

Florida Climate Smart Agriculture Work Group 2020

Agriculture and Forestry Producer/Value Chain Partner Leaders

Sam Accursio

Homestead, FL

Owner of Sam Accursio and Sons Farms, Inc., producers of pickles, snap Beans, yellow straightneck squash, zucchini squash, okra, and sweet corn; Board member, South Florida Water Management District; Vice Chair, Agriculture Practices Advisory Board

Mike Adams

Fort Pierce, FL

President of Adams Ranch, a fourth-generation cow-calf ranch

Paul Allen

Pahokee, FL

Co-Owner and President of R.C. Hatton Farms, producer of sweet corn, cabbage, green beans and sugar can; Chairman, Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association

Larry Black

Fort Meade, FL

Citrus producer and General Manager of Peace River Packing Co., a citrus cooperative that provides caretaking, harvesting and fresh fruit packing

Ed Bravo

Newberry, FL

General Manager/ Owner of Big Trees Plantation, Inc.; Past President, Florida Nursery, Growers, and Landscape Association; Former President, FNGLA Frontrunners chapter

Mike Brown

Edgewater, FL

Director of Tree Farm Operations at Miami Corporation, owner of the Farmton Tree Farm

Ed Chiles

Anna Maria, FL

Owner of The Sandbar, Beach House and Mar Vista Dockside restaurants; Member of the Blue Community Consortium, designated as first Global Observatory for Sustainable Tourism by United Nations World Tourism Organization; Founding member of Solutions to Avoid Red Tide (START); Owner of Gamble Creek Organics; Board Member of Gulf Seafood Foundation; Founding member of Gulf Shellfish Institute; Member of Shellfish Growers Climate Coalition Project; Member of Florida Climate- Smart Agriculture Initiative.

Joe Collins

Okeechobee, FL

Senior Vice President of Lykes Bros. Inc. Ranch, an integrated cow-calf, forestry, sugar cane and landscape operation

Randall Dasher

McAlpin, FL

Owner of Dasher Farms, a peanuts, seed crops and seed processing operation; President, Suwannee Farm Bureau; 2015 Commissioner's Agricultural Environmental Leadership Award

Tony DiMare

Tampa, FL

Executive Vice President of DiMare Fresh, third generation tomato farming operation and produces, procures & distributes a full line of fruits and vegetables

Gray Drummond

Chiefland, FL

Owner, Guide & Instructor at Florida Outdoor Experience

Burlin Findley

Jay, FL

Co-owner of Wild Boar Farms, producer of cotton, peanuts, and corn; President, Association of Florida Conservation Districts; Vice-President, Blackwater Soil and Water Conservation District; Vice-President, Three Rivers Resource Conservation & Development Council

David Hill

Clermont, FL

Owner of Southern Hill Farms, a blueberry commercial and u-pick farm and market

Scott Kirouac

Sebring, FL

Sales Representative with Hillary Peat Co.; Managing partner of Big Sky Growers, Inc.; Chairman of Highlands Soil & Water Conservation District; AFBF Pest & Invasive Species Issues Advisory Committee; Founder & Chairman of Ag Angels, Inc.

Brittany H. Lee

Gainesville, FL

Vice President and General Manager of Florida Blue Farms, a Southern Highbush Blueberry farm; President, Florida Blueberry Growers Association; Alumna, Wedgeworth Leadership Institute for Agricultural and Natural Resources; Board member, Alachua Farm Bureau

Paul Orsenigo

Belle Glade, FL

Sugar, rice and vegetable producer; Past Chairman, Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association; Director, Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida, Inc.; UF/IFAS Agricultural Advisory Committee

Sanford (Sandy) Stein

Homestead, FL

Co-Owner of the Jungle Nursery, Inc., a wholesale production nursery; Former President, Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association; Alumna, Wedgeworth Leadership Institute for Agricultural and Natural Resources

Jim Strickland (Co-Chair)

Myakka City, FL

Owner of Strickland Ranch and managing partner of Big Red Cattle Company and Blackbeard's Ranch, a cow/calf operation; Past President, Florida Cattlemen's Association; Past Chairman, Florida Cattlemen Foundation; Vice Chairman, Florida Conservation Group

Jennifer Taylor

Tallahassee, FL

Associate Professor in the College of Agriculture and Food Sciences (CAFS) at Florida A & M University; FDACS 2019 women of the year in Agriculture; Panel member on the Cornucopia Institute's Policy Advisory Panel; Chairs the National Organic Standards Board Material Committee for the USDA National Organic Program; VP of the Organic Farmers Governing Council and Policy Committee; member of USFSA

Lynetta Usher Griner (Co-Chair)

Chiefland, FL

Co-owner of Usher Land and Timber Inc., a cattle and timber operation; 2013 Woman of the Year in Agriculture; Past President, Florida Forestry Association; Trustee of the Florida Chapter of The Nature Conservancy; Past Chair, Suwannee River Water Management District Governing Board

Gary Wishnatzki

Plant City, FL

Owner of Wish Farms, a third-generation family-owned and operated produce company specializing in strawberries, blueberries, blackberries and raspberries; Co-founder, Harvest CROO Robotics

Academic and Government Partners

Dr. Lisa Conti - Florida Dept. of Agriculture and Consumers Services, Deputy Commissioner and Chief Science Officer

Dr. Tom Frazer - Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Chief Science Officer

Dr. Jack Payne - University of Florida/IFAS, Senior Vice President of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Dr. Nick Place - University of Florida/IFAS Extension, Dean and Director

Noah Valenstein - Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Secretary

Technical/Resource Professionals

Dr. Wendy-Lin Bartels - University of Florida, School of Forest Resources and Conservation

Carolyn Cox - University of Florida, Florida Climate Institute

Dr. Steve McNulty - USDA Southeast Regional Climate Hub

Dr. Diane L. Rowland - University of Florida/IFAS, Center for Stress Resilient Agriculture

David E. Zierden - Florida State University, Florida Climate Center

Support Staff/Facilitation

Cara Urban – Sfl Project Associate

Chris Moran – UF/IFAS Special Assistant

Ernie Shea – Sfl Project Facilitator