

# The Citrus Experiment Station at Lake Alfred

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Inasmuch as a brief history of the inception and establishment of the Branch Experiment Station for Citrus Investigations was presented before this society at its meeting at Miami last year, it would seem that a report at this time should be little more than a report of progress—or lack of it—as the case may be. Perhaps the fact that this meeting is being held in the county where the station is located and that you will all have the opportunity to visit and inspect the station tomorrow, gives the subject more interest than would otherwise be the case.

Before we proceed with a report on the station for the past twelve months, I would beg your indulgence while we review very briefly its history. Establishment of the Citrus Station was authorized by Act of the 1917 session of the Legislature and was conditioned upon interests in Polk county donating lands, money, etc., to the value of not less than \$10,000.00. Subscriptions aggregating this amount were secured by the summer of 1919, by a committee consisting of Messrs. S. F. Poole, J. A. Snively, J. H. Ross, H. W. Snell, L. L. Davis, A. M. Tilden, C. H. Thompson and W. L. Drew. In July, 1919, the site for the station was decided upon by the Board of Control.

The 84 acres of land occupied by the station was donated by the Florida Fruitlands Company, and the Board of Control refunded to the Fruitlands Company the actual cost of 14½ acres of citrus then on the property.

At the Miami meeting we reported that the total donations had amounted to \$13,782.15. They have not been added to since that time.

As the donated fund constituted the sole resources of the station, all maintenance and operating expenses to June 30, 1921, had to be defrayed from this source. As a matter of record, we would like to report here how the total sum of \$13,782.15 was expended:

Reimbursement of Fla. Fruitlands Co., for cost of 14½ acres of citrus on property—	\$5,900.00
Care and supervision of property, to June 30, 1921—	4,183.81
Superintendent's cottage*	3,153.00
Tool and fertilizer shed	351.74
Fencing	79.25
Nursery stock and seeds	17.09
Water supply*	15.50

\*Balance of cost defrayed out of appropriation for main Station at Gainesville, for year beginning July 1, 1921.