

Citrus Industry Magazine- UF/IFAS SWFREC Citrus Mechanical Harvesting Program “What’s Shakin” column

February 2010

Mongi Zekri, at the December Squeezer, held at the Southwest Florida Research and Education Center in Immokalee, highlighted citrus mechanical harvesting. The meeting featured members of the UF/IFAS Citrus Mechanical Harvesting and Abscission Team, who gave updates on research being conducted on abscission, tree health, machine enhancements, cost savings and trailer debris. Jim Syvertsen, plant physiologist at CREC, reported that research has shown that well managed trees that have been mechanically harvested for three years showed no long term effects on tree health or yield compared to hand harvested trees. To view this and the other presentations made at the squeezer meeting, visit our website at <http://citrusMH.ifas.ufl.edu>.