The Citrus Mechanical Harvesting Field Day was held on April 21st at the Southwest Research and Education Center. Mr. George McManus, a cherry grower from Michigan and Mr. Barney Eiland, a former agricultural engineer with the USDA-ARS, described the transition that growers of Michigan cherries and Florida sugarcane endured as they moved from hand to machine harvest. Their comments served to remind the Florida citrus growers that a complete transition to mechanical harvesting technology is both possible and profitable. Any horticultural or mechanical challenge can be overcome if all sectors of the industry are committed to the transition of mechanical harvesting. Please visit our website (http://citrusMH.ifas.ufl.edu) to view pictures and other presentations made during the field trip.

If you would like to receive future notifications of our field days please send an email to hymanb@ufl.edu and you will be added to our mailing list.