

October 2007

Letter of Invitation

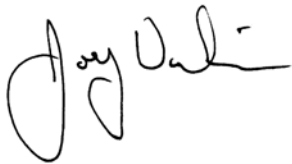
The International Agricultural Trade and Policy Center (IATPC) of the University of Florida-Food and Resource Economics Department is planning to hold an Invasive Species Workshop at the Holiday Inn - Port of Miami, November 7-9, 2007. The theme of this Workshop is **"Winning the War on Invasive Species"** and we expect an attendance of 60 persons. This is an important Workshop as we will unveil a software tool that allows users to estimate the economic impact of invasive species and assess alternative policy actions that may be taken to control such incursions. As part of that meeting, attendees will be trained in the use of the software and will be taken on a short tour of the Port of Miami to see how inspections are handled. We would be delighted if either you or a representative of your organization would participate in this meeting.

The Workshop Agenda and Registration form are attached.

I would also like to invite you to sponsor this meeting. While registration is free of charge, the budgeted cost of the meeting for facilities and breaks is \$1,500.00. In this regard, we would like to ask you to sponsor \$250 or more towards offsetting those costs. As a contributor, you will be listed as an Official Sponsor on the program and during the Workshop.

Please send me a note at [sickle@ufl.edu](mailto:sickle@ufl.edu) indicating your willingness to serve as a sponsor, or leave a message with my secretary, Vicki Jenkins, at 352-392-1881 ext. 300 or by email at [vlj.ufl.edu](mailto:vlj.ufl.edu). I do appreciate your help with this. I firmly believe this Workshop is a big step forward in our fight against invasive species.

Thanks.



J.J. VanSickle

JV/vj