COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE
EMERGENCY ORDER
2023-004

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2022, through Executive Order 22-218, the Governor of the State of Florida declared that Tropical Depression Nine was expected to threaten the State as a potential major hurricane and declared a state of emergency in twenty-four counties; and,

WHEREAS, on September 24, 2022, through Executive Order 22-219, the Governor declared a state of emergency for the entire State of Florida to prepare for the impact of now Hurricane Ian thereby amending, ratifying, and reaffirming Executive Order 22-218; and

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2022, Hurricane Ian made landfall as a Category 4 hurricane, traveled across the peninsula, and exited the state near Cape Canaveral on September 29, 2022; and

WHEREAS, through Executive Orders 22-268 and 23-21, the Governor previously extended the state of emergency and all provisions of Executive Order 22-218, as amended by Executive Order 22-219; and

WHEREAS, through Executive Order 23-60, issued March 17, 2023, the Governor has extended the state of emergency and all provisions of Executive Order 22-218, as amended by Executive Order 22-219, for an additional sixty (60) days thereby ratifying and reaffirming Executive Orders 22-218 and 22-219; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 20-218, Section 4, Subparagraph B, authorizes state agencies to suspend the effect of any regulatory statutes prescribing the procedures for conducting state business or the orders or rules of the agency, including, but not limited to, those affecting leasing, printing, purchasing, travel, the condition of employment, and the compensation of employees if strict compliance would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency.

NOW THEREFORE, in accordance with the powers and authorities conferred by Article IV, Section 4, Florida Constitution, and Executive Orders 20-218 and 22-219 as extended, I hereby declare the following:

Any regulatory statutes and rules or orders of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services prescribing the procedures for conducting state business including, but not limited to, those affecting leasing, printing, purchasing, travel, the condition of employment, and the compensation of employees, are hereby suspended if strict compliance would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency referenced herein.

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THIS ORDER first entered on September 25, 2022, as Emergency Order 2022-001, is hereby extended and shall expire sixty (60) days from the date of this Order unless extended or rescinded by the Commissioner of Agriculture or upon the expiration or rescission of Executive Orders 22-218 and 22-219 or any extensions thereof; whichever occurs first.

EXECUTED MARCH 20, 2023.

WILTON SIMPSON
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE