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## Online Training Available

<https://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/>

<https://eces.ifas.ufl.edu/>

## Additional Resources

University of Florida Extension  
Publications

<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Pest Management in and  
Around Structures

<http://www.eXtension.org/>

## Introduction



We would like to introduce Dr. Chris Marble, Assistant Professor, Ornamental & Landscape Weed Management. Dr. Marble is one of our newest PMU faculty teaching in the L&O track. He is located at Apopka MREC and brings a wealth of practical, hands-on experience to PMU and UF/IFAS. He is our columnist this month!

## PMU Focus - Weed Control in the Landscape

### Weed Control in the Landscape

Florida's unique environment provides ideal growing conditions for many different types of ornamental plants and turfgrass species that we can enjoy throughout the year. However, it also provides a great environment for troublesome weeds. Weeds are a problem in the landscape not only because they can reduce the growth of desirable plants by outcompeting them for water, nutrients and light, but they can also harbor harmful insects, nematodes, and diseases.

The most common weeds can be classified into one of three groups including 1) broadleaf weeds (Fig 1), 2) grassy weeds, and 3) sedges. Regardless of which type of weed might be in a landscape, controlling them can be a difficult endeavor and is a year-round challenge in Florida. Many of these weeds like spotted spurge (*Chamaesyce maculata*) can produce thousands of seeds in only a few weeks. Most landscapes contain a variety of trees, shrubs, and bedding plants as well as turf areas which means there are no "one-size-fits-all" herbicides that can be used throughout all landscapes. Weed management is best accomplished with an integrated approach that utilizing both non-chemical and chemical control methods.



Figure 1. Spotted spurge growing in a landscape planting bed. It can grow year round in central and south Florida and thrives in dry, compacted areas where many other plants cannot grow. Photo: Annette Chandler, University of Florida

Effective non-chemical weed control methods include mulching planting beds, increasing mower height, and applying irrigation and fertilizer only when ornamental plants or turf need them. Promoting the growth and establishment of landscape plants and turf can also reduce weed pressure as weeds typically fill in "voids" in the landscape where other plants are not growing. Hand-pulling weeds is also effective but is very time consuming.

In many cases, chemical methods (herbicides) will be needed to control a weed population. It is important to always follow pesticide label instructions when applying any pesticide in order for the product to work and to also protect the environment. It is also important to rotate different herbicide active ingredients in order to reduce the chances of herbicide resistant weed development.

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## Upcoming Training Opportunities:

If you plan on taking the [State Certified Operator examination](https://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/courses) through PMU, you must take both the Foundations and Masters courses. These courses are open at the website: <https://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/courses>. State examinations will be held on Friday, 1 PM, after the completion of the Masters courses. Click [here](#) for Masters courses.

Application packets are due to FDACS on **Sept 1**. Please write "PMU" across the top of your application.

**These are the last Foundations courses for 2015!**

Foundations of Termite Management 101 (**Course full,**

**waitlist available. Contact Faith: [foi@ufl.edu](mailto:foi@ufl.edu))**

**Date:** Sept 16-18, 2015; Wed-Fri

**Time:** 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL  
32703-8504

**Registration fee:** \$375

**Foundations of L&O 101 NEW! (Please consider taking the new [L&O Masters](#), Dec 2-4!)**

**Date:** Sept 23-25, 2015; Wed-Fri

**Time:** 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL  
32703-8504

**Registration fee:** \$375

- Learn about the general Florida licensing requirements for technicians and sales staff.
- Be able to pass DACS vehicle inspections, practice doing a spill drill, and learn the best ways to minimize risks before, during, and after an application.
- Learn to identify diseases, insects, and weeds in lawns and ornamentals and best management practices for their control.
- Gain hands on experience reading and understanding pesticide labels, calculating treatment areas, and calibrating application equipment for lawns, shrubs, and other ornamental plants.

[Register here](#)

**Foundations of General Pest Management 101 (Course full, waitlist available. Contact Faith: [foi@ufl.edu](mailto:foi@ufl.edu))**

**Date:** Sept 30 – Oct 2, 2015; Wed-Fri

**Time:** 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL  
32703-8504

**Registration fee:** \$375

## **OCTOBER OFFERINGS**

**Master of Termite Management (6 seats remaining)**

**Date:** Oct 14-16, 2015; Wed-Fri

**Time:** 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL  
32703-8504

**Registration fee: \$375**

Must have completed Foundations in order to advance. This course is only offered once a year. A special WDO State Examination is offered after the Masters course on Oct 16, 2015, if interested and qualified.

Review termite identification, biology and control and learn about wood-destroying beetles and wood-decaying fungi.

Learn how:

1. To do a proper borate application
  2. Baits work
  3. To use foam and application techniques to optimize the distribution of liquid termiticides in soil with the Bayer University toys
- Hear about the top 10 reasons that certified operators get in trouble and how to avoid them from Mark Ruff, industry attorney.
  - Do an inspection for WDOs at PMU's house designed to challenge even experienced inspectors.
  - Practice a licensee inspection with a DACS inspector and learn about the duties of a certified operator.

[Register here](#)

**Master of General Household Pest Management (Course full, waitlist available. Contact Faith: [foi@ufl.edu](mailto:foi@ufl.edu). GHP Expert, Dec 2-4, 2015. Next time will be 2017. [Sign up now!](#))**

**Date:** Oct 28-30, 2015; Wed-Fri

**Time:** 8 AM-5 PM (W, TH); 8 AM-12 PM (F)

**Place:** UF/IFAS Apopka MREC, 2725 S. Binion Rd, Apopka, FL 32703-8504

**Registration fee:** \$375

This fast-paced class is only offered once a year. Must have completed Foundations in order to advance.

- Learn about biting and stinging insects, stored product pests, and occasional invaders as well as how to recognize delusory parasitosis.

- Play with the tools of the trade, vacuums, steamers, foamers and practice spray patterns.
- Prepare for an introduction to vertebrate pests that carry disease causing organisms.
- Practice affidavit writing and working with DACS on licensee inspections.  
Review labels of commonly used products including changes in pyrethroid and rodenticide labels.

Click on "Register here" for course descriptions or go to <http://pmu.ifas.ufl.edu/courses> for more information

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## Learn more from IFAS



- UF/IFAS has Extension Offices in each of Florida's sixty-seven counties. We also have twelve Research and Education Centers (RECs) and Research and Demonstration Sites (RDSs).
- If you need help a great place to start is your local County Extension Office. With an office located in every county it has never been easier to partner with the University of Florida and your local County Government. To find an office near you please visit:  
**<http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/map/>**