

FOREWORD

Water abundance in Florida used to be a given. Water management commonly focused on flood control and land drainage with minor concern for irrigation or water quality. Today, Florida residents and water management districts worry over lowered lake levels, water shortages, and loss of wetlands. Decreasing rainfall over the past 25 years, the demands of rapidly expanding urban centers, saltwater intrusion, and the increased use of water for irrigation and cold protection for citrus and other crops have made water management a critical issue in our state. The Florida citrus industry is now only one of many customers asking for a slice of a shrinking pie.

Designed specifically for citrus production managers, this short course and these published proceedings emphasize general principles of water management and physiology, irrigation, related horticultural practices, and water use policies and trends. Through this dialogue, we will extend our understanding of water policy and water management decisions.

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