

Citrus Pickins

Industry News



Jane Wilson, shown with multi-county citrus Extension agent Steve Futch, retired in December after more than 38 years providing secretarial and administrative support for Extension faculty at the University of Florida-IFAS's Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred.

Cody Siggers of the Haines City Citrus Growers Association's Grove Care Division was **recognized** in December by his supervisor, Eddie Mansfield, **for his outstanding dedication and commitment.**



Siggers, right, and Mansfield

CITRUS WEED SPOTLIGHT



Pink purslane, *Portulaca pilosa*

By Stephen H. Futch and David W. Hall

Season: succulent, herbaceous annual

Plant height: up to 4 inches tall, and an individual plant will spread to about 8 inches wide; sprawling or prostrate stems

Leaves: fleshy, rounded, thick leaves, alternate; stalkless; blades to 1 inch long and one-quarter inch wide, broader at tip, has conspicuous brownish to white hairs in leaf axils

Stem: fleshy, creeping and branched

Flowers: pink to pink-purple, five



petals up to 5/8 inch wide, in terminal heads, flowering from spring into fall

Fruit: a rounded capsule, splitting around the middle, containing numerous small, shiny black to dark brown seeds

Distribution: a native, frequently found in sandy soils where the site has been disturbed throughout Florida, west into Colorado and Arizona and north into Missouri and the Carolinas

Stephen H. Futch is a multi-county citrus Extension agent at the Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred;

David W. Hall is a botanist in Gainesville.



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