

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

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Trunk shakers have been used in Florida to harvest sweet oranges for juice processing. These shakers were developed in California to harvest almonds, walnuts, and pistachios. One example of a mechanical trunk shaker for almonds is the Schieler Harvester 1088 Tree Crop Harvester. This system is fully computer controlled with a Parker's IQAN (electronic control) system. With the IQAN, yield maps of what is harvested in the orchard, by the tree, bin, row, or acre can be created. This shaker has a fully automatic bin changing system. The 1088 has a canvas that wraps around the tree trunk keeping the almonds from falling to the ground. The 1088 can harvest about 4 trees a minute and is designed for trees that are small enough to be shaken at the trunk rather than the limbs. Watch the Schieler Harvester YouTube at:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=A8fpqLOeLds or visit our website at <http://citrusmh.ifas.ufl.edu> for a link.