

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Agriculture Committee

BILL: SB 1956

INTRODUCER: Senator Baker

SUBJECT: Citrus Canker Eradication

DATE: March 17, 2010

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Akhavein	Poole	AG	Favorable
2.			GA	
3.			WPSC	
4.				
5.				
6.				

I. Summary:

This bill repeals s. 581.1845, F.S., as well as references elsewhere in statute, effectively removing all mention of the citrus canker eradication program from Florida statute.

This bill amends sections 215.22 and 933.02 of the Florida Statutes.

This bill repeals section 581.1845 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Citrus canker is a bacterial disease which can cause extensive damage to twigs, leaves, and fruit of susceptible citrus varieties. The disease often causes fruit to drop prematurely and to be unmarketable because of lesions on the peel. The bacteria that cause citrus canker can survive for extensive periods on citrus branches and bark. The disease is spread by wind, rain splash, mechanical activities (such as pruning, picking, and spraying carried out within and between groves), movement of infected plants or plant parts, and the activities of birds, insects, and/or mammals. To date, there is no known cure for citrus canker.

In 2006, the Legislature passed CS/CS/SB 994, which replaced the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' citrus canker eradication program with a comprehensive citrus health plan aimed at minimizing the impact of exotic citrus pests and diseases to production and to allow Florida's citrus to be marketed to other states and countries. It also stated that all claims for compensation under the Shade Dade or Shade Florida programs must be filed with the department no later than December 31, 2007. It further states that, effective January 1, 2008, all unfiled claims shall expire.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 repeals s. 581.1845, F.S., relating to citrus canker eradication and compensation to homeowners whose trees have been removed.

Section 2 amends s. 215.22, F.S., to remove a reference to funds expended for citrus canker eradication and compensation.

Section 3 amends s. 933.02, F.S., to remove a reference to s. 581.1845, F.S., relating to citrus canker eradication and compensation to homeowners whose trees have been removed.

Section 4 provides that this act shall take effect July 1, 2010.

Other Potential Implications: None.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.
