2020 End of Season Data Summary
FBGA Fall Meeting

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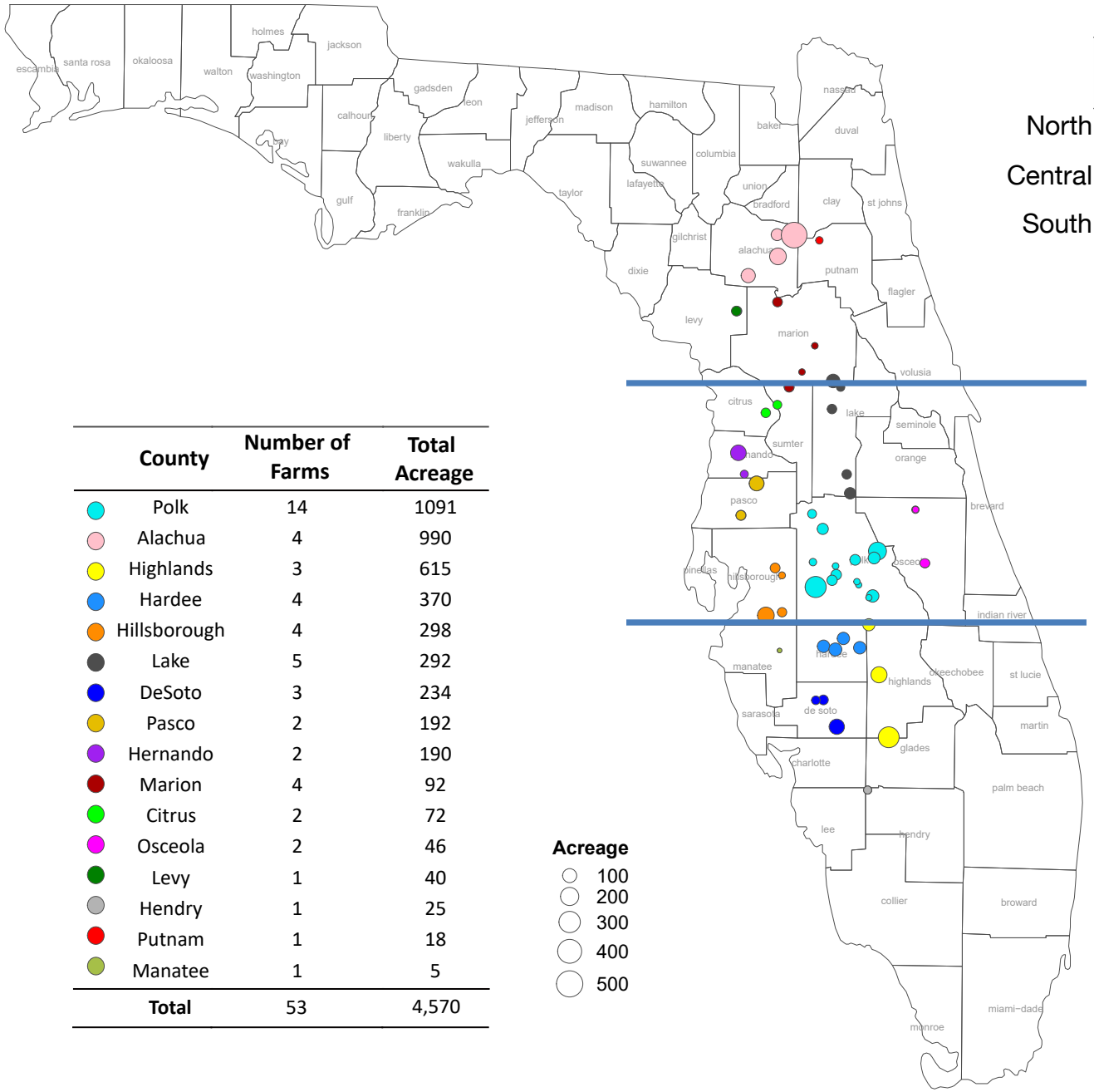
UF/IFAS Blueberry Extension Coordinator

October 29, 2020

Florida Blueberry Farms Surveyed 2020 Season



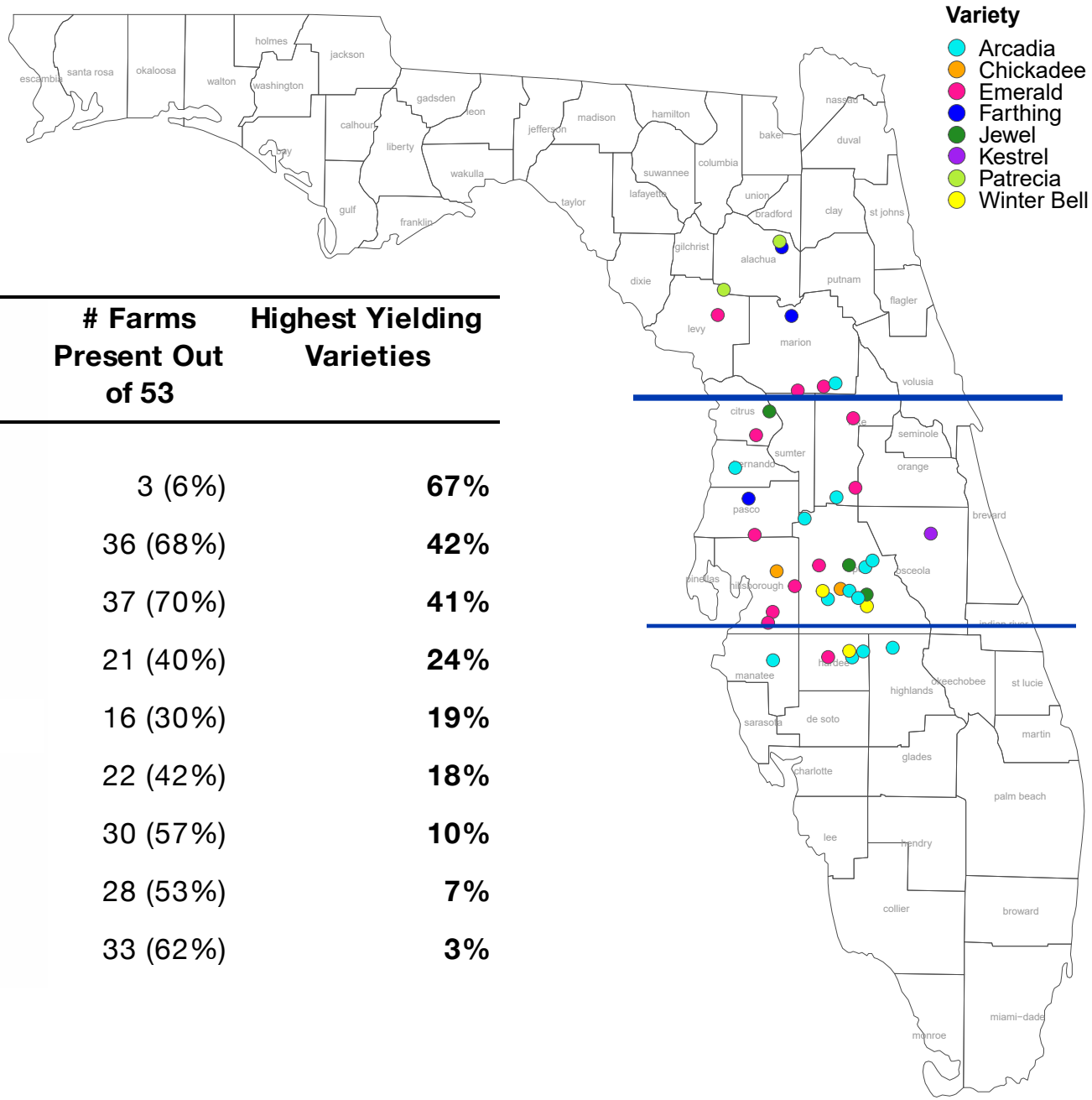
	# Farms	Acreage	% of Total in FL
North	10	1,140	22%
Central	31	2,181	42%
South	12	1,249	24%
	53	4,570	88%

	County	Number of Farms	Total Acreage
	Polk	14	1091
	Alachua	4	990
	Highlands	3	615
	Hardee	4	370
	Hillsborough	4	298
	Lake	5	292
	DeSoto	3	234
	Pasco	2	192
	Hernando	2	190
	Marion	4	92
	Citrus	2	72
	Osceola	2	46
	Levy	1	40
	Hendry	1	25
	Putnam	1	18
	Manatee	1	5
	Total	53	4,570

COVID-19 Impacts

- All growers surveyed reported negative price impacts.
- Half of the growers reported negative impacts on the volume of fruit sold.
- Very few growers reported any difficulties with availability of harvest supplies, harvest labor, or transportation to the packing house.

Highest Yielding Varieties Reported by Growers



Variety	# Farms Present Out of 53	Highest Yielding Varieties
Patrecia	3 (6%)	**67%**
Emerald	36 (68%)	**42%**
Arcadia	37 (70%)	**41%**
Farthing	21 (40%)	**24%**
Winter Bell	16 (30%)	**19%**
Avanti	22 (42%)	**18%**
Jewel	30 (57%)	**10%**
Chickadee	28 (53%)	**7%**
Kestrel	33 (62%)	**3%**

Highest Yielding Reported by Region

North-Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 10	**Highest Yielding**
Emerald	5 (50%)	**80%**
Patrecia	3 (30%)	**67%**
Farthing	9 (90%)	**44%**

Central

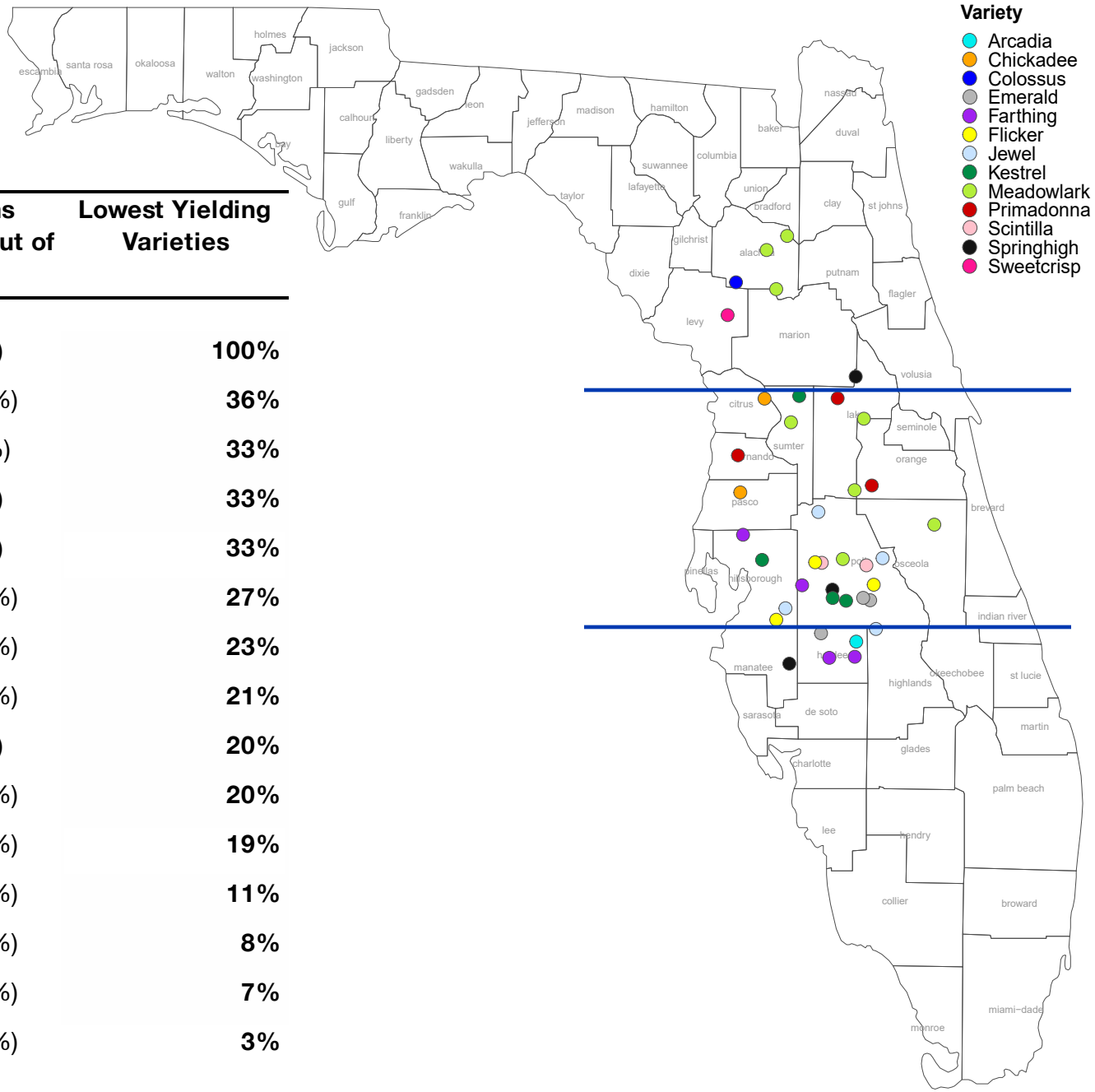
Variety	# Farms Present out of 31	**Highest Yielding**
Arcadia	26 (84%)	**38%**
Emerald	27 (87%)	**33%**
Winter Bell	12 (39%)	**17%**
Jewel	23 (74%)	**13%**
Chickadee	20 (65%)	**10%**
Farthing	11 (35%)	**9%**
Avanti	13 (42%)	**8%**
Kestrel	22 (71%)	**5%**

South-Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 12	**Highest Yielding**
Arcadia	10 (83%)	**50%**
Avanti	6 (50%)	**50%**
Winter Bell	3 (25%)	**33%**
Emerald	5 (42%)	**20%**

Lowest Yielding Varieties Reported by Growers

Variety	# Farms Present Out of 53	Lowest Yielding Varieties
Flicker	3 (6%)	**100%**
Meadowlark	25 (47%)	**36%**
Scintilla	6 (11%)	**33%**
Star	3 (6%)	**33%**
Colossus	3 (6%)	**33%**
Kestrel	33 (62%)	**27%**
Primadonna	13 (25%)	**23%**
Springhigh	14 (26%)	**21%**
Sweetcrisp	5 (9%)	**20%**
Jewel	30 (57%)	**20%**
Farthing	21 (40%)	**19%**
Chickadee	28 (53%)	**11%**
Emerald	36 (68%)	**8%**
Endura	14 (26%)	**7%**
Arcadia	37 (70%)	**3%**



Lowest Yielding by Region

North-Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 10	**Lowest Yielding**
Meadowlark	6 (60%)	**67%**
Sweetcrisp	2 (20%)	**50%**
Kestrel	4 (40%)	**50%**
Colossus	2 (20%)	**50%**
Star	2 (20%)	**50%**
Jewel	4 (40%)	**25%**

Central

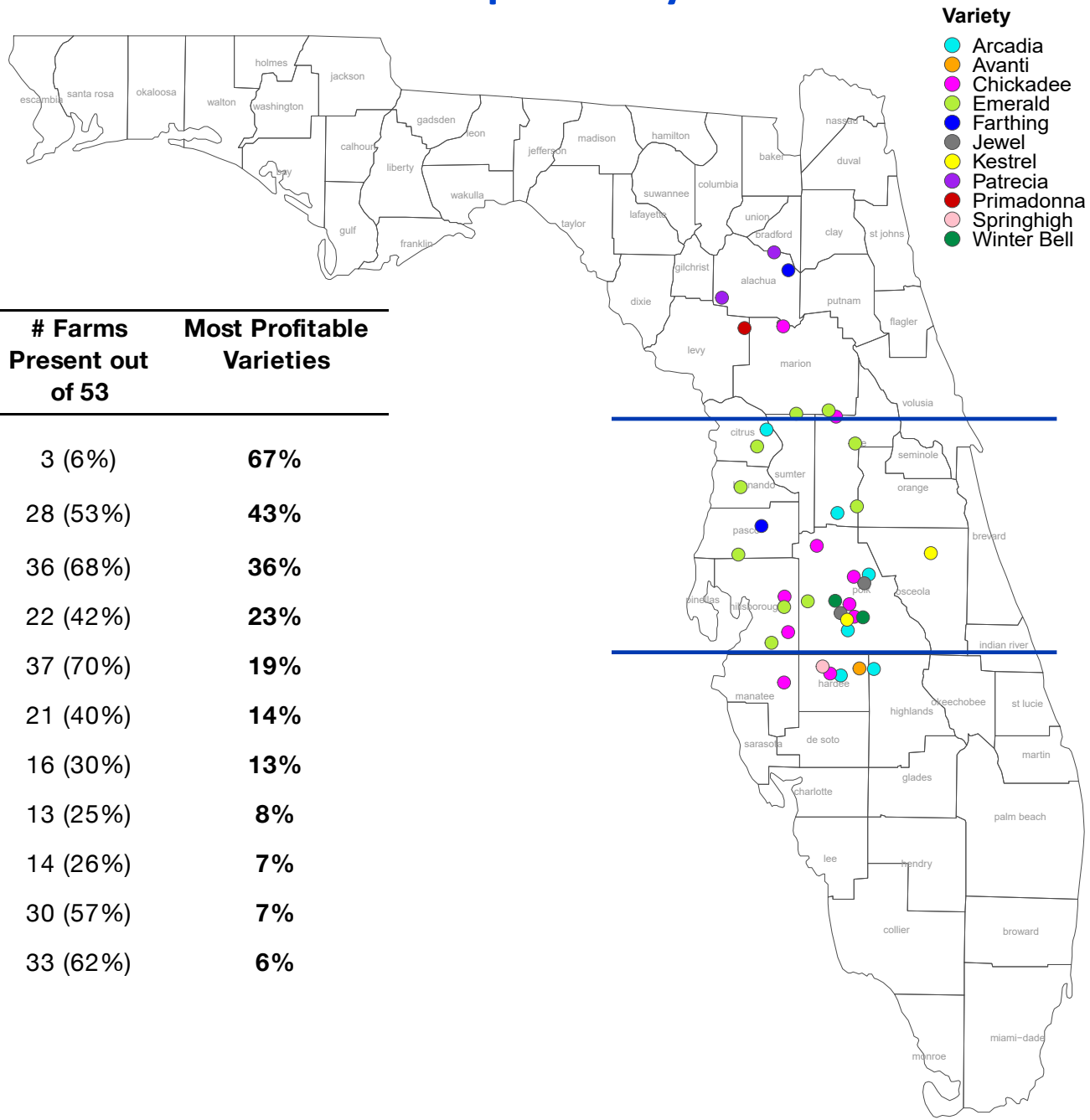
Variety	# Farms Present out of 31	**Lowest Yielding**
Flicker	3 (10%)	**100%**
Scintilla	4 (13%)	**50%**
Primadonna	8 (26%)	**38%**
Meadowlark	17 (55%)	**29%**
Springhigh	8 (26%)	**25%**
Kestrel	22 (71%)	**23%**
Farthing	11 (35%)	**18%**
Jewel	23 (74%)	**17%**
Chickadee	20 (65%)	**15%**
Emerald	27 (87%)	**7%**

South-Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 12	**Lowest Yielding**
Farthing	2 (17%)	**100%**
Springhigh	2 (17%)	**50%**
Endura	4 (33%)	**25%**
Jewel	4 (33%)	**25%**
Kestrel	9 (75%)	**22%**
Emerald	5 (42%)	**20%**
Arcadia	10 (83%)	**10%**

Most Profitable Varieties Reported by Growers

Variety	# Farms Present out of 53	Most Profitable Varieties
Patrecia	3 (6%)	**67%**
Chickadee	28 (53%)	**43%**
Emerald	36 (68%)	**36%**
Avanti	22 (42%)	**23%**
Arcadia	37 (70%)	**19%**
Farthing	21 (40%)	**14%**
Winter Bell	16 (30%)	**13%**
Primadonna	13 (25%)	**8%**
Springhigh	14 (26%)	**7%**
Jewel	30 (57%)	**7%**
Kestrel	33 (62%)	**6%**



Most Profitable by Region

North-Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 10	**Most Profitable**
Patrecia	3 (30%)	**67%**
Chickadee	3 (30%)	**67%**
Emerald	5 (50%)	**60%**
Primadonna	3 (30%)	**33%**
Farthing	9 (90%)	**22%**

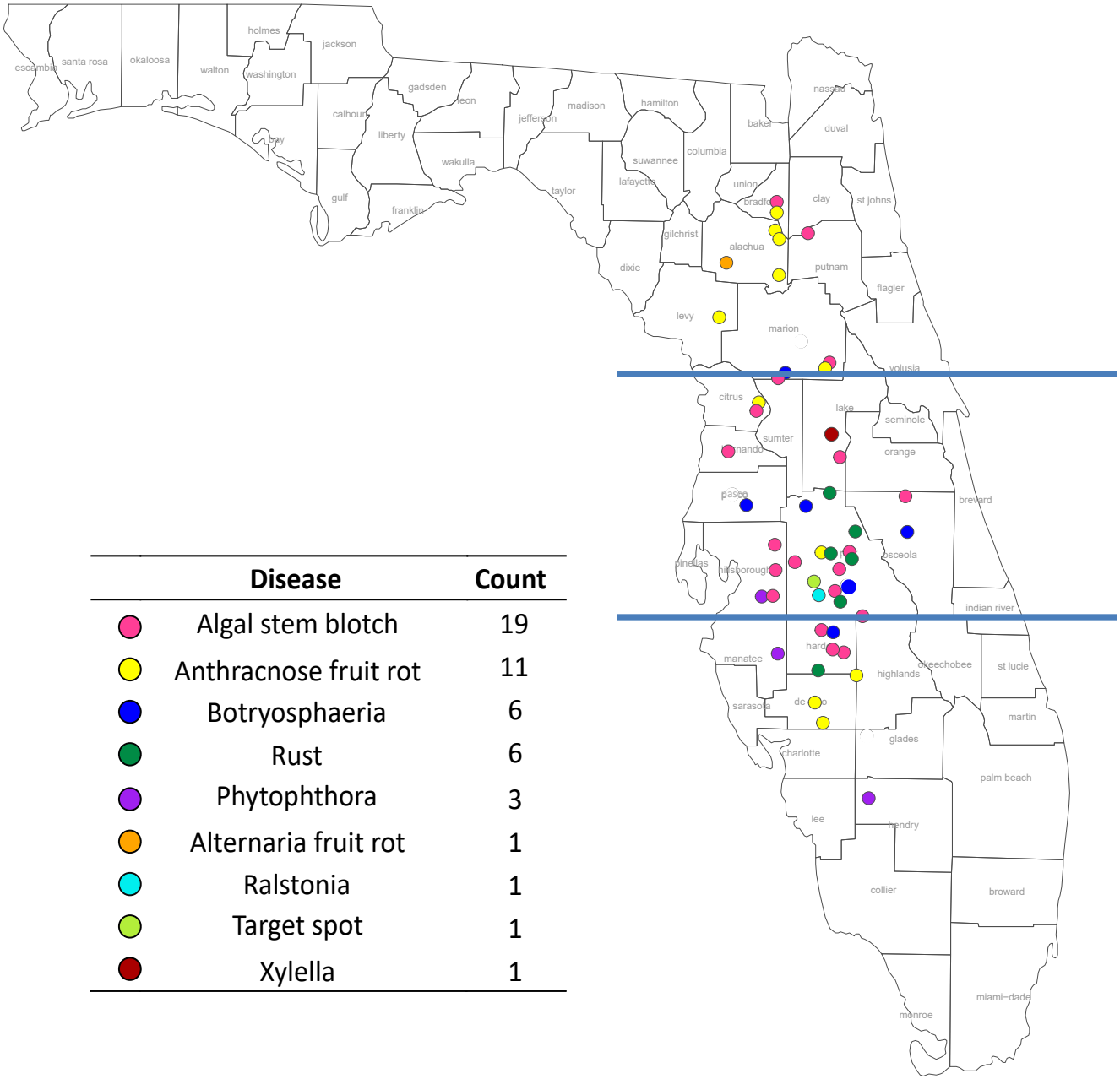
Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 31	**Most Profitable**
Emerald	27 (87%)	**37%**
Chickadee	20 (65%)	**35%**
Arcadia	26 (84%)	**19%**
Winter Bell	12 (39%)	**17%**
Farthing	11 (35%)	**9%**
Kestrel	22 (71%)	**9%**
Jewel	23 (74%)	**9%**
Avanti	13 (42%)	**9%**

South-Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 12	**Most Profitable**
Avanti	6 (50%)	**67%**
Chickadee	6 (50%)	**50%**
Springhigh	2 (17%)	**50%**
Arcadia	10 (83%)	**20%**

Diseases Most Frequently Reported by Growers



	Disease	Count
●	Algal stem blotch	19
●	Anthracnose fruit rot	11
●	Botryosphaeria	6
●	Rust	6
●	Phytophthora	3
●	Alternaria fruit rot	1
●	Ralstonia	1
●	Target spot	1
●	Xylella	1

Diseases by Region

North-Central

Disease	Freq	% Farms Surveyed
Anthrac Fruit Rot	5	50%
Algal Stem Blotch	2	20%
Alternaria Fruit Rot	1	10%
Bot .Stem Blight	1	10%

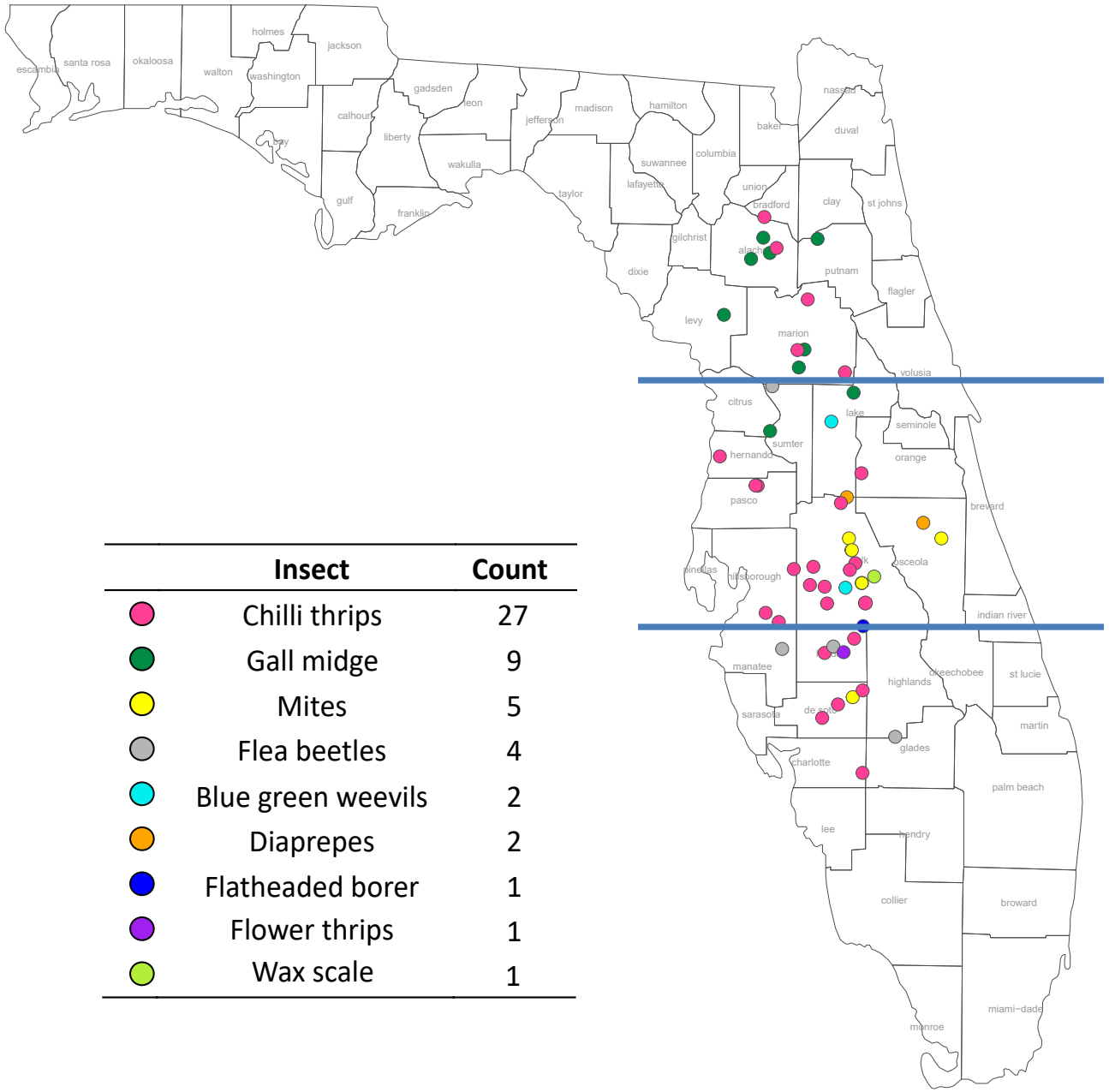
Central

Disease	Freq	% Farms Surveyed
Algal Stem Blotch	13	42%
Rust	5	16%
Bot. Stem Blight	4	13%
Anthrac Fruit Rot	3	10%
Xylella	1	3%
Ralstonia	1	3%
Phytophthora	1	3%
Target Spot	1	3%

South-Central

Disease	Freq	% Farms Surveyed
Algal Stem Blotch	3	33%
Anthrac Fruit Rot	3	25%
Phytophthora	2	17%
Bot. Stem Blight	1	8%
Rust	1	8%

Insect Pests Most Frequently Reported by Growers



Insect	Count
Chilli thrips	27
Gall midge	9
Mites	5
Flea beetles	4
Blue green weevils	2
Diaprepes	2
Flatheaded borer	1
Flower thrips	1
Wax scale	1

Insect Pests by Region

North-Central

Pests	Freq	% Farms Surveyed
Gall Midge	6	60%
Chilli Thrips	3	30%

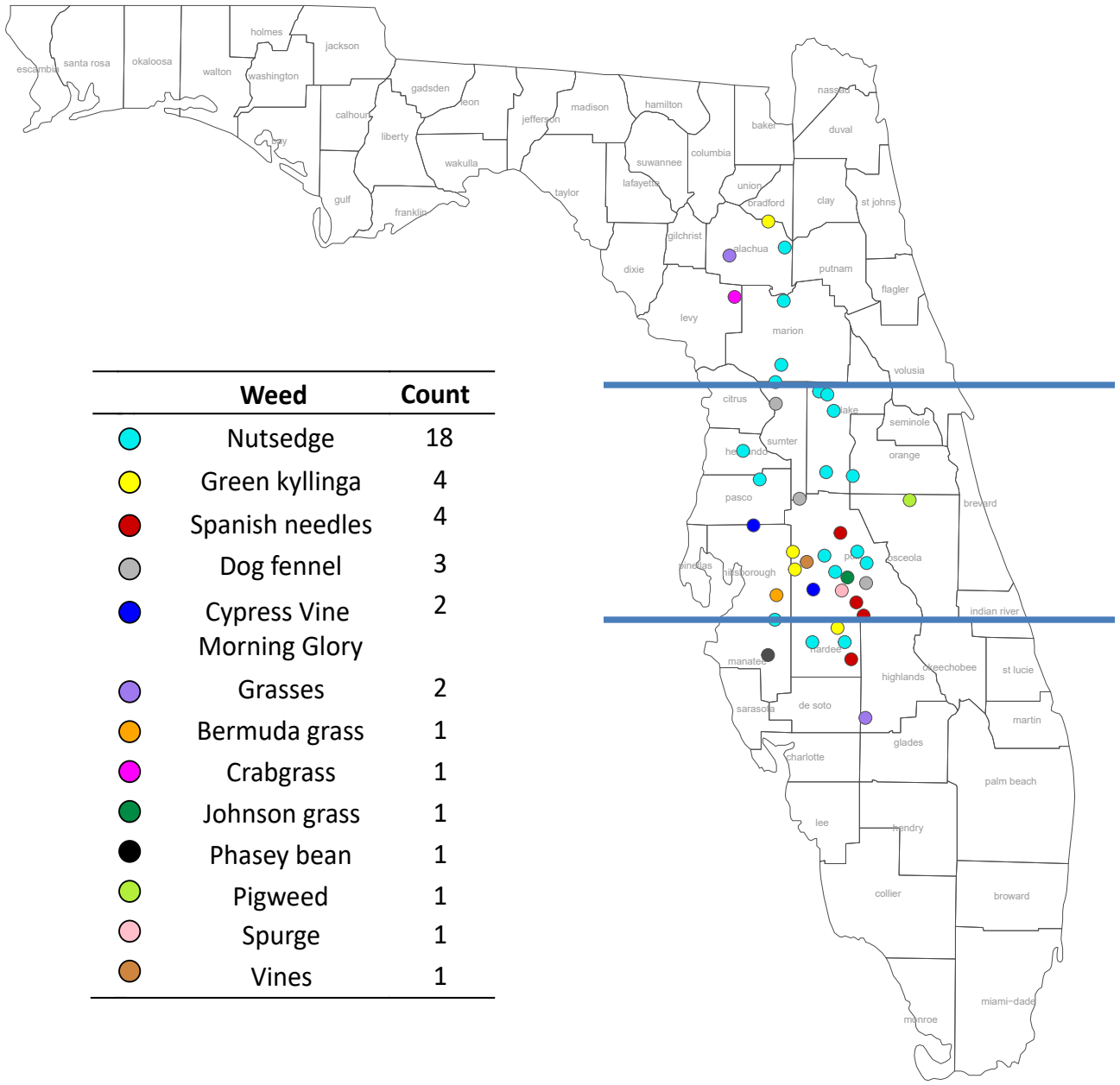
Central

Pests	Freq	% Farms Surveyed
Chilli Thrips	18	58%
Mites	4	13%
Diaprepes	2	6%
Blue-Green Weevil	2	6%
Gall Midge	2	6%
Flea Beetle	1	3%
Wax Scale	1	3%

South-Central

Pests	Freq	% Farms Surveyed
Chilli Thrips	6	50%
Flea Beetles	3	25%
Flatheaded Borer	1	8%
Flower Thrips	1	8%
Mites	1	8%

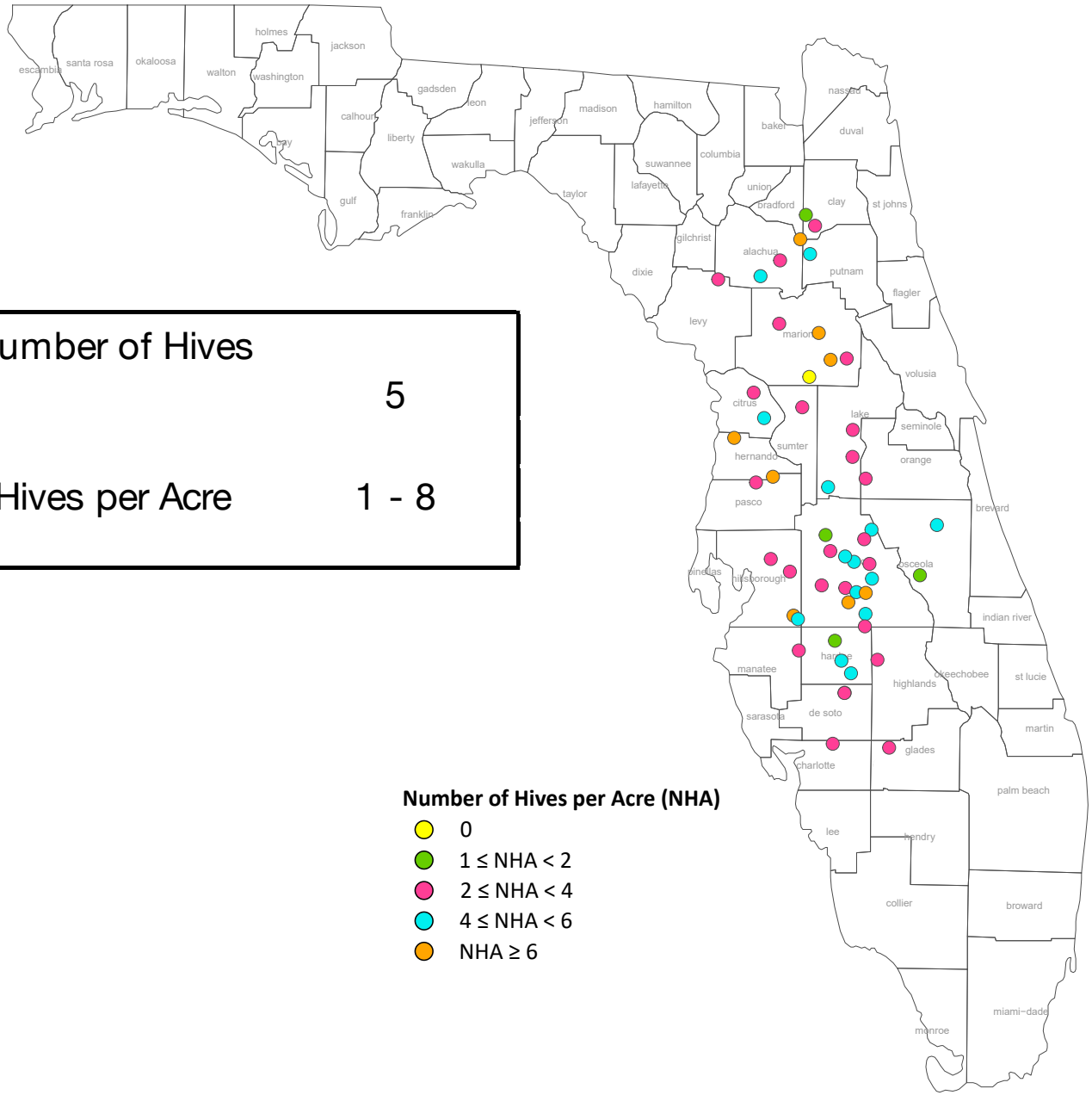
Problematic Weeds Most Frequently Reported by Growers



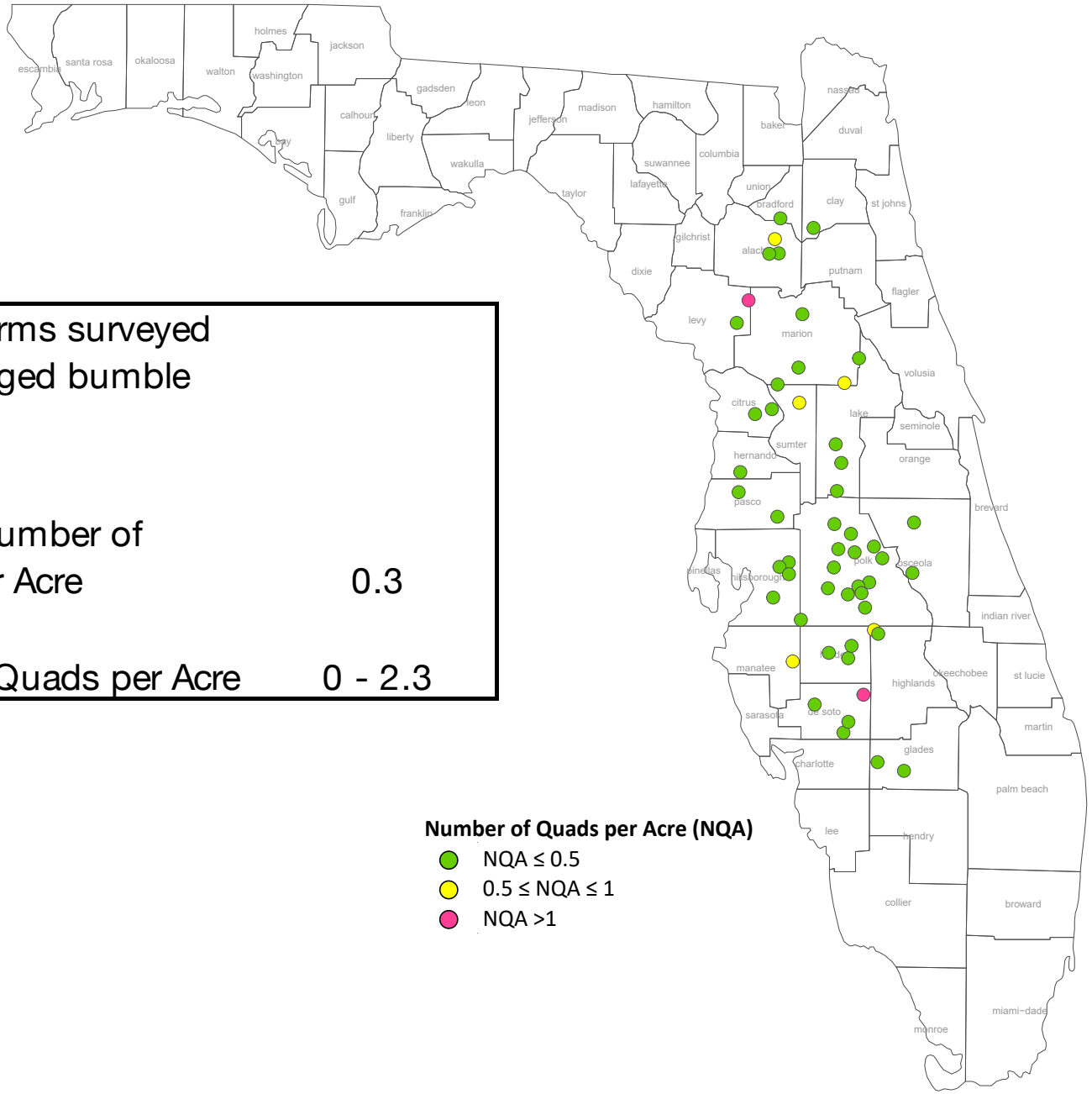
	Weed	Count
●	Nutsedge	18
●	Green kyllinga	4
●	Spanish needles	4
●	Dog fennel	3
●	Cypress Vine Morning Glory	2
●	Grasses	2
●	Bermuda grass	1
●	Crabgrass	1
●	Johnson grass	1
●	Phasey bean	1
●	Pigweed	1
●	Spurge	1
●	Vines	1

Honey Bee Hives per Acre Reported by Growers

Average Number of Hives per Acre	5
Range of Hives per Acre	1 - 8



Bumble Bee Quads per Acre Reported by Growers



53% of farms surveyed had managed bumble bees

Average Number of Quads per Acre	0.3
Range of Quads per Acre	0 - 2.3

2019 – 2020 Comparison

	2019 (47 Farms)	2020 (53 Farms)
Highest Yield		
• North	Farthing	Emerald
• Central	Emerald	Arcadia, Emerald
• South	Arcadia	Arcadia
Lowest Yield		
• North	Meadowlark	Meadowlark
• Central	Meadowlark	Meadowlark
• South	Meadowlark, Endura	Jewel, Endura
Most Profitable		
• North	Chickadee, Farthing	Chickadee, Emerald
• Central	Emerald, Jewel	Emerald, Chickadee
• South	Avanti	Avanti

2019 – 2020 Comparison

	2019 (47 Farms)	**2020** (53 Farms)
Diseases	Algal Stem Blotch	Algal Stem Blotch
Insect Pests	Chilli Thrips	Chilli Thrips

Notable Items

- Total farms surveyed in south-central region increased from 4 in 2019 to 12 in 2020
- Surveyed acreage increased from 78% of USDA reported acreage in 2019 to 88% in 2020
- Honey bee hive density increased from 3.5 to 5 hives per acre
- Higher reported incidence of anthracnose fruit rot in 2020

UF Blueberry Breeding Website

2020 season data maps will be available on the UF blueberry breeding website –

www.blueberrybreeding.com/blog

You can also access –

- information and data on UF blueberry cultivars
- all UF EDIS blueberry extension publications

Southern Highbush Blueberry Grower Guide

- Phone app grower guide
- Initial function is a scouting guide
- Other functions to be added
- Projected to be released on Apple and Google Play stores on December 1

Southern Highbush Blueberry Grower Guide

- Phone app scouting tool for field diagnosis of:
  - Disease
  - Insect pests
  - Nutrient deficiencies
  - Abiotic damage
- Specific to southern highbush
- Diagnostic key, images, extension publications

Note - this is not a substitute for sending samples for diagnosis to the UF Plant Diagnostic Center for confirmation.

Acknowledgements

- Participating blueberry growers
- Mia Acker, Ivone Oliveira – map development
- UF Blueberry Breeding Program for funding all of this research

Blueberry
BREEDING PROGRAM

Blueberry
BREEDING PROGRAM

Questions?

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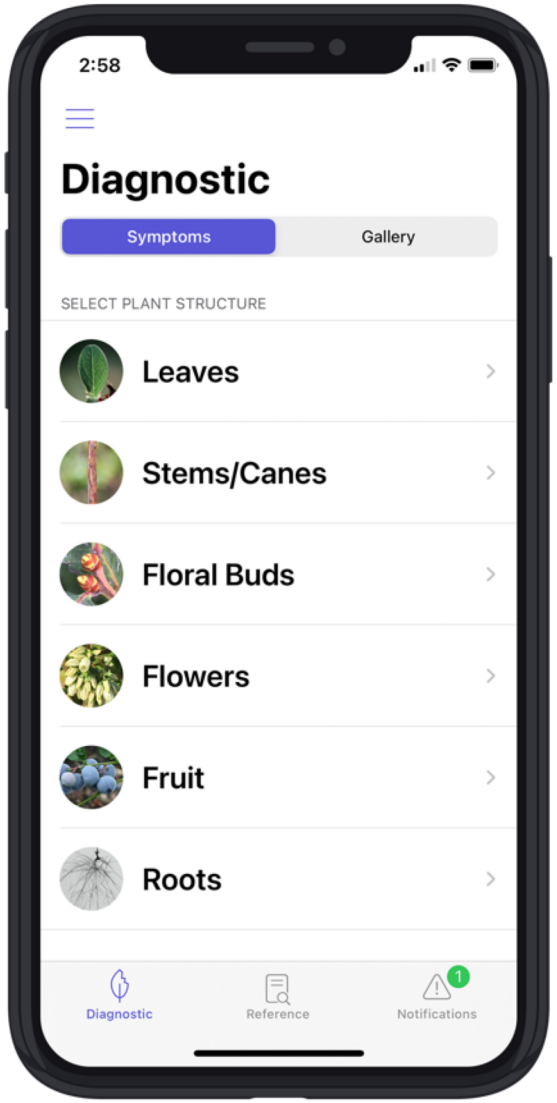
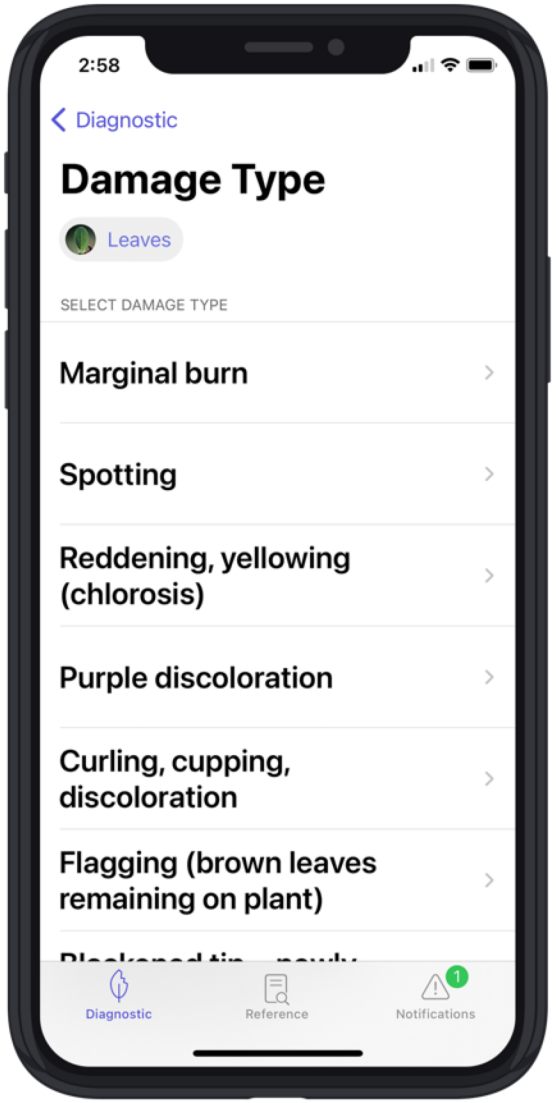
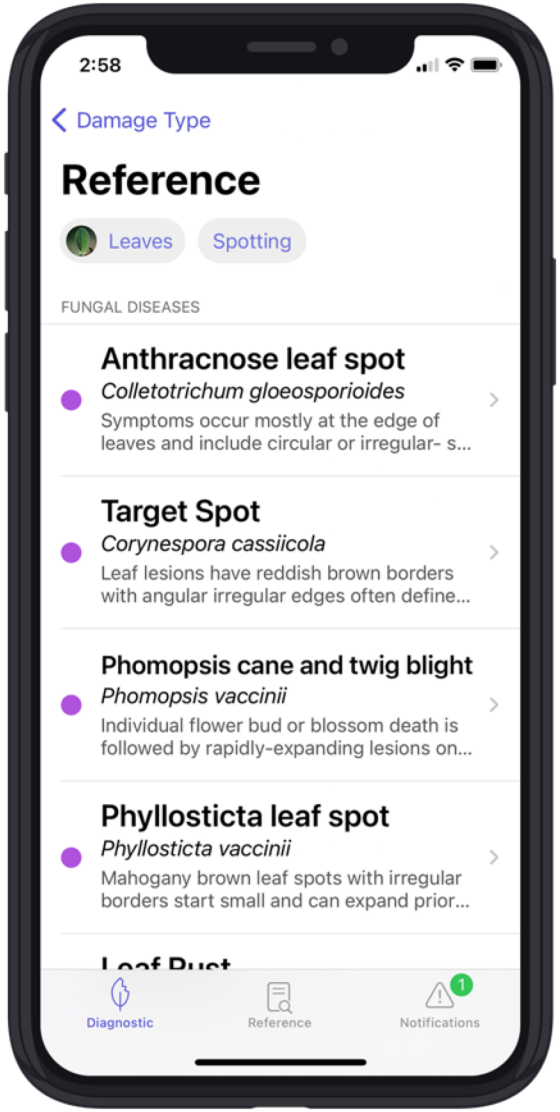
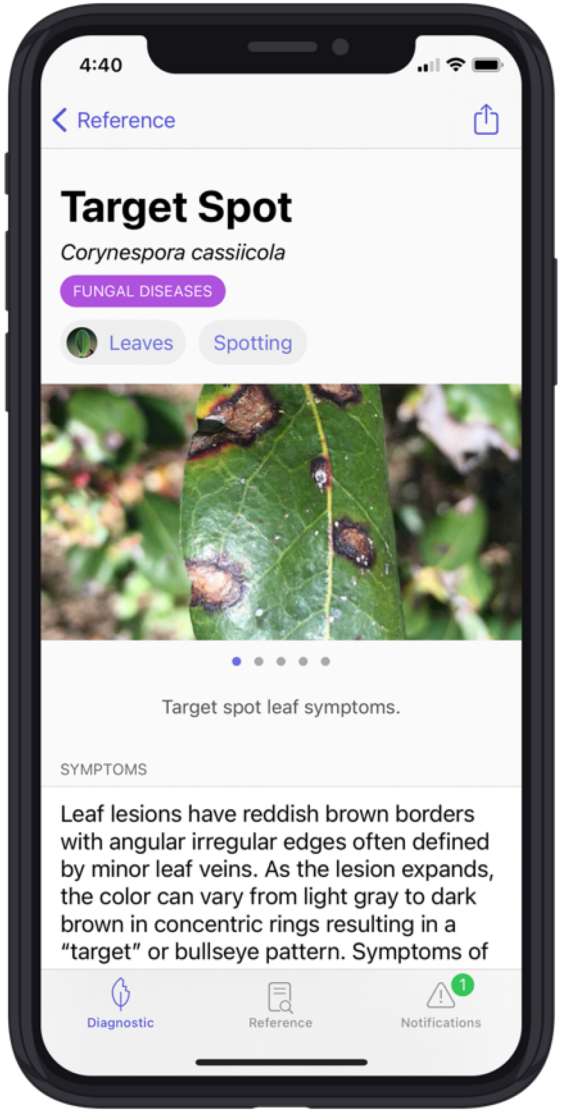
Scouting Guide Diagnostic Key





Scouting Guide Diagnostic Key





Scouting Guide Diagnostic Key