



**UF | IFAS**  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



# 2023 End of Season Data Summary

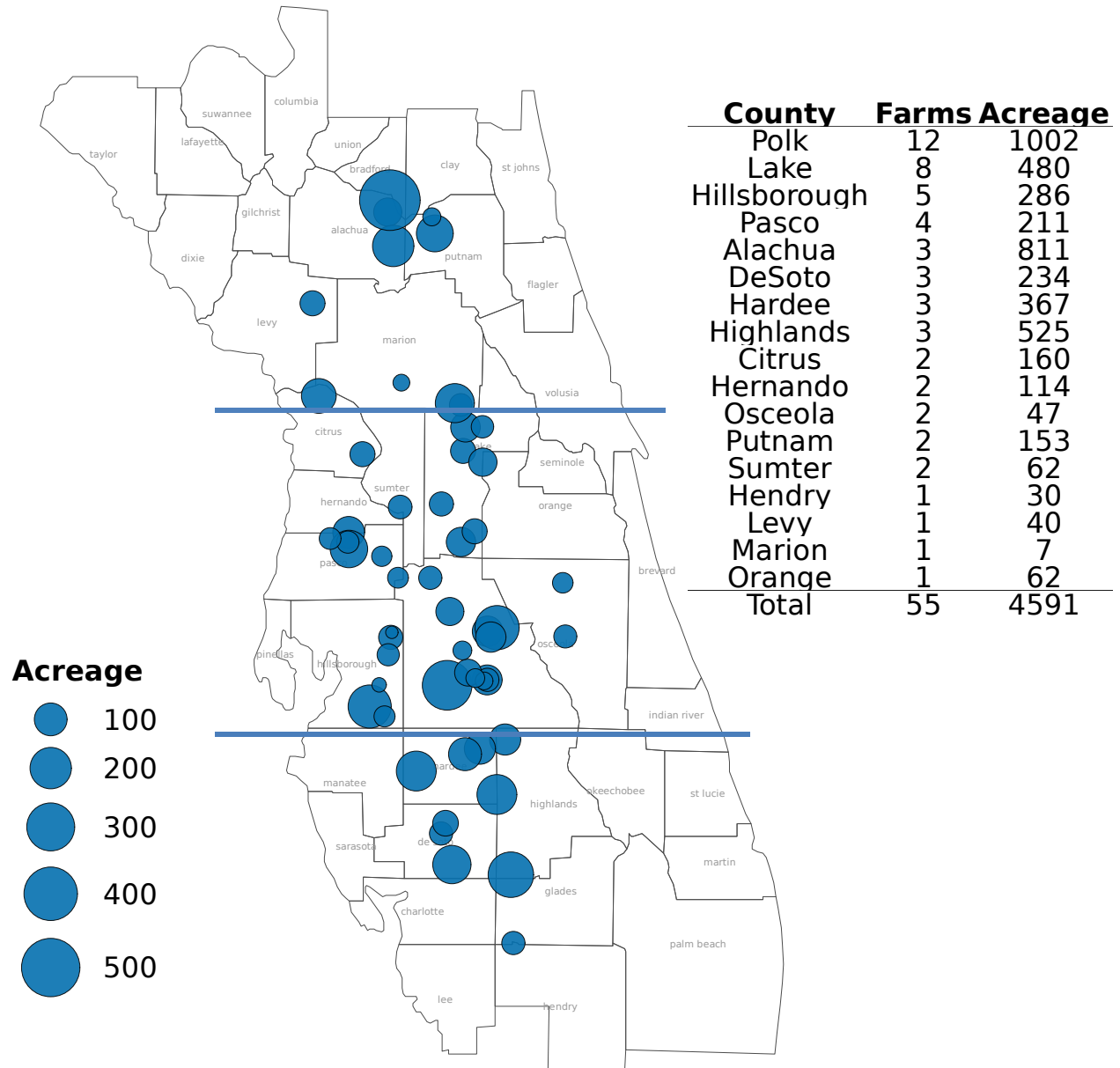
## FBGA Fall Meeting

Doug Phillips

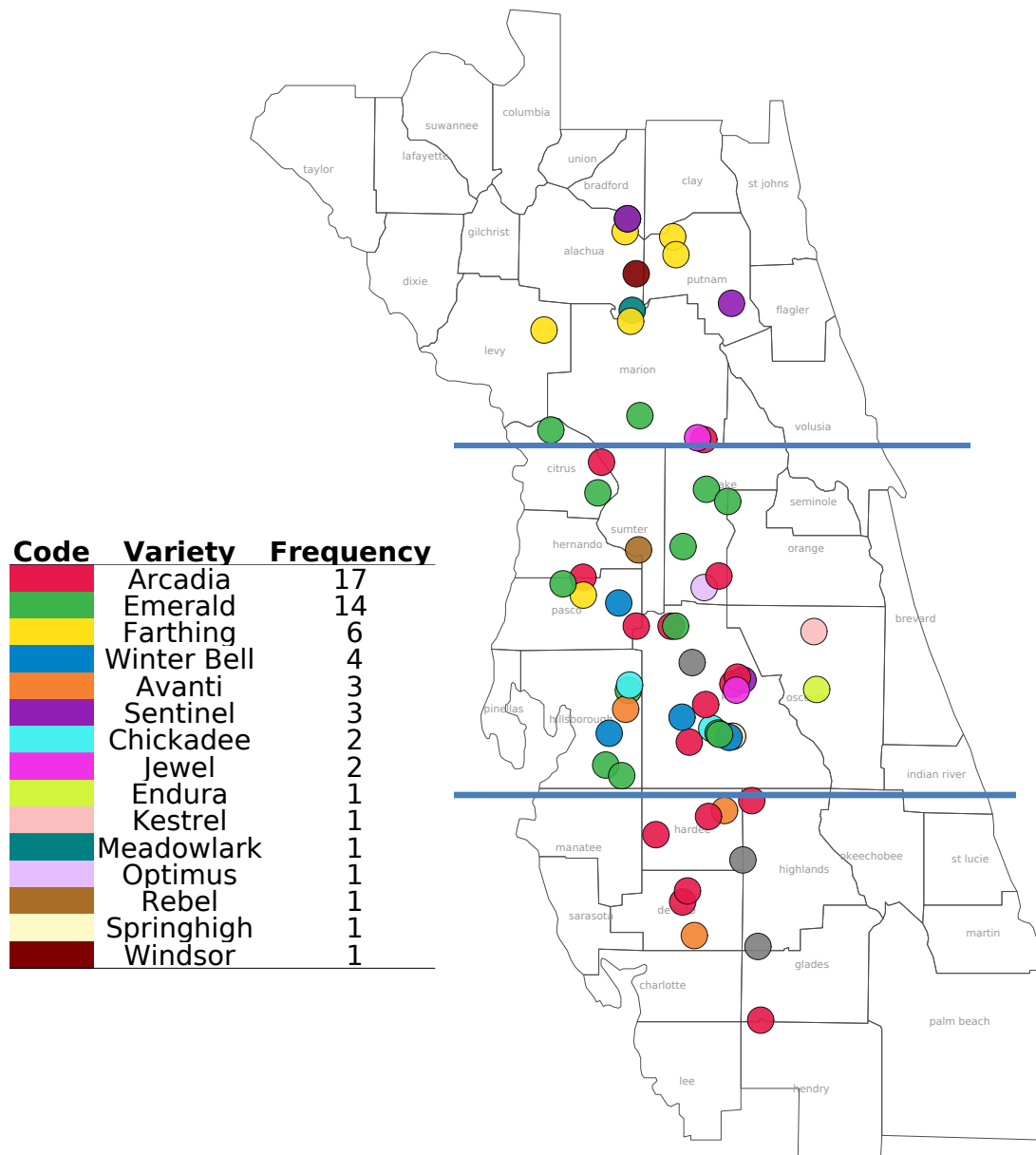
UF/IFAS Blueberry Extension Coordinator

October 25, 2023

# Florida Blueberry Farms Surveyed 2023 Season



# Highest Yielding Varieties Reported by Growers



# Highest Yielding Reported by Region

## North-Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 8	Highest Yielding Where Present
Farthing	7 (88%)	<b>71%</b>
Emerald	4 (50%)	<b>25%</b>
Patrecia	2 (25%)	<b>50%</b>

## Central

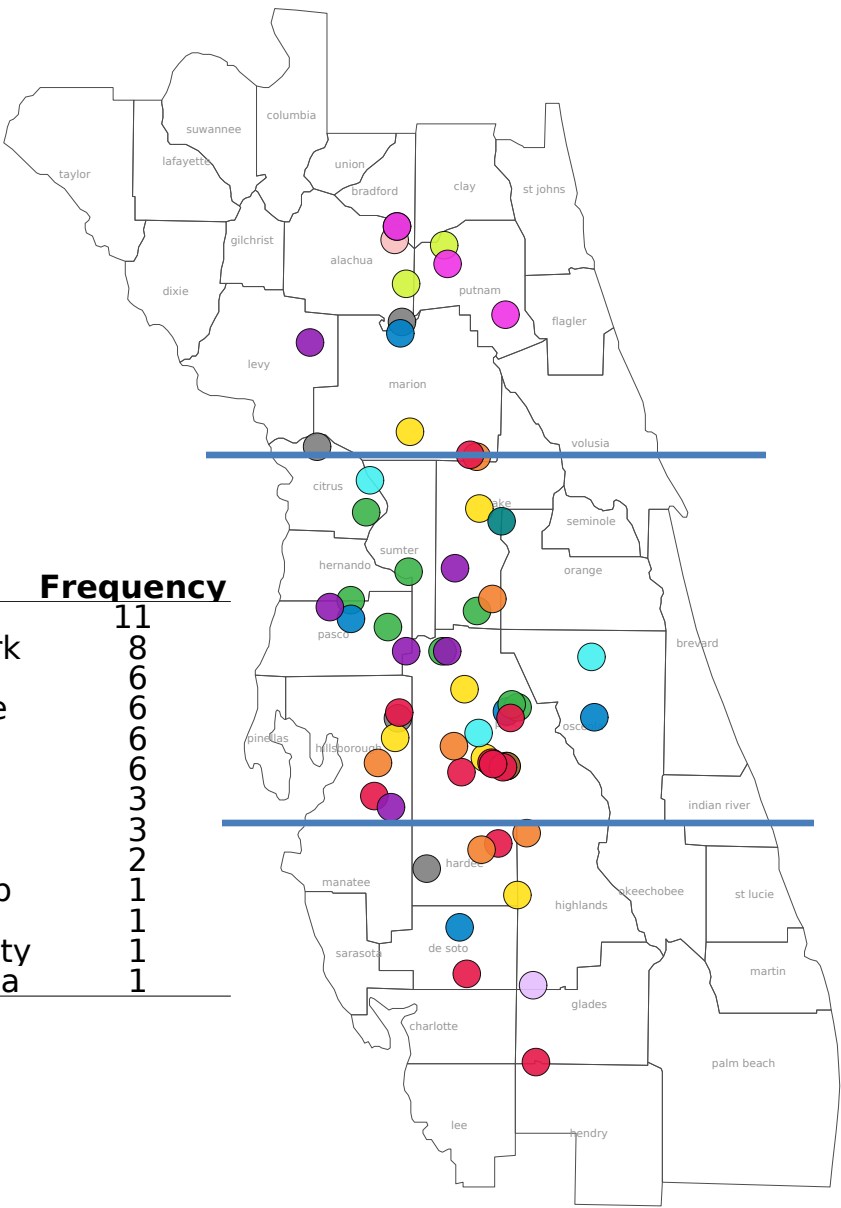
Variety	# Farms Present out of 37	Highest Yielding Where Present
Arcadia	31 (84%)	<b>35%</b>
Emerald	26 (70%)	<b>31%</b>
Winter Bell	14 (38%)	<b>43%</b>
Jewel	19 (51%)	<b>21%</b>
Sentinel	13 (35%)	<b>8%</b>
Optimus	10 (27%)	<b>10%</b>

## South-Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 10	Highest Yielding Where Present
Arcadia	9 (90%)	<b>78%</b>
Winter Bell	3 (30%)	<b>33%</b>

# Lowest Yielding Varieties Reported by Growers

Code	Variety	Frequency
	Kestrel	11
	Meadowlark	8
	Arcadia	6
	Chickadee	6
	Emerald	6
	Jewel	6
	Avanti	3
	Colossus	3
	Star	2
	Indigocrisp	1
	Optimus	1
	OzBlu variety	1
	Primadonna	1



# Lowest Yielding by Region

## North-Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 8	Lowest Yielding
Jewel	3 (38%)	<b>38%</b>
Colossus	3 (38%)	<b>25%</b>

## Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 37	Lowest Yielding
Kestrel	17 (46%)	<b>29%</b>
Avanti	16 (43%)	<b>31%</b>
Jewel	19 (51%)	<b>26%</b>
Meadowlark	14 (38%)	<b>29%</b>
Chickadee	12 (32%)	<b>25%</b>
Farthing	8 (22%)	<b>38%</b>
Emerald	26 (70%)	<b>8%</b>
Primadonna	5 (14%)	<b>40%</b>

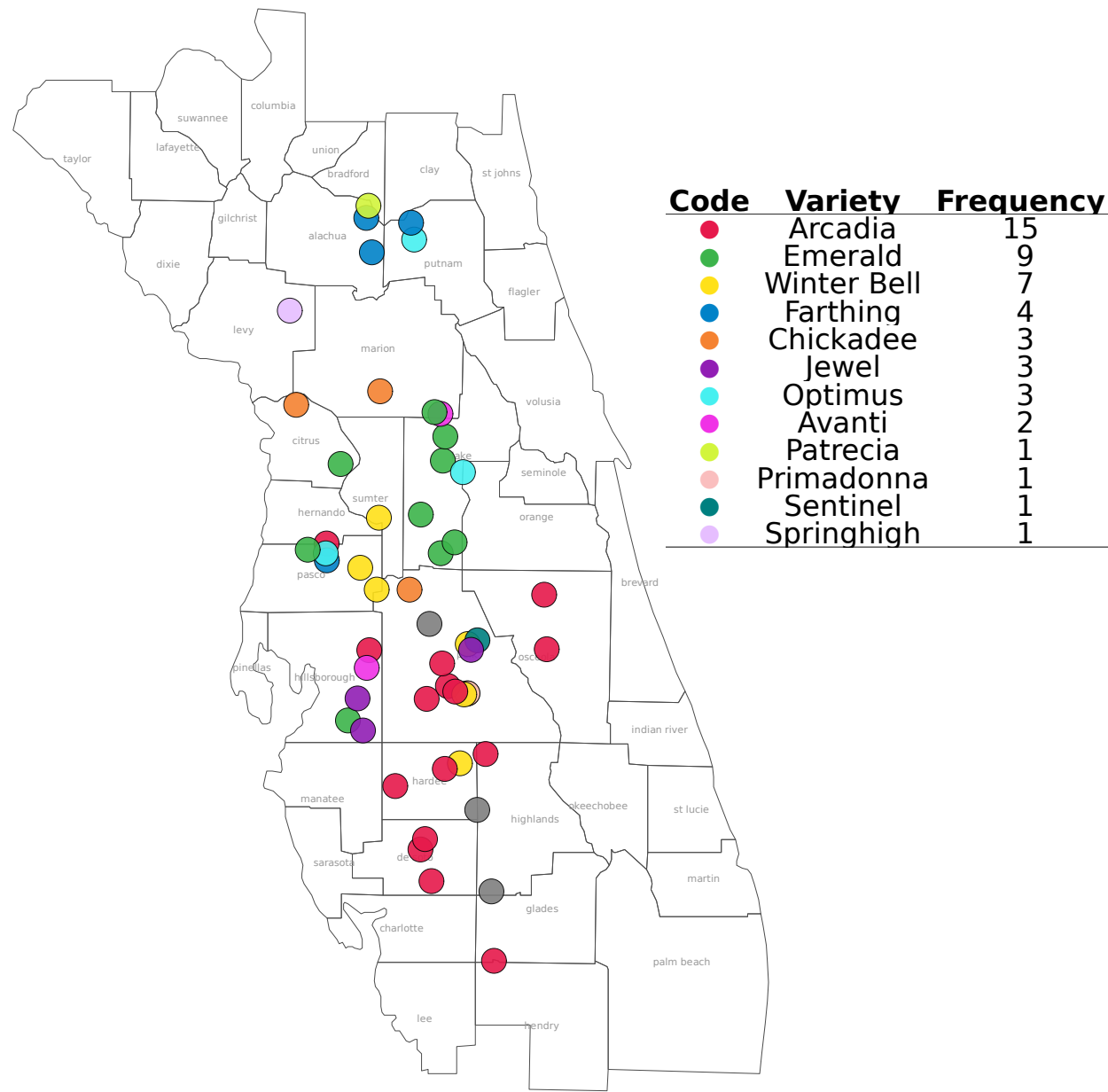
## South-Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 10	Lowest Yielding
Kestrel	8 (80%)	<b>88%</b>
Avanti	8 (80%)	<b>13%</b>

## Same Cultivars Listed as Highest and Lowest Producers

	Highest Yielding	Lowest Yielding
Farthing	North	Central
Emerald	North, Central	Central
Jewel	Central	Central

# Most Profitable Varieties Reported by Growers





# Most Profitable by Region

## North-Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 8	Most Profitable
Farthing	7 (88%)	<b>43%</b>
Chickadee	3 (38%)	<b>67%</b>
Patrecia	2 (25%)	<b>50%</b>
Optimus	4 (50%)	<b>25%</b>
Springhigh	3 (38%)	<b>33%</b>

## Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 37	Most Profitable
Emerald	26 (70%)	<b>35%</b>
Arcadia	31 (84%)	<b>26%</b>
Winter Bell	14 (38%)	<b>43%</b>
Jewel	19 (51%)	<b>16%</b>
Avanti	16 (43%)	<b>13%</b>

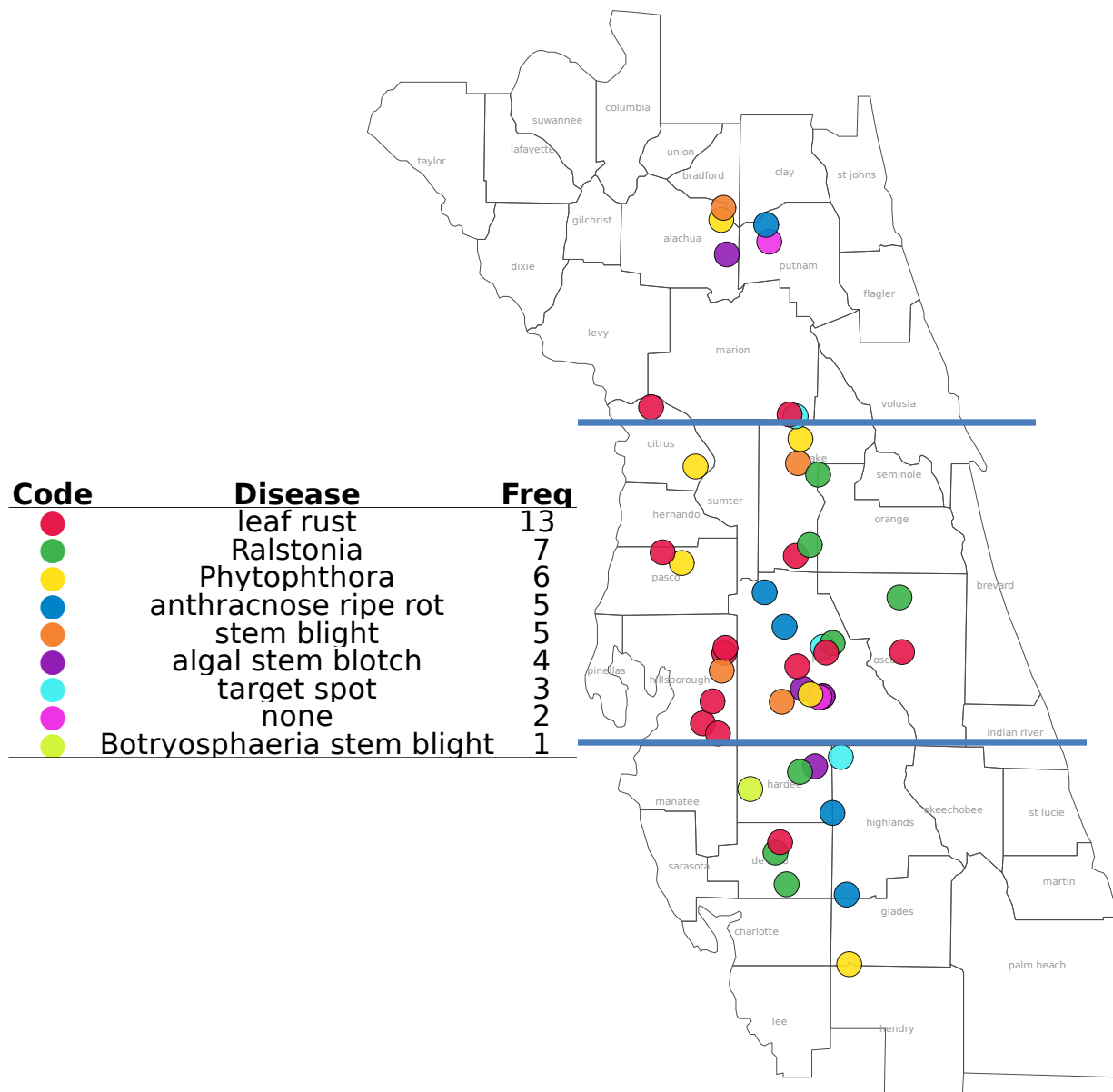
## South-Central

Variety	# Farms Present out of 10	Most Profitable
Arcadia	9 (90%)	<b>78%</b>
Winter Bell	3 (30%)	<b>33%</b>

# 2023 – 2022 Comparison

	2023	2022
<b>Highest Yield</b>		
• North	Farthing	Farthing
• Central	Arcadia	Emerald
• South	Arcadia	Arcadia
<b>Lowest Yield</b>		
• North	Jewel	Colossus
• Central	Kestrel	Chickadee
• South	Kestrel	Kestrel
<b>Most Profitable</b>		
• North	Farthing	Farthing
• Central	Emerald	Chickadee
• South	Arcadia	Kestrel

# Most Problematic Diseases Reported by Growers



# Significant Diseases by Region

North-Central

Disease	Freq	% Farms Surveyed
Anthrax Fruit Rot	1	13%
Algal Stem Blotch	1	13%
Bot. Stem Blight	1	13%
Rust	1	13%
Phytophthora	1	13%

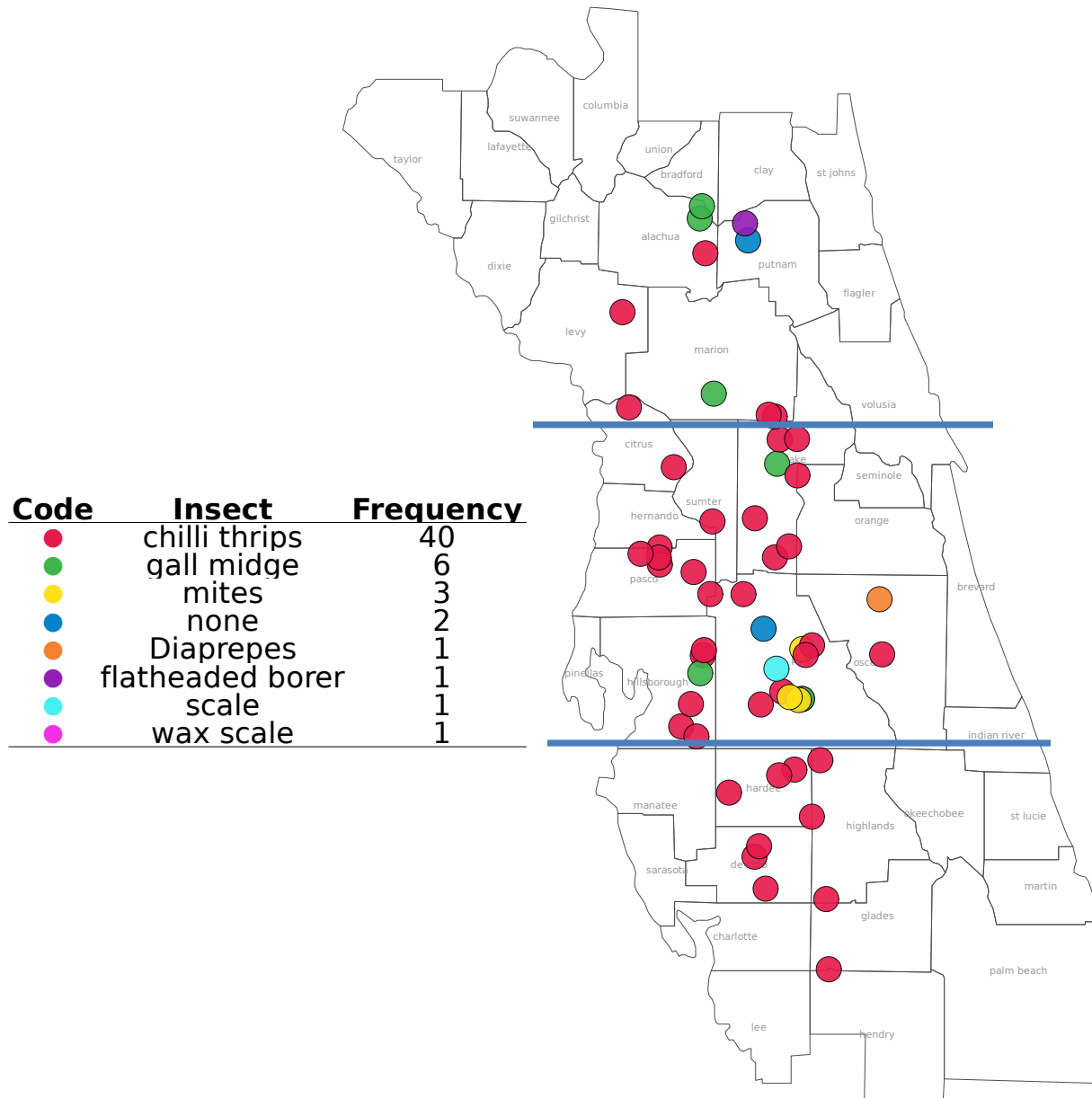
Central

Disease	Freq	% Farms Surveyed
Leaf Rust	11	30%
Bot. Stem Blight	4	11%
Ralstonia	4	11%
Phytophthora	4	11%
Anthrax Fruit Rot	2	5%
Algal Stem Blotch	2	5%
Target Spot	2	5%

South-Central

Disease	Freq	% Farms Surveyed
Ralstonia	3	30%
Anthrax Fruit Rot	2	20%
Algal Stem Blotch	1	10%
Rust	1	10%
Bot. Stem Blight	1	10%
Phytophthora	1	10%
Target Spot	1	10%

# Most Problematic Insect Pests Reported by Growers



# Significant Insect Pests by Region

North-Central

Pests	Freq	% Farms Surveyed
Chilli Thrips	3	38%
Gall Midge	3	38%
Flatheaded borer	1	13%

Central

Pests	Freq	% Farms Surveyed
Chilli Thrips	27	73%
Gall midge	3	8%
Mites	3	8%
Diaprepes	1	3%
Wax Scale	1	3%

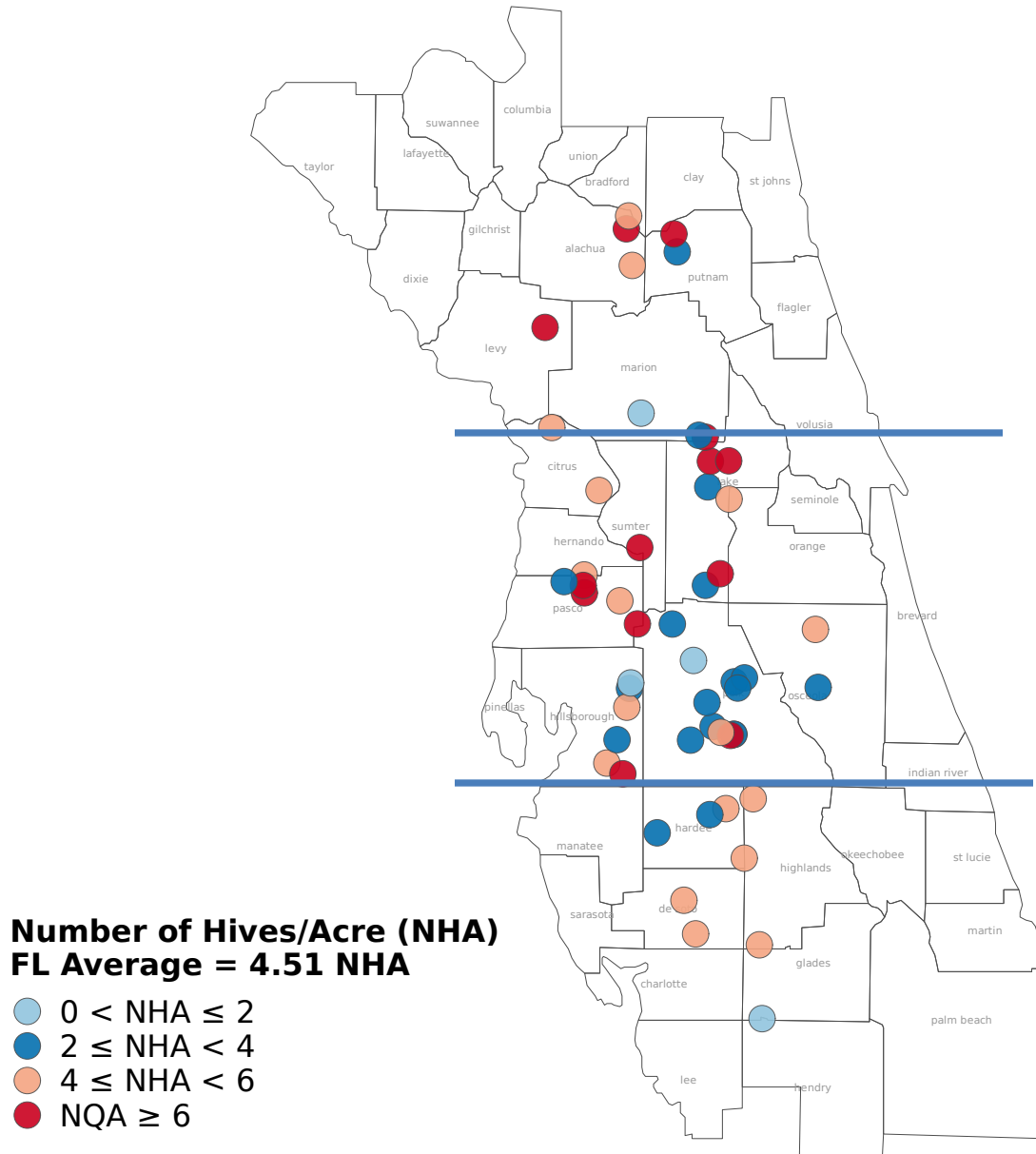
South-Central

Pests	Freq	% Farms Surveyed
Chilli Thrips	10	100%

# 2023 – 2022 Comparison

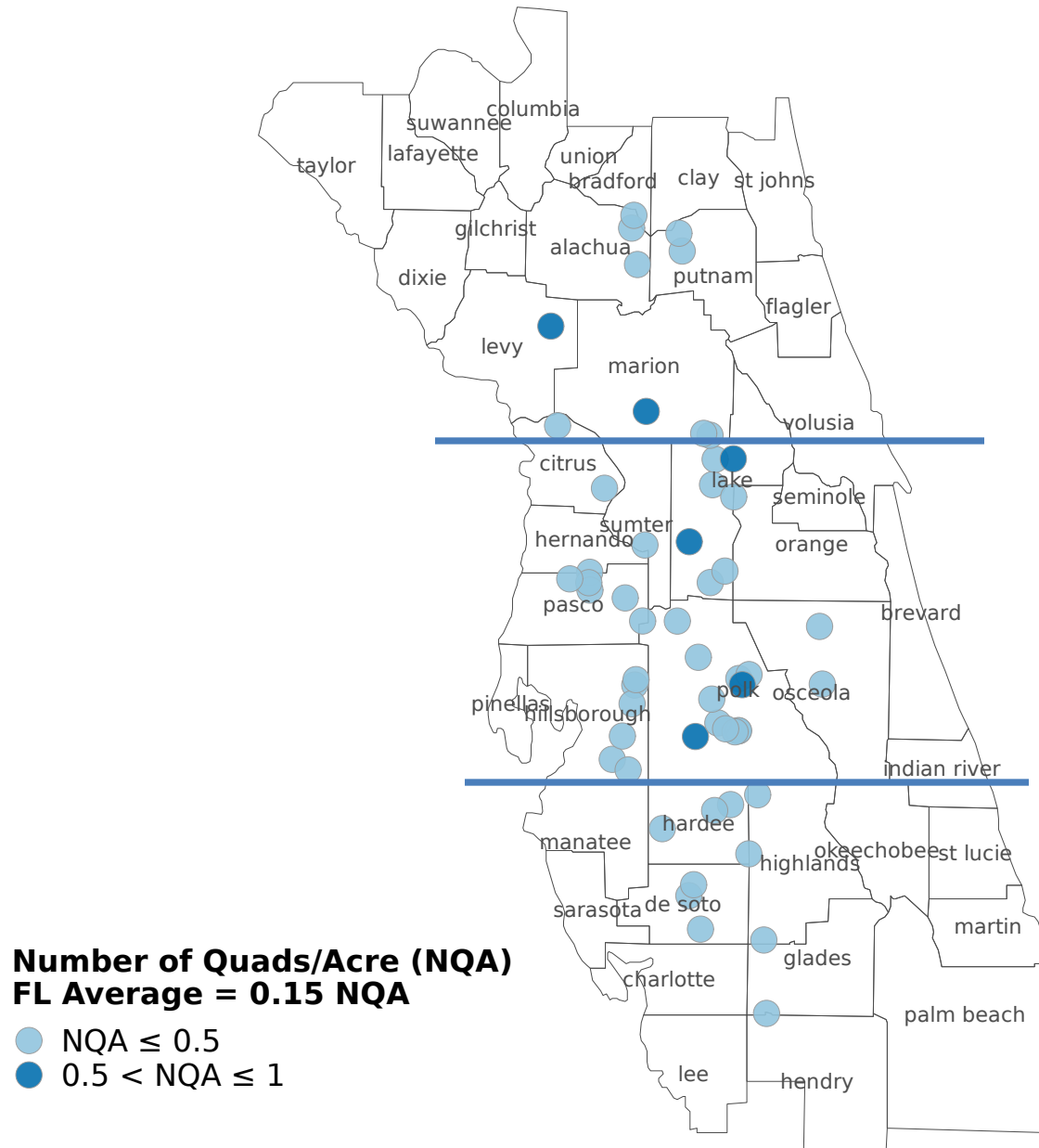
	2023	2022
Diseases	Leaf Rust	Anthracnose Fruit Rot
Insect Pests	Chilli Thrips	Chilli Thrips

# Honey Bee Hives per Acre Reported by Growers

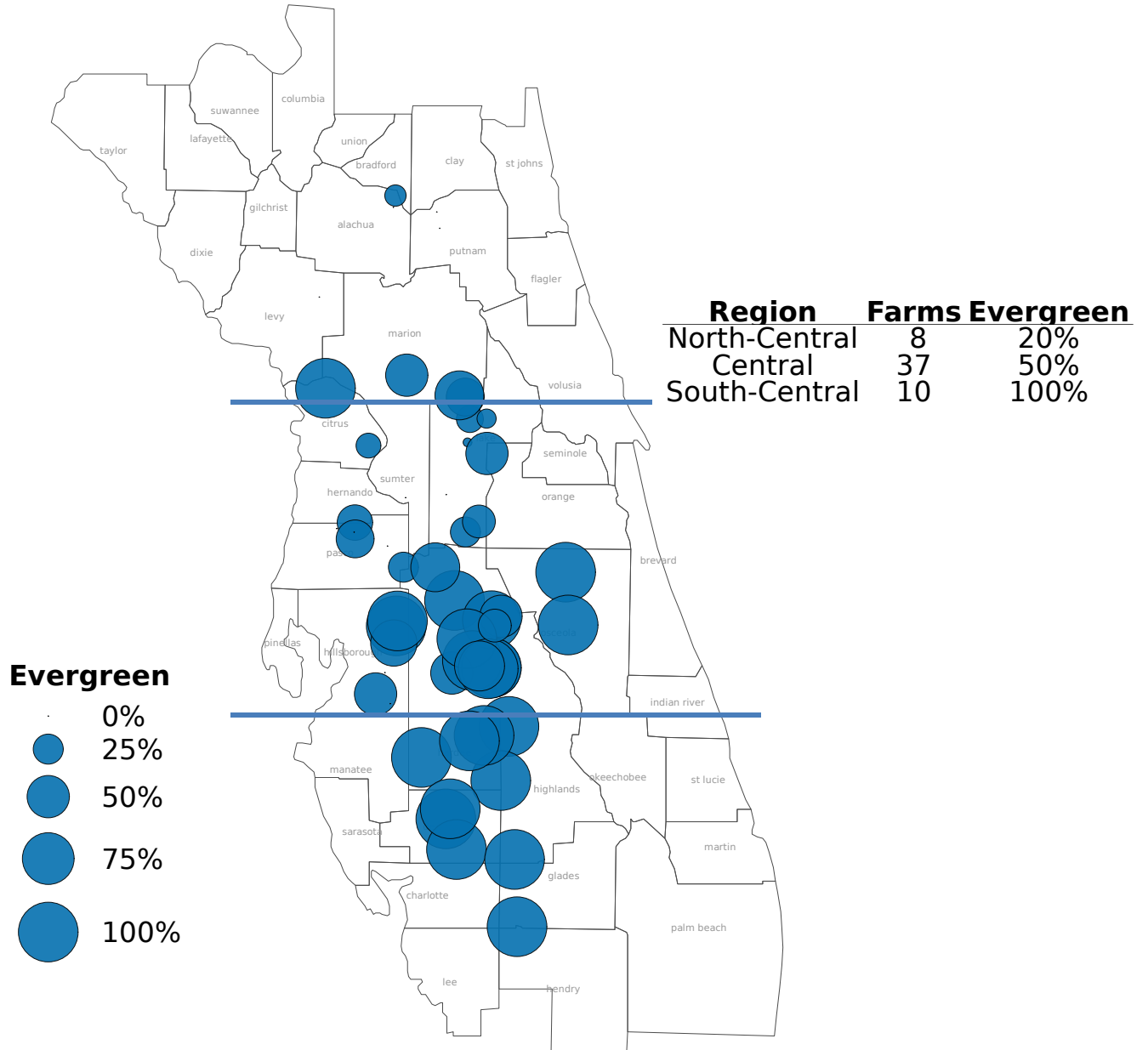




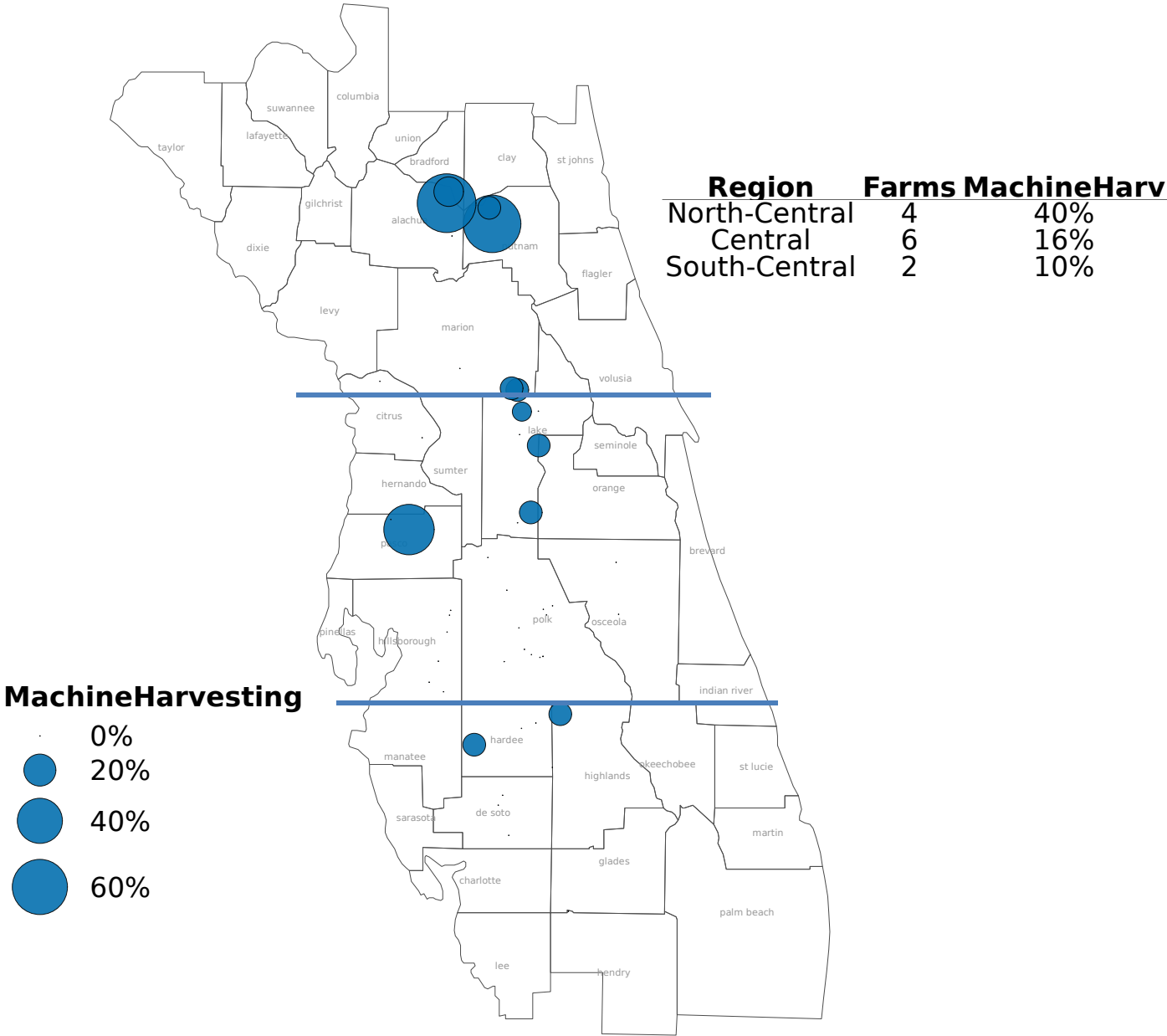
# Bumble Bee Quads per Acre Reported by Growers



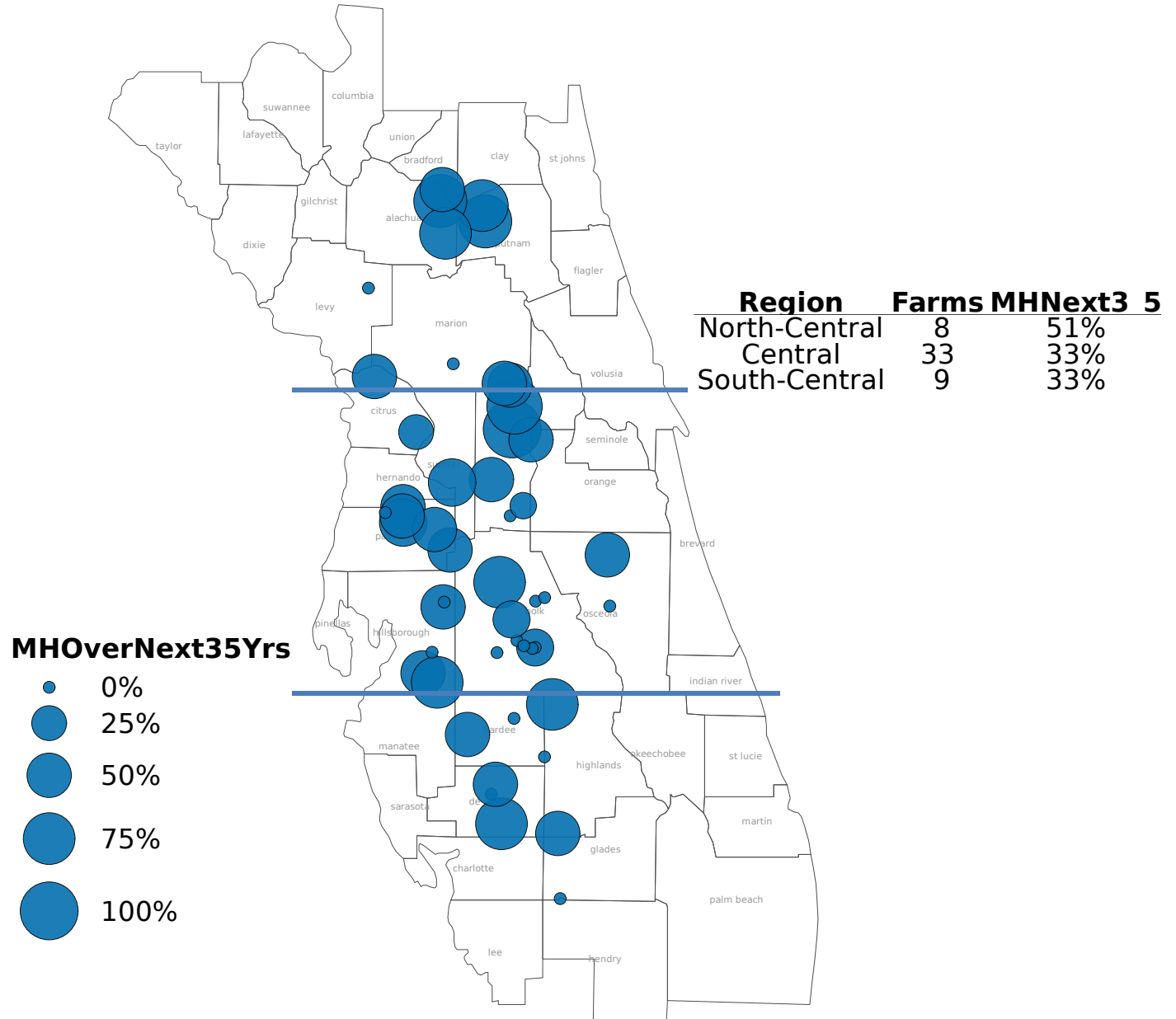
# Evergreen Production Reported by Growers



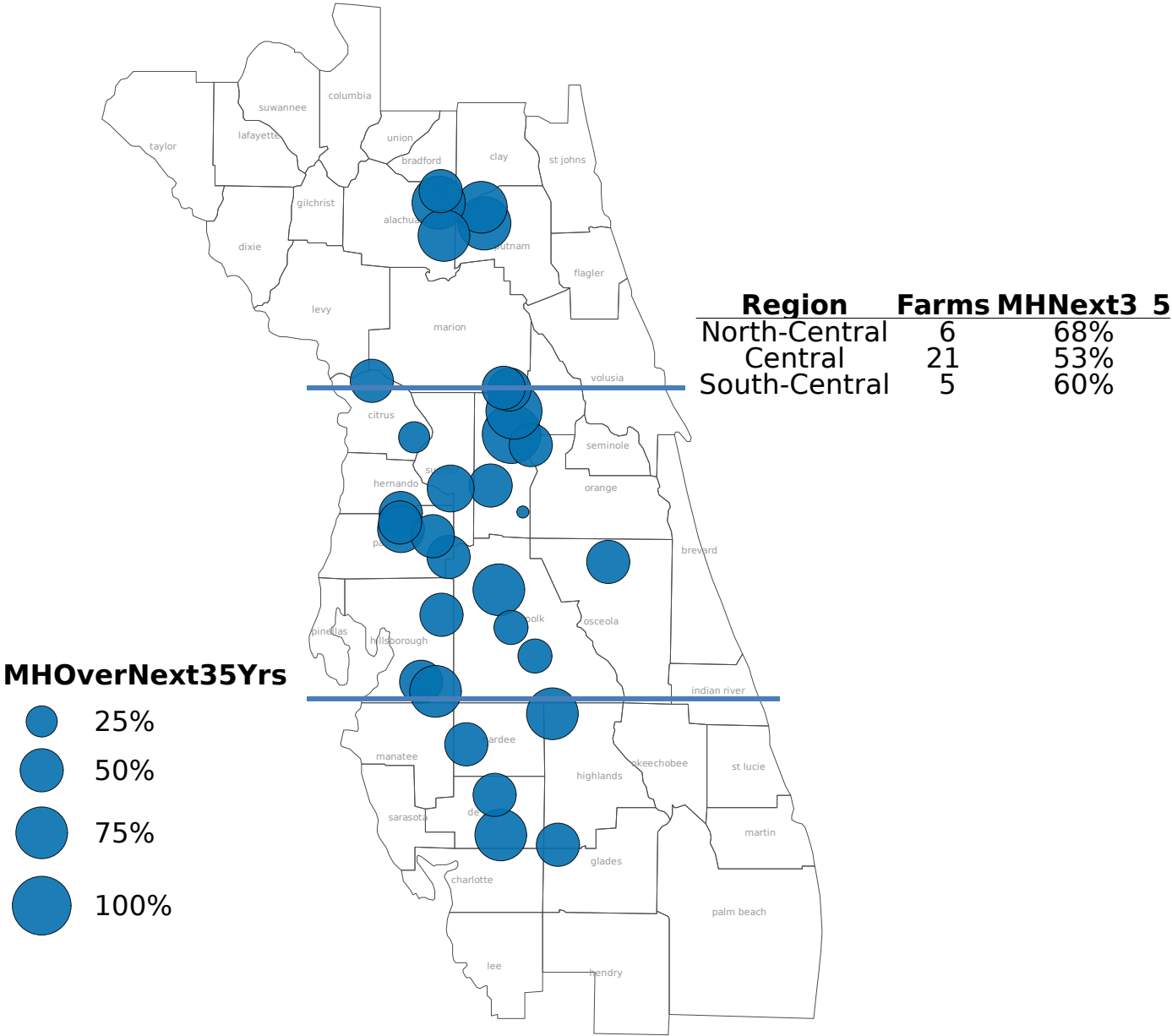
# Machine Harvesting Reported by Growers



# Expected % Machine Harvesting in Next 3-5 Years



# Expected % Machine Harvesting in Next 3-5 Years (Excluding 0%)



## Expected Farm Size Over Next 3-5 Years

- Expected to be larger 24
- Expected to stay the same size 24
- Expected to be smaller 3
- Uncertain 4

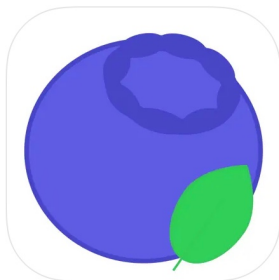
# Notable Items

- Chilli thrips remains the most problematic insect pest reported
- Many growers said the incidence and severity of diseases was less this season, possibly due to a drier harvest season
- Many growers expect or desire to increase machine harvesting on their farms
- Any questions you would like to see added to the survey for next season?

# Grower App Resources

## UF Blueberry Growers Guide

- Scouting Guide
- Management calendar
- Cultivars
- Pesticides
- English & Spanish



## Blueberry Advisory System

Alerts when the risk of anthracnose fruit rot is increased (moderate or high)





# UF Blueberry Breeding Website

2023 season data maps will be available on the UF blueberry breeding website –

[www.blueberrybreeding.com/blog](http://www.blueberrybreeding.com/blog)

You can also access –

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

# Acknowledgements

- Participating blueberry growers
- Paul Adunola – map development
- UF Blueberry Breeding Program for funding all of this research





# Questions?

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