

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

**January 2013**

Dr. Mark Trimmer, Director of R&D for AgroSource, Inc., outlined the benefits from achieving widespread adoption of an abscission agent as a harvest aid for mechanical harvesting systems during the April 2012 International Symposium on Mechanical Harvesting and Handling Systems of Fruits and Nuts on citrus. Dr. Trimmer described the demonstrated ability of the abscission agent to be highly selective during late season Valencia harvest. In addition to crop selectivity, the abscission agent can improve the performance of mechanical harvesting equipment by increasing overall fruit recovery and harvesting speed while decreasing overall debris being transported to a juice processing plant. The data package has been under review by USEPA for full registration and the Agency’s decision is expected by February 2013. Dr. Trimmer’s full presentation can be found at: <http://citrusmh.ifas.ufl.edu>.