons ends on November 30th.

Visit the following links for more information:

https://flsart.org/jsp/petfriendly/petSupply.pdf
https://flsart.org/jsp/petfriendly/PetFriendlySupplyList.PDF

Counties, Is Your Contact Information Up-to-Date on the SART Website?

Speaking of hurricane season… please review your county emergency contact information at https://flsart.org/resource/countyinformation.jsp. If you need to make changes to your county contact information, please send a request to LeiAnna Tucker at LeiAnna.Tucker@FreshFromFlorida.com. During an emergency, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services provides necessary food and water to affected areas and helps protect animals and pets. The Department's Florida Forest Service is responsible for incident management and assists emergency responders in clearing debris and distributing supplies. Additionally, the Department's Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement provides law enforcement services to police departments and county sheriff's offices as necessary. For more information and tips on hurricane preparedness, visit www.floridadisaster.org.

SART to Host "Historical Scan Workshop" on July 11th

SART will hold a special "Historical Scan Workshop" on July 11 in Gainesville at the FDACS Division of Plant Industry auditorium. This will be a "kick-off" workshop to begin the strategic planning process for updating the SART Organizational Declaration, Steering Committee and Advisory Board. SART partners are invited to attend.

FDA: Outbreak Investigation of Salmonella Uganda Potentially Linked to Whole, Fresh Papayas

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), along with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and state and local partners, are investigating a multistate outbreak of 62 Salmonella Uganda illnesses potentially linked to whole, fresh papayas imported from Mexico. These illnesses have been reported in eight states: Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Florida, and Texas.

The FDA is increasing import screening for whole, fresh papayas and will continue to investigate the cause and source of the outbreak as well as the distribution of products. Preliminary analysis of product import records indicates that the whole, fresh papayas that made people sick in this outbreak were from Mexico. As this outbreak investigation continues, the FDA will work with our Mexican food safety regulatory counterparts to better define this outbreak. Additionally, the FDA will update this advisory as more information becomes available.

https://www.fda.gov/food/outbreaks-foodborne-illness/outbreak-investigation-salmonella-uganda-potentially-linked-whole-fresh-papayas-june-2019?utm_campaign=Outbreak%3A%20Salmonella%20Whole%2C%20Fresh%20Papayas_06282019&utm_medium=email&utm_source=Eloqua

Looking for the 2019 SART Planning Conference Presentations?

SART Conference presentations and resource handouts are available on our website at: https://flsart.org/EventMeetings/PlanningConferences/index.jsp

Enrollment Open: Animal Emergency Sheltering

The Florida State Animal Response Coalition (SARC) has upcoming opportunities for their Awareness Level 1 and Operations Level 2 Small Animal Emergency Sheltering courses.

When disaster strikes, the team of trained volunteer responders will be there to shelter and protect Florida's companion animals.

The Awareness Level 1 course (FL-003-RESP) gives students the knowledge necessary to work in a small animal emergency shelter. This class provides expertise and practical experience required to become a disaster animal responder. The Operations Level 2 (FL-607) course gives many new job options, in addition to leadership skills and team-led opportunities. This course expands upon information covered in Awareness Level 1 and ICS-100 courses. Both courses are certified by the Florida Division of Emergency Management and are geared for Florida responders who want to help companion animals and their owners during a disaster.

Course topics include: Personal Preparedness, Overview of the Incident Command System, Deployment Preparedness, Assisting in Shelter Setup, Daily Care and Feeding, Proper Cage Cleaning and Disinfection, Animal Behavior, Stress Management, Zoonotic Diseases, and Personal Safety.

For more information about the courses, and to register, please visit: http://flsarc.org/Training.html

Awareness Level 1 Courses

When: Saturday, July 20, 2019
Where: Rockledge, FL - Hosted by Brevard Kennel Club
Registration: http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=cmn8hziab&oeidk=a07egfkl593140f6fa4

When: Saturday, August 24, 2019
Where: Naples, FL - Saturday, August 24, 2019 - Hosted by Humane Society Naples
Registration: http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=cmn8hziab&oeidk=a07eger9xbn7e36fc44

When: Saturday, October 5, 2019
Where: Lakeland, FL - Hosted by Florida SPCA
Registration: http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=cmn8hziab&oeidk=a07egfqgzns64eb9a96

When: Saturday, November 16, 2019
Where: Marietta, GA - Hosted by Good Mews Animal Foundation
Registration: http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=cmn8hziab&oeidk=a07egekoh9j82260716

Operations Level 2 Courses

When: Saturday & Sunday, September 14 & 15, 2019
Where: Pensacola, FL - Hosted by Escambia County Animal Shelter
Registration: http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=cmn8hziab&oeidk=a07egfqgzin93ef2c7d

When: Saturday & Sunday, November 23 & 24, 2019
Where: Lakeland, FL - Hosted by Florida SPCA
Registration: http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=cmn8hziab&oeidk=a07egfrtum29713135a

In the News

Short stories and updates from around the state and nation…

First Raccoon ORB Bait Distribution Started
Miami-Dade County has begun distributing more than a quarter million packets of smelly bite-sized packets containing a liquid rabies vaccine. They're designed for wildlife to sniff out and eat, which could help ward off another rabies outbreak this year. (Miami Herald)
https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/article231516168.html

Commissioner Nikki Fried on Florida Hemp Bill Signed Into Law
"Tonight's hemp bill signing marks a transformation in Florida, and a critical step on the journey to creating a green industrial revolution, strengthening agriculture with an alternative crop of the future, and expanding access to safe, quality CBD products. For months, our department has been developing rules and gathering public input, and we're hitting the ground running to build a state hemp program that will be a model for the country." (FDACS)
https://www.freshfromflorida.com/News-Events/Press-Releases/2019-Press-Releases/Commissioner-Nikki-Fried-on-Florida-Hemp-Bill-Signed-Into-Law

Disaster Aid Bill Provides Funding for Farmers Hit by Floods, Wildfires, Hurricanes
With $3 billion specifically set aside for agricultural losses, the legislation will help Southeastern farmers hit by hurricanes last fall, as well as offset losses for farmers who had grain stored on farms this spring that was destroyed in Midwest flooding. The bill, however, also causes some confusion over language regarding "crops prevented from planting in 2019." (DTN Progressive Farmer)
https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/Ag/news/farm-life/article/2019/06/10/disaster-aid-bill-provides-funding

Post Hurricane Michael, Florida Beekeeper is Starts Selling "Hurricane Honey"
Buddy Nachtsheim had spent a couple of years selling Tupelo honey at fairs and farmers markets around the area, but when customers asked if he kept bees, he had to answer in the negative. Last summer he decided to change that, buying three box hives and hiring a beekeeper for his Overstreet property. (Panama City News Herald)
https://www.newsherald.com/news/20190609/beekeeper-starts-selling-hurricane-honey-collected-from-bees-that-survived-hurricane-michael

Disaster Preparedness for Animals Information Available

FDACS is proud to announce "Disaster Preparedness for Animals" for horses, livestock and pets. Information is now available on their website. Please visit: https://www.freshfromflorida.com/Consumer-Resources/Animals/Animal-Related-Emergency-Response

Pet-Friendly Sheltering
Online Training Course Information

The Florida State Agricultural Response Team (SART) will soon offer an online, state-certified training on pet-friendly sheltering. The online training will provide participants with guidance on how to plan for and operate a pet-friendly shelter to ensure that individuals evacuating from a disaster with household pets are accommodated.

Lesson 1: Course Structure

Lesson 2: Opening the Doors to Pet-Friendly Sheltering
Lesson 2 is a course background lesson. The question of "Why Pet-Friendly Sheltering?" is introduced and participants will receive numbers and statistics on pet-friendly sheltering from previous disasters.

Lesson 3: Who is in Charge? Using ICS.
Lesson 3 provides a brief overview of using ICS in pet-friendly shelters. An important aspect of this lesson is how to properly use ESFs during all phases of pet-friendly sheltering. Participants will learn about the coordination between ESF 6 and ESF 17 and the importance of that relationship's successful operations.

Lesson 4: Planning for a Pet-Friendly Shelter
Lesson 4 will focus on planning a pet-friendly shelter. It will make recommendations for staff training, suggestions for where to set up pet-friendly shelters, and will go through the important elements of a pet-friendly shelter plan.

Lesson 5: Preparedness is a Partnership
Lesson 5 is about establishing partnerships. It will cover MOUs and MAAs, recommended trainings for pet-friendly shelter staff, and will help participants to identify agencies in their communities for partnership.

Lesson 6: Social Media and Beyond
Lesson 6 will focus on using social media for disseminating a unified message and providing the public with pet-friendly sheltering information. Accurate information is crucial for evacuations and this lesson will share some best practices.

Lesson 7: How to Set-up and Take Down a Pet-Friendly Shelter
Lesson 7 will focus on best practices for setting-up and taking down pet-friendly shelters. Participants will be introduced to potential issues and will be provided several different checklists so they can be best prepared. This lesson will cover supplies, choices for enclosures/caging, setup and design, design considerations, species separation, indoor "pet walk," quarantine, storing cages and kennels, sanitizing animal items, and more.

RELEASE DATE
Summer 2019

COURSE DURATION
4 hours

COURSE FEE
Free

COURSE MODE
100% online

TARGET AUDIENCE
Emergency Managers
County Employees
Shelter Volunteers

PROVIDED BY
Florida State Agricultural Response Team, in partnership with the Florida State Animal Response Coalition

POINT OF CONTACT
LeiAnna Tucker
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
(850) 410-0920
LeiAnna.Tucker@freshfromflorida.com

Food Safety and Food Defense Report

A special section dedicated to feed and food emergency planning and response.

FDACS' Division of Food Safety is responsible for assuring the public of a safe, wholesome, and properly represented food supply through permitting and inspection of food establishments, inspection of food products, and performance of specialized laboratory analysis on a variety of food products sold or produced in the state. The Division of Food Safety monitors food from the farm's gate? farm gate, through processing and distribution, to the retail point of purchase.

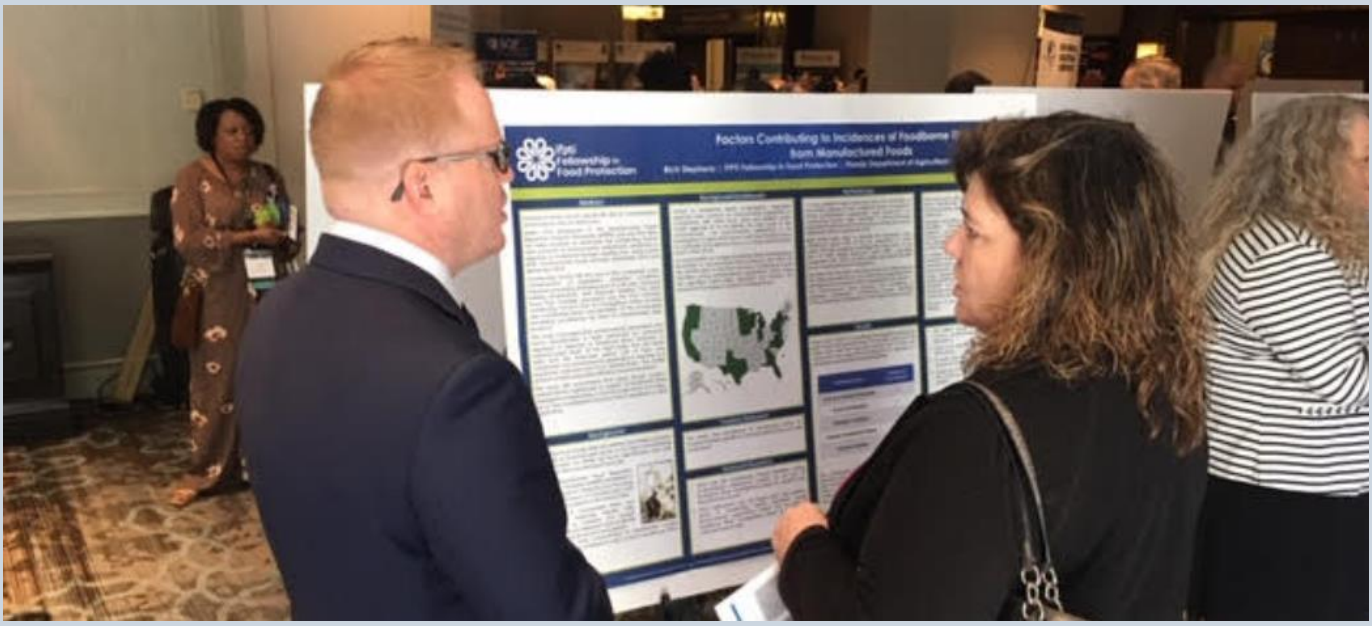
- The Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) held its Annual Education Conference in Atlanta, Georgia June 22-26. During this conference, Rich Stephens (FDACS) presented a poster and an oral presentation on *Factors Contributing to Incidences of Foodborne Illness from Manufactured Foods* in conjunction with the International Food Protection Training Institute (IFPTI). Rich was a member of the IFPTI Fellowship in Food Protection (Cohort VII, 2018-2019) and graduated from the program at the AFDO Conference. Congratulations Rich! At the conference, IFPTI announced its newest Cohort (VIII, 2019-2020) which includes Summer Williams (FDACS). She plans on completing her research project on beneficial tools used in food safety natural disaster response.

- Brenda Morris moderated a panel discussion Hurricanes from an Industry Perspective. The panel included Michael Roberson from Publix Supermarkets and Tracy Johnstone from McDonalds. The panel focused on the devastation from Hurricane Michael and recovery of businesses in the Florida panhandle.

- In addition, a big congratulations to Brenda Morris! She is the 2019 winner of the Eugene H. Holeman Award. The Eugene H. Holeman Award is presented annually to a regular member of the Association of Food and Drug Officials of the Southern States (AFDOSS) for exceptional service to their state or the nation in the performance of duties and responsibilities in the administration and enforcement of food, drug, cosmetic and consumer products. The award was established by AFDOSS in 1977. The late Eugene H. Holeman was President of both AFDO and AFDOSS.

- Two nationwide recalls were issued for undeclared sulfites from the sampling and traceback work conducted by FDACS Food Inspectors, Crystal Bailey and Bisham Ojha. Great work!

Food Safety and Food Defense Report (continued)



- The Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement (OALE) enforces laws governing businesses regulated by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Their mission is to protect consumers from unfair and deceptive trade practices, protect Florida's agriculture industry from theft and other crimes, and safeguard the wholesomeness of food and other consumer products. There are 23 agricultural inspection stations on 19 highways going into and out of Florida. Officers conduct vehicle inspections 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to ensure the safety of Florida's food supply. Officers are on the lookout for unsafe or unwholesome food that could make people sick, in addition plant and animal pests and diseases that could harm the state's $100 billion agriculture industry. Each month OALE brings in several regulatory partners and performs inspections of every trailer coming into a specific station. On June 18, FDACS Environmental Specialists Terry Taynton and Clint Fox worked with OALE during the monthly "blitz" at the Agricultural Inspection Station on I-95.

Animal Technical Rescue Awareness Training

Open to:

- Veterinarians
- Veterinary Technicians
- Animal Control Officers
- Extension Agents
- Livestock and Horse Owners
- First Responders

and anyone interested in learning scene safety and resources for animal technical rescue emergencies

When: Saturday, August 17th, 2019
8 AM – 5 PM

Where: UF College of Veterinary Medicine
2015 SW 16th Ave
Gainesville, FL 32608

Register: www.ufvets.com

Contact: Brandi Phillips
brandikphillips@ufl.edu

FLSARC Train-the-Trainer Workshop

Are you interested in becoming a trainer with Florida SARC? Join us for the Train-the-Trainer Workshop tentatively scheduled for October 26 & 27, 2019. The course will be hosted by Florida SPCA.

Interested individuals must have all prerequisites completed before they can register.

Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of FEMA online courses: IS-100.b, IS-200.b, & IS-700.a.
- Completion of FL-SARC Small Animal Emergency Sheltering Awareness (Level 1) and Operations (level 2) Classes.
- **You must be at least 18 years old to take this class.**

Registration will open in late July 2019. Email planning@flsarc.org with any questions.

Please log in and update your membership information online at:

www.FLSART.org

About the *SART Sentinel*

The *SART Sentinel* is an email newsletter prepared monthly by the members of the **Florida State Agricultural Response Team**. Past issues of the *Sentinel* are archived on the Florida SART website at www.FLSART.org.

If you have a story or photo that you would like to have considered for publication in the *SART Sentinel*, please contact the editors.

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