



Alachua County Board of County Commissioners

Ken Cornell, *Chair*
Lee Pinkoson, *Vice Chair*
Mike Byerly
Charles S. Chestnut, IV
Robert Hutchinson

Administration
Dr. Lee A. Niblock, CM
County Manager

June 20, 2017

Commissioner Adam H. Putnam
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Plaza Level 10, The Capitol
400 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0800

Dear Commissioner Putnam:

A new disease known as Lethal Bronzing has spread to our area and is killing our native cabbage palms. This disease, which was first reported in Florida in 2008, is similar to the Lethal Yellowing disease that attacked coconut palms in the 1970s and 80s. This new disease appears to have been introduced to our region through the importation of palms from other parts of the state. We are requesting information of what the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' plan is for restricting or controlling the spread of this potentially devastating disease that is killing our native cabbage palms and other palm species in our area.

Sincerely,

Ken Cornell, Chair
Alachua County Commission
Chr17.118

KC/sh

cc: Board of County Commissioners
Lee A. Niblock, County Manager
Michele Lieberman, County Attorney
James Harriott, Deputy County Manager
Chris Bird, EPD