

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

October 2008

Economics Program

The Citrus Mechanical Harvesting Program Economics studies, directed by Fritz Roka, Economist at SWFREC, attempts to address questions related to machine and worker productivity, crop yields, harvesting costs, and valuing the costs and benefits of incorporating abscission as part of the overall harvesting system. A “load allocation” study addresses efficiency of harvesting equipment, but also includes broader interests of juice processors, such as juice quality, optimal harvest timing, and trade offs between length of harvest season and bulk-tank juice storage capacity.

If you would like to learn more about the outcome of these and the other studies being conducted by the IFAS Citrus Mechanical Harvesting & Abscission Program, please visit our website at <http://citrusMH.ifas.ufl.edu>.