**Topic: Live Oak Trees are Briefly Deciduous in Spring**

**Question:** I have an oak tree that is losing its leaves. Its two closest neighbors are also dropping leaves but not as fast. See the pictures. Anything to worry about?

Sean, North Fort Myers

**Answer:** The pictures tell me that all three trees are Live Oaks. It also appears that they are flowering which is a normal occurrence at this time of the year. In doing so, there is a lot of leaf loss. So much so that the trees are usually briefly deciduous, an event that goes by almost entirely unnoticed. The trees should grow new leaves in the next three to four weeks. Keep me informed if this does not occur.

---

**Useful Links**

- Differences between Live and Laurel Oaks
- Oak Galls
- Stephen’s Webpage

---

Stephen Brown is a horticulture agent with the Lee County Extension Service. Submit questions by calling the horticulture desk at 533-7504 between 9 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or by e-mailing brownsh@leegov.com. Visit his Web page at [http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/hort/GardenHome.shtml](http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/hort/GardenHome.shtml). For native plants click on [Publications A-Z](http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/hort/GardenHome.shtml).

The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) is an Equal Opportunity Institution authorized to provide research, educational information and other services only to individuals and institutions that function with non-discrimination with respect to race, religion, age, disability, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, political opinions or affiliations. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Florida, IFAS, Florida A. & M. 03/03/2012.