

Vegetable Crops Continuing Conference 2005

November 30-December 2, 2005 ▪ University Club, UC Davis

Wednesday, November 30, 2005
General Session ▪ Lounge

- 9:30 AM Registration, coffee and light refreshments
- 10:00 **Welcome** ▪ Don Nevins, Director of VRIC
- 10:10 **Introduction of new vegetable crop farm advisors**
Moderator: Richard Smith, Vegetable Crops & Weed Science Farm Advisor, Monterey, San Benito & Santa Cruz Counties
- Brenna Aegerter, Vegetable Crops and Water Quality, San Joaquin County
 - Rick Bottoms, Vegetable Crops/Research Station Superintendent, Imperial County
 - Vegetable Crops and Strawberry Advisor, Santa Barbara County
- 10:30 **Farm Advisor/Faculty Updates**
Moderator: Jan Mickler, Vegetable Crops Farm Advisor, Stanislaus County
- Evaluation of Mini “Personal” Seedless Watermelons
Shannon Mueller, Agronomy Farm Advisor, Fresno County and Richard Molinar, Small Farms & Specialty Crops Farm Advisor, Fresno County
 - Farm Succession Programs: What Can Extension Do?
Deborah Giraud, Farm and Community Development Advisor, Humboldt County
 - Plant Growth Regulator Results from Low Desert Trial
Michael Rethwisch, Farm Advisor–Palo Verde Valley Vegetables/Field Crops Lettuce
 - Lettuce Downy Mildew Control: Past, Present and ?
Franklin Laemmlen, Farm Advisor, Emeritus, Santa Barbara & San Luis Obispo Counties
- 12:00 noon Lunch
- 1:00 PM **Carbon sequestration**
Moderator: Jeff Mitchell, Vegetable Crops Specialist, Kearney Agricultural Center
- Carbon sequestration in agricultural soils and climate change policy in California
Kate Scow, Professor & Associate Soil Microbial Ecologist, Soils & Biogeochemistry Program, UC Davis
 - Potential for and management issues of carbon sequestration in California agricultural soils
Jeff Mitchell, Vegetable Crops Specialist, Kearney Agricultural Center; Johan Six, Soil Scientist, Dept. of Plant Sciences, UC Davis; and Louise Jackson, Associate Professor, Associate Plant Physiologist & Associate Specialist, Dept. of Plant Sciences, UC Davis

- Estimating costs and benefits of carbon sequestration: An introduction to the LUS analysis framework and case studies from California's Central Valley
Steve Vosti, Professor, Dept. of Agricultural & Resource Economics, UC Davis

3:00 Break

3:30 **Organic Agriculture**

Moderator: Richard Smith

- Update on Organic Agriculture Short Courses in 2005 and Organic Vegetable Production Manual
Milt McGiffen, Vegetable Crops, Weed Science & Sustainable Agriculture Specialist and Plant Physiologist, UC Riverside
- Cover Crop Studies
Eric Brennan, USDA, Salinas
- Changes in Organic Acreage
Karen Klonsky, Farm Management Specialist, Dept. of Agricultural & Resource Economics, UC Davis
- Cost of Production
Laura Tourte, Farm Management & Small Farms Farm Advisor, Santa Cruz County

5:00 Adjourn

6:00-8:00 VRIC Steering Committee Meeting

Thursday, December 1, 2005

General Session ■ Clubroom

8:00 AM Welcome, coffee, light refreshments

8:05 **Discussion of Staffing issues, changing roles of farm advisors**

Moderator: Tim Hartz, Vegetable Specialist, Dept. of Plant Sciences, UC Davis

A wide-range discussion covering the following topics:

- workgroup structure and function
- determining/supporting future staffing needs
- wisdom of multiple responsibility/cross-county assignments
- strengthening Farm Advisor relationships with UC Davis Plant Sciences Dept.
- developing/updating web-based educational materials
- need for statewide educational programming

Joining the discussion will be:

Rick Standiford, ANR Associate Vice President

Chris Van Kessel, Department Chair, Dept. of Plant Sciences, UC Davis

Beth Mitcham, Horticultural Section Chair, Dept. of Plant Sciences, UC Davis

- 9:30 Break
- 10:00 **Pest Management Session**
Moderator: Tom Turini, Farm Advisor, Imperial County
- Recent Research on Geminiviruses
Robert Gilbertson, Professor, Dept. of Plant Pathology, UC Davis
 - Research interests in Vegetable Crops
James Ng, New Virologist, UC Riverside
 - Basics of molecular tools and techniques used in plant pathology research
Mike Davis, Plant Pathologist, Dept. of Plant Pathology, UC Davis
- 12:00 noon Lunch in the Lounge
 Processing Tomato Workgroup meeting in the Clubroom ■ Chair: *Jan Mickler*
- 1:00 PM **Water Quality Session**
Moderator: Michael Cahn, Irrigation & Water Quality Farm Advisor, Monterey County
- Agriculture Education Programs for Irrigated Lands Waiver Personnel—
 Opportunities for Cooperative Extension
Steve Kaffka, Agronomy Specialist and Lecturer, Dept. of Plant Sciences, UC Davis
 - Water Quality Issues and possible solutions on the Central Coast
Mike Cahn, Irrigation & Water Quality Farm Advisor, Monterey County
 - Results from the SAFS Project on water quality
Willie Horwath, Professor of Soil Biogeochemistry, Dept. of Land, Air & Water Resources, UC Davis
- 2:00 **Certifications**
Moderators: Karen Klonsky Farm Management Specialist, Dept. of Agricultural & Resource Economics, UC Davis and Gene Miyao, Vegetable Crops Farm Advisor, Yolo, Solano & Sacramento Counties
- Third party certification of produce for food safety
Devon Zagory, Senior VP for Food Safety & Quality Programs at Davis Fresh
 - SYSCO Agriculture Programs
Shane Sampels, Director Quality Assurance, Produce, Frozen Fruit & Vegetables, Manufactured Grocery and Beverage
- 3:00 Break
- 3:30 **Statistical resources available to UC personnel**
Moderator: Gene Miyao, Vegetable Crops Farm Advisor, Yolo, Solano & Sacramento Counties
- Services Available, Procedures and Costs (15 min.)
Neil Willits, Senior Statistician, Dept. of Statistics, UC Davis
 - Life after the Stats Workgroup: What worked, what didn't and identification of lingering needs (25 min.)
Richard Plant, Professor & Quantitative Analyst, Dept. of Plant Sciences, UC Davis
 - Financing the Need: A work in progress? (20 min.)
Maxwell Norton, Program Leader, Agricultural Productivity, DANR

- 4:30 Adjourn
- 5:00 Set up posters and social time (in the Clubroom)
- 6:00 Dinner served (in the Lounge)
- 7:00 Dinner Speaker
- Slides and Discussion of Trips to China and Azerbaijan Examining Vegetable Production
Mike Murray, Vegetable Crops Farm Advisor, Sutter-Yuba Counties

Friday, December 2, 2005

Workgroup Meetings ■ Clubroom and Lounge

8:00 AM Coffee and light refreshments

	Clubroom	Lounge
8:30 AM	Potato & Allium Workgroup meeting ■ Chairs: <i>Harry Carlson & Grant Poole</i>	
10:00	Break	
10:30	Warm Season Vegetables Workgroup meeting ■ Chair: <i>Michelle Le Strange</i>	Cool Season Vegetables Workgroup meeting ■ Chair: <i>Richard Smith</i>
12:00 noon	Lunch	
1:00 PM		
3:00	Adjourn	