

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

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The Florida Department of Citrus was able to collect information on the number of acres and boxes of citrus mechanically harvested in the 2010-2011 season. Based on survey results, a decrease was seen as compared to the previous year. In 2010-2011, 11,347 acres were mechanically harvested, a decrease of 61% from the 29,121 acres mechanically harvested in 2009-2010, and more than a 68% decrease from acreage mechanically harvested in 2008-09 of 35,600 acres. The sharp decreases in acreage and boxes harvested by mechanical systems were not unexpected as growers fight citrus greening and do not want to further stress their trees with mechanical harvesting equipment. Mechanical harvesting had been particularly strong in southwest Florida, which also coincides with the region most impacted by citrus greening. Please visit our website at <http://citrusmh.ifas.ufl.edu> to see the latest mechanical harvesting statistics.