

## House Agriculture Committee to Hold Hearing on the Labor Needs of American Agriculture

Florida Witnesses to Testify

(October 4, 2007)

(Washington, DC) - The House Agriculture Committee will hold a full committee hearing on "The Labor Needs of American Agriculture," Thursday, October 4, 2007 at 11 a.m. in 1300 Longworth House Office Building. The hearing, requested by Congressman Tim Mahoney (FL-16), is expected to address the issues of worker verification, hiring and retaining agriculture laborers, and the implications of current federal regulations.

Congressman Mahoney will offer two witnesses from Florida: Mason Smoak, a citrus producer and cattle rancher from Lake Placid and Rick Roth, a specialty crops producer/ packer and owner of Roth Farms Inc., in Bell Glade. Each will provide expert testimony specific to Florida agriculture.

WHO: Congressman Tim Mahoney

House Agriculture Committee

Florida witness: Mr. Mason G. Smoak, Citrus Producer and Cattle Rancher, Lake Placid, Florida

Florida witness: Mr. Rick Roth, Specialty Crops Producer/Packer, Roth Farms, Inc., Belle Glade, Florida

WHAT: House Agriculture Committee Hearing on "The Labor Needs of American Agriculture."

WHEN: 11:00 a.m., Thursday, October 4, 2007

WHERE: 1300 Longworth House Office Building

Live coverage available online at: <http://agriculture.house.gov/hearings/audio.html>

## FULL WITNESS LIST

### Panel I

Dr. James Holt, PhD, James S. Holt & Co., LLC, Washington, D.C.

Mr. Bob Stallman, President, American Farm Bureau Federation, Washington, D.C.

Mr. Bruce Goldstein, Executive Director, Farmworker Justice, Washington, D.C.

Mr. Lee Wicker, Deputy Director, North Carolina Growers Association, Vass, North Carolina

Mr. Scott Herring, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Farm Credit of Western New York, ACA, Batavia, NY

Mr. Mike Brown, Senior Vice President for Legislative Affairs, American Meat Institute, Washington, D.C.

### Panel II

Mr. J Allen Carnes, President, Winter Garden Produce, Vice President, Carnes Farms, Inc., and Chair, Texas Vegetable Association, Uvalde, Texas

Mr. Mason G. Smoak, Citrus Producer and Cattle Rancher, Lake Placid, Florida

Mr. Harry B. Yates, Board Member, National Christmas Tree Association, and Christmas Tree Producer, Boone, North Carolina

Mr. Randy Mouw, Misty Morning Dairy, Ontario, California

Mr. Keith Atkinson, Apple and Tobacco Producer, Java, Virginia

Mr. Rick Roth, Specialty Crops Producer/Packer, Roth Farms, Inc., Belle Glade, Florida

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