

CITRUS WEED SPOTLIGHT

Spider flower, Skunkweed (*Cleome gynandra*)

By Stephen H. Futch and David W. Hall

Leaves: alternate, attenuate, palmately compound; three to five leaflets, leafblades 0.75 to 3.25 inches long, obovate, oval-elliptic, or ovate, finely toothed; pungent odor

Flowers: pink to lavender or white with four petals; filaments up to 1 inch in length

Fruit: bean-shaped capsule 2 to 4 inches long

Seeds: 0.07 inch in diameter, brown, wrinkled

Stems: erect, simple to branched, pubescent

Height: 1.5 to 2.25 feet tall

Life Cycle: warm-season annual

Habitat: Found primarily in the southeastern United States from North Carolina to Florida and as far west as Texas. Spiderflower



is native to tropical Africa. Spiderflower is popular with homeowners and is offered for sale in retail nurseries.

Stephen H. Futch is a multi-county Extension agent at the Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred; David W. Hall is with David Hall Consultant, Inc. in Gainesville.



Florida Pomegranate Association meets Sept. 14

The first Florida Pomegranate Association meeting and conference will be conducted Sept. 14 at the Citrus Research and Education Center (CREC) in Lake Alfred. Pomegranates have been discussed in recent years as a possible alternative crop for citrus growers.

Educational programs hosted by the University of Florida in cooperation with the Florida Pomegranate Association will address pomegranate production, varieties, marketing and culture practices for Florida. Guest lecturer Jeff Moersfelder from the National Clonal Germplasm in Davis, Calif., will present results from pomegranate field/test trials, and William Castle from the UF/IFAS CREC will offer insight on Florida pomegranate propagation. Vendors will display products for use on pomegranates.

Preregistration is required and admission is \$25. More information is available from Cindy Weinstein; email flpomegranate@gmail.com, phone (863) 604-3778.

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Performance in Florida is not yet known. Grower trials are needed to determine their potential

Staff: Peter Chaires • Email: pchaires@nvdmc.org • Website: NVDMC.org