



# Pest Control Notes

Yolo-Solano-Sacramento Counties

70 Cottonwood St., Woodland, CA 95695

Ph: 530-666-8143

Fax: 530-666-8736

*Hello all,*

*For those of you who may not have heard, I have been granted a sabbatical leave from July 1, 2008 to March 2, 2009 so will be away from the Yolo County UC Cooperative Extension office during this time. My plans are to write 2 papers (one on water quality protection in row crop production and the other on common dry bean production in California). I will also be studying Spanish, including attending a language immersion program in Chile, and will do some work on sunflower seed production.*

*While I'm away from my office, questions on alfalfa and forages as well as dry beans should be directed to Jerry Schmierer, Farm Advisor Colusa County at 530-458-0575. For integrated pest management related questions, contact Kent Brittan, Farm Advisor in our office at 530-666-8733. For plant diseases contact Jenny Broome, UC Academic Coordinator in Sacramento County at 530-681-0216. Carolyn DeBuse our newest Farm Advisor for Yolo and Solano Counties handles Fruit and nut crop calls at 707-784-1320.*

*I hope you all have a great year and I'll look forward to being back in touch next March. Following are some upcoming meetings that I hope you'll be able to attend.*

*Sincerely, Rachael Long*

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

### **❖ UC Davis Dry Bean Field Day**

**When:** August 21, 2008, 9 am–noon

**Where:** UC Davis Agronomy field station across from Bee Biology

**\*Bonus:** 3 CE hours applied for

**Directions:** UC Davis Farm, on Olive Lane, about 1.5 miles west of Hwy 113 on the south side of the road. Turn south on Olive Lane and park along the fence. ***The field location is across from the Bee Biology Center.***

The purpose of this meeting will be to take a look at and discuss research trials and crop production issues in California related to dry bean production. This will include variety trials, pest and disease control updates, and weed control. For more information, contact Jerry Schmierer, Farm Advisor Colusa County at 530-458-0575.

## ❖ California Alfalfa and Forage Symposium

**When:** December 2-4, 2008 (with a pre-symposium tour of the Imperial Valley on Dec. 2)

**Where:** San Diego Town and Country Resort and Convention Center

For more information on this event see: <http://alfalfa.ucdavis.edu> or contact our office in Woodland at 530-666-8143.

### **Alert: Potential New Alfalfa Pest**

Charlie Summers, University of California entomologist, has found South American bean thrips (*Caliothrips phaseoli*) on alfalfa at the UC Kearney Field Station near Reedley, Calif. This insect occurs in the desert areas of Southern California (Imperial and Palo Verde valleys). The adult thrips are black with white bands or stripes on the wings. Nymphs are yellow with pinkish or reddish markings. From a distance, affected plants appear severely moisture stressed. Upon closer evaluation, many terminals are blasted and appear dead with large areas of the epidermis stripped off by this pest, leaving large white areas on the leaflets. Leaflets and other plant parts are covered with black specks of feces. Feeding by the *flower* thrips only results in crinkled leaves and treatment is only rarely considered necessary. Feeding injury by this bean thrip, however, can be severe enough that treatment may be necessary, although thresholds have not been established and only rarely in Southern California have treatments been applied. If fields are observed with this insect or injury occurs that resembles what's noted above, send an e-mail to [cafrate@ucdavis.edu](mailto:cafrate@ucdavis.edu) or call (559) 685-3309, ext. 214.

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University of California  
Yolo County Cooperative Extension  
70 Cottonwood Street  
Woodland, CA 95695

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**June 24, 2008**