

# Florida Mango Grower Summit

**June 28, 2026**



University of Florida/IFAS Extension, Palm Beach County  
559 N Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL 33415  
Exhibit Hall A-B



## Agenda

- 8:00 AM**     **Registration & breakfast**
- 8:30 AM**     **Welcome & introduction**  
Alex Salazar, Florida Mango Grower Association  
Anna Mészáros, University of Florida/IFAS, Palm Beach County Extension  
Dr. Ron Rice, University of Florida/IFAS, Palm Beach County Extension
- 8:45 AM**     **2026 Freeze damage assessment and reporting**  
Dr. Christa Court, Food and Resource Economics Department, University of Florida/IFAS
- 9:15 AM**     **Protecting mango trees: freeze preparedness and post-freeze recovery**  
Dr. Jonathan Crane, Emeritus Tropical Fruit Specialist, University of Florida/IFAS, TREC
- 9:45 AM**     **Considerations for future mango breeding projects for Florida's mango industry**  
Alex Salazar, Tropical Acres Farms, West Palm Beach
- 10:15 AM**    **Horticultural care when establishing new groves**  
Steve Cucura, Fruitscapes, Bokeelia
- 10:45 AM**    **Disease and pest challenges of growing mangos in Florida**  
Dr. Romina Gazis, University of Florida/IFAS, Tropical Research and Education Center
- 11:15 AM**    **Suggested mango cultivars for different regions**  
Chris Wenzel, Truly Tropical, Delray Beach  
Marley Hagerstrom, Naples Fruit Farm, Naples  
Matthew Reece, Peace River Organics, Punta Gorda
- 12:00 PM**    **LUNCH**
- 1:15 PM**     **County zoning and Ag classifications**  
Lisa Amara, Palm Beach County Extension, West Palm Beach
- 1:35 PM**     **Resources from University of Florida/IFAS: Small Farm Start-Up School**  
Yvette Goodiel, University of Florida/IFAS, Martin County Extension  
Dr. Malek Hammami, Food and Resource Economics Department, University of Florida/IFAS, TREC
- 1:55 PM**     **The business of mango farming in 2026**  
Alex Salazar, Tropical Acres Farms, West Palm Beach
- 2:25 PM**     **BREAK**
- 2:40 PM**     **Grower panel discussion:**  
Alex Salazar, Steve Cucura, Jonathan Crane, Chris Wenzel, and more
- 4:00 PM**     **Social & networking time**
- 5:00 PM**     **Adjourn**

**Register here:**

