

IST Guidebook Oct 2024 – Sept 2025

Initiative	IST Num	Title	Purpose and Objective	Start Date	End Date	Session ID	Faculty Lead	Type	Hours	Location
1	32295	Turf Academy II - Session C	The program will cover turfgrass identification and new cultivars, fertilization including spreader calibration, irrigation management and technology, and pest management (weeds, insect, disease, nematodes) including new or emerging pests and pesticides. The program will involve either classroom presentations and/or outdoor activities, depending on the speaker preference, with the aim of providing firsthand experience of turfgrass management and pest identification. Parts of this IST will be offered virtually like the classroom presentations, but the outdoor activities component will only be in person. Upon completion of the IST, learners will be able to: 1.) identify common turfgrasses grown in Florida and recognize the new cultivars coming to the market, 2.) accurately calculate fertilizer needs and calibrate a spreader, 3.) accurately calculate irrigation run times and nutrient loads from reclaimed water, and 4.) identify the common pest known to impact turfgrass and potential solutions.	10/3/2024	10/3/2024	322953	AJ Lindsey	mixt	7	PSREU, Citra, FL
1	32305	Fruit Crops Diversification: A Practical Workshop on Persimmon Best Management Practices and Varieties in FL	The proposed IST will emphasize the best management practices and evaluation of persimmon varieties to understand better the feasibility of enterprises engaging in producing and utilizing persimmon in Florida. Developing a new industry generates both new risks and potential benefits. This IST aims to provide County Faculty with critical information on best management practices and varieties	10/17/2024	10/17/2024	323051	Ali Sarkhosh	Trad	4	Plant Science Research and Education Unit (PSREU) in Citra FL

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			for growing persimmon in north and central Florida. County Faculty will communicate the information to growers to aid in decision-making about the production of persimmon in Florida. The IST can benefit Extension Faculty, who work with small and large fruit growers in the state interested in expanding their fruit production business or diversifying their current production system. County Faculty will learn about the opportunities and challenges of persimmon production and further invest in their extension programs to advance persimmon production systems in Florida.							
1	32356	FDA's Final Traceability Rule; Helping Industry for Compliance	This In-Service Training (IST) is the first in a series focused on helping Extension Agents understand and navigate the new traceability requirements under the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) 204. FSMA 204 mandates detailed record-keeping for high-risk foods to improve food safety, prevent foodborne illnesses, manage recalls, and maintain consumer trust. As the compliance deadline approaches, food processors will face significant challenges in meeting these requirements, particularly regarding the collection and sharing of Key Data Elements (KDEs) and Critical Tracking Events (CTEs) throughout the supply chain.	12/4/2024	12/4/2024	323561	Razieh Farzad	Dist	2	Virtual Zoom
1	32357	Helping Your Producers Create a Plan for the Future Success of Their Farms and Ranches: An Introduction to Succession Planning	This In-Service Training will be an opportunity for the FACAA AgEcon Committee to facilitate an introductory online webinar for county agents about the basics of succession	1/17/2025	1/17/2025	323571	Hannah Baker	dist	3	Online

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			<p>planning. The goal is to increase agent knowledge of succession planning and confidence in sharing this information with clientele (landowners and family farms and ranches). Expected learning outcomes for agents attending the IST are to... 1)Increase awareness of why succession planning is important for farm/ranch/forest landowners, 2)Increase knowledge of issues and concepts related to succession planning, 3)Be able to identify attorneys, tax accountants, and other resources available to assist clients with succession planning, 4)Increase confidence in their ability to discuss succession planning with clients, 5)Increase awareness of upcoming programs and resources to support agents in working with clients on succession planning. Guest speakers presenting these topics include Paul Goeringer and Dr. Jesse Fetterman from the University of Maryland and Dr. Tamara Cushing and Kendra Hughson from the University of Florida. Outcomes for this IST will be measured using a post-survey that will be sent out after the training to measure the effectiveness of the IST and if knowledge increased about succession planning and how to find resources among the agents.</p>							
1	32364	<p>Basics of commercial avocado production in Florida; what you need to know no matter where avocados are grown</p>	<p>Interest in commercial avocado production in Central Florida has increased during the last 10 years and new (or relatively new) plantings have been established in Martin, Polk, Collier, Indian River, Brevard, and Hendry Counties. Interest has</p>	11/6/2024	11/6/2024	323641	Jonathan H Crane	Dist	2	Zoom

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			<p>increased especially in the last 5 years because of the apparent climate change, mainly due to the decreased frequency and severity of freezing events in some Central Florida locations and the loss of thousands of citrus acreage.</p> <p>This IST will provide UF IFAS Extension Agents with information they can use when inquiries are made about the potential for commercial avocado production north of Miami-Dade County. Specifically this IST will address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change and the risks and opportunities it offers with respect to avocado production • Effects of cold, freezing temperatures, and cold protection strategies • Soil factors and effects including soil drainage, flooding issues • Potential cultivars/varieties for Central Florida • Plant spacing and arrangements • Basics of nutrient and irrigation and herbicide management • Major disease and insect pests – phytophthora root rot, laurel wilt 							
1	32366	Commercial Apiculture & Pollination	This IST will cover the logistics and challenges of commercial beekeepers, in general, the Florida apiculture industry, resources, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services apiary inspection rules and regulations, and more related to almond and blueberry pollination. This will be a	1/22/2025	1/23/2025	323661	Amy Vu	trad	10	Central Florida

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			<p>2day training and involve loading up honey bee semi-trucks in the evening. Outcomes are best management practices for growers who utilize commercial beekeepers for pollination services, agents will use newly gained knowledge in their apiculture programs, and can provide resources for commercial beekeepers related to rules and regulations through FDACS and resources through the USDA. Short term evaluation will be collected through feedback and focus group at the end of the workshop, and medium and long term evaluation will be conducted through annual evaluations to agents.</p>							
1	32369	New Technology for Commercial Crop Production (XIII)	<p>In response to our growers' needs, this IST program will focus on the sustainable management of emerging and expanding crops, innovative fertilizers, irrigation scheduling, and effective weed management to enhance crop production. Additionally, it will cover postharvest handling techniques for fresh fruits and vegetables to improve postharvest quality. Six extension specialists from USDA-ARS, Oregon, and UF/IFAS will share their expertise during the presentations.</p>	2/26/2025	2/26/2025	323691	Guodong Liu	Dist	6	1306 Fifield Hall

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2	32354	Septic Systems	We propose a 3-hour webinar (9am to 12 noon), broken up into two 1.5 hour blocks. The first block will cover the basics of what a septic system is, how it works, and the basic maintenance and management needs for homeowners who have septic system. This first block will also provide updates on new Florida legislation and requirements for advanced septic system technologies in some parts of the state. The 2nd block will discuss how septic systems can impact human and environmental health and steps that we can take to mitigate potential pollution from septic systems, including advanced treatment options. Attendees may choose to attend either or both blocks of webinars, depending on their needs. Each block of webinars will also introduce attendees to tools that they can use for their own programming—such as factsheets and videos produced by the IST team in the last few years.	11/7/2024	11/7/2024	323541	Mary Lusk	dist	3	Webinar
2	32360	Conducting Irrigation Evaluations	The IST will cover: Introduction The Basics of Irrigation System Components The Irrigation Evaluation Process In-Field Instruction Conclusion and Evaluation This IST will empower agents to provide irrigation evaluations that provide homeowner education and that measurably save water. Participating agents will be encouraged to work with the H2OSAV: Water Savings, Analytics & Verification program to quantify water savings impacts.	3/25/2025	3/25/2025	323601	Nicholas Taylor	trad	6	Manatee County Extension Office

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3	32316	IFAS Invasive Species Council Training Modules- Determining Plant Nativeness	This month will cover the concept of plant nativeness and how it is currently addressed by taxonomists. The topic expert is Marc Frank from UF's Natural History Museum. We will track attendance to the webinar, viewings of the webinar recording, and downloads of the provided materials. We also gather data on how the agents use the materials to create their own content.	Canceled	Canceled	323161	Michael Andreu	dist	1	Teams
3	32322	IFAS Invasive Species Council Training Modules- Invasives 101	This month will cover the basics of invasive species, how they impact peoples lives and how we can manage them. The topic expert is Deb Stone with UF. We will track attendance to the webinar, viewings of the webinar recording, and downloads of the provided materials. We also gather data on how the agents use the materials to create their own content.	10/15/2024	10/15/2024	323221	Michael Andreu	dist	1	Teams
3	32343	IFAS Invasive Species Council Training Modules- Invasive mosquitoes	This month will cover invasive mosquitoes. The topic expert is Dr. Eva Buckner. We will track attendance to the webinar, viewings of the webinar recording, and downloads of the provided materials. We also gather data on how the agents use the materials to create their own content.	10/3/2024	10/3/2024	323431	Michael Andreu	dist	1	Teams
3	32365	AI Application in Agricultural Water, Soil, and Crop	By exploiting the opportunities that AI brings, stakeholders will gain insights into the advantages of smart technologies in agriculture. This In-Service Training will be an opportunity for invited faculty members to present their research on AI and its application in agriculture to county agents. Therefore, the IST will cover several topics related to AI and its application	12/19/2024	12/19/2024	323651	Golmar Golmohammadi	dist	2	Online

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			in Agriculture. A mix of lectures and hands-on activities will be employed to enhance the learning experience. Topics will include AI applications to address water, soil, plant, and environmental problems. Outcomes for this IST will be measured through the use of a post-survey.							
3	32365	AI Application in Agricultural Water, Soil, and Crop	By exploiting the opportunities that AI brings, stakeholders will gain insights into the advantages of smart technologies in agriculture. This In-Service Training will be an opportunity for invited faculty members to present their research on AI and its application in agriculture to county agents. Therefore, the IST will cover several topics related to AI and its application in Agriculture. A mix of lectures and hands-on activities will be employed to enhance the learning experience. Topics will include AI applications to address water, soil, plant, and environmental problems. Outcomes for this IST will be measured through the use of a post-survey.	1/14/2025	1/14/2025	323652	Golmar Golmohammadi	dist	2	Online
3	32370	Using iNaturalist for Conservation Stewardship	In-Service Training (IST) program, titled "Using iNaturalist for Conservation Stewardship," is a half-day initiative designed to equip County Extension Agents with the essential skills needed for biodiversity conservation. This streamlined training combines both classroom and field components at DeLuca Preserve, providing a focused, hands-on experience that directly applies to real-world conservation efforts.	3/6/2025	3/6/2025	323701	Corey Callaghan	trad	6	UF DeLuca Preserve

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5	32323	Helping People Change & Grow: An Introduction to Motivational Interviewing	We are proposing to conduct this IST in Gainesville, FL. on the University of Florida campus if approved. Agenda for Participants: The 8-hour in-person training may be divided into two 4-hour sessions or one 4-hour in-person session and one 4-hour virtual session. The training will include didactic and experiential components.	1/10/2025	1/10/2025	323231	Melissa Vilaro	trad	8	1889 Museum Rd Conference Room 7126 Gainesville FL 32611
5	32361	Housing Education Training IST	We are proposing to hold a 1.5-day IST to meet four objectives: (1) train agents to teach lessons from the My Florida Home and Take Good Care of My Florida Home curricula; (2) record videos of agents teaching these lessons that can be used in virtual programs; (3) demonstration of home maintenance and energy efficiency practices for programming purposes; and (4) training agents to prepare for the HUD Certification Exam and provide HUD-approved counseling. Outcomes include the number of agents trained on the curricula, the videos recorded, skills gained through demonstrations, and agents preparing for the HUD exam. We will evaluate participant improvement and satisfaction through surveys. Agents will provide the program leader with periodic reports on new programming and overall impacts.	12/16/2024	12/17/2024	323611	Johanna Gomez-Gonzalez	mixt	12	UF/IFAS Extension Pinellas County

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7	32362	2024-2025 4-H Youth Protection and Compliance Updates	You are invited to join this IST session focused on sharing updates in the Florida statutes and UF Policies regarding youth compliance. This session aims to ensure that all participants are well-informed about the latest changes and requirements to maintain a safe environment for youth and families in 4-H youth development programs. This session is designed for faculty and staff in UF/IFAS Extension who work with youth to provide programming, train volunteers to provide programming, and/or work with community partners providing programming to youth.	11/6/2024	11/6/2024	323621	Candi Dierenfield	dist	1	Zoom
8	32349	Extension Faculty Development Academy - Session B (Nov 2024)	These trainings relate to teaching and learning, program development, and program evaluation. New Extension faculty must attend Session A before they can attend Session B. This Academy supplements CED/DED training and information provided by the mentor.	11/19/2024	11/21/2024	323491	Matt Benge	Trad	24	Straughn Center
8	32358	County Extension Director In-Service Training	This annual CED IST provides relevant and priority training for County Extension Directors. Topics consists of administrative, management, and leadership competencies.	10/28/2024	10/30/2024	323581	Matt Benge	trad	16	Gainesville, FL
8	32367	Extension Faculty Development Academy - Session A (Feb 2025)	These trainings relate to teaching and learning, program development, and program evaluation. New Extension faculty must attend Session A before they can attend Session B. This Academy supplements CED/DED	2/18/2025	2/20/2025	323671	Matt Benge	Trad	22	TBD

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			training and information provided by the mentor.							
8	32368	Extension Faculty Development Academy - Session B (Nov 2024)	These trainings relate to teaching and learning, program development, and program evaluation. New Extension faculty must attend Session A before they can attend Session B. This Academy supplements CED/DED training and information provided by the mentor.	3/25/2025	3/27/2025	323681	Matt Bengé	Trad	22	Straughn Center