



# Pest Control Notes

**Yolo, Solano, Sacramento Counties**

Wood St., Woodland, CA 95695

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*Hello all,*

*Please join us for our 39<sup>th</sup> annual alfalfa symposium in Reno. I realize that I'm mailing this a bit late, so if you can't meet the Nov. 2 deadline for early registration (see page 3), please contact me so I can get you an extension. Our new Yolo County office hours are Tuesday to Friday from 8 am to 5 pm (closed 12 to 1 pm for lunch). UC Advisors will continue to be available Mondays and can be reached by phone or email (see <http://ceyolo.ucdavis.edu> for a list of names and numbers).*

*Sincerely, Rachael Long, Farm Advisor*

## **2009 WESTERN ALFALFA & FORAGE CONFERENCE**

**December 2-4, 2009**

**Grand Sierra Resort Casino, Reno, NV**

**7 CE Hours and 15.5 CCA Credits**

**Register online at: <http://alfalfa.ucdavis.edu/+symposium/2009/>**

### **Wednesday, December 2, 2009: Hands-On Alfalfa Diagnostic Workshop (limited participation)**

12:30 pm Workshop Participant Sign-In

1 – 5:30 pm Workshop: Soils, fertilizers (analysis, sampling, and interpretation), and disease, nematode, weed, and insect identification and IPM practices

**6 – 8 pm Registration**

### **Thursday, December 3, 2009**

6:30 - 8 am Registration

#### **Alfalfa Industry and Market Trends**

8:00 Trends in the Alfalfa Industry: Is it really as bad as it looks? – D. Putnam, UC Davis

8:25 Dairy Outlook: What is the future of dairies in the West? – B. Van Dam, Alliance of Western Milk Producers, Sacramento, CA

8:50 How Dairies are Dealing with the Current Economic Situation: Impact on forages, Mireille Chahine, Extension Dairy Specialist, University of Idaho, Twin Falls, ID

9:15 What Happened to All the Horses and What Are They Eating? – Anne Rodiek, Professor, Dept of Animal Science and Agriculture Education, Cal State University, Fresno, CA

#### **Improving Profitability**

10:20 Reducing Inputs to Improve Profits: Good or bad idea? – S. Orloff, Farm Advisor, UCCE, Yreka

10:40 Adapting Cutting Management to Market Conditions – Glenn Shewmaker, Forage Specialist, University of Idaho, Twin Falls, ID

11:00 Panel Discussion: Marketing Your Hay in a Low Priced Year, Dick Schader, Red Rock Ranch, Macdoel, CA, Philip Bowles, Bowles Farming, Los Banos, CA, Norman Beach, San Joaquin Valley Haygrowers Assn., Tracy, CA

11:30 Surviving Difficult Times: Lessons learned from those who have and have not – Bob Boyle, Northwest Farm Credit Services, Salem, OR

**12:00 - 1:30 pm BANQUET LUNCH**

## **Afternoon Breakout Sessions:**

### ***Breakout Session I. Pest Management in Alfalfa***

- 1:30 Conventional and Organic Methods for Insect Pest Control in Alfalfa – R. Long, Farm Advisor
- 1:50 Control Strategies for Some Difficult to Control Weeds – Mick Canevari, Farm Advisor Emeritus, UCCE, Stockton, CA
- 2:10 Vertebrate Pest Control in Alfalfa – Michael Slater, Wildlife Biologist, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services, La Grande, OR
- 2:30 Alfalfa Nematodes and their Management – Dr. Hafez, Nematology, University of Idaho, Parma

### ***Breakout Session II. Soils and Irrigation***

- 1:30 How Do You Know Your Lab Results Are Any Good? – Dirk Holstege, Director DANR Analytical Laboratory, UC Davis, Davis, CA
- 1:50 Site Specific Fertilization of Alfalfa Fields: Improved yield at lower costs? – Andre Biscaro, Farm Advisor, UCCE, Lancaster, CA
- 2:10 Center Pivot Management – Howard Neibling, Extension Water Management Engineer, University of Idaho, Twin Falls, ID
- 2:30 Subsurface Drip Irrigation in Alfalfa: A grower's initial experience – Cannon Michael, Bowles Farming, Los Banos, CA

### ***Breakout Session III. Bio-Energy and Alternative Forages***

- 1:30 Overview of Bio-Energy Crops and the Conversion Process – Birgitte Ahring, Director Bioproducts, Sciences and Engineering Laboratory, WSU Tri-Cities, Richland, WA
- 1:50 Agronomics of Switchgrass for Biofuel in the West – Steve Fransen, Forage Agronomist, Washington State University, Prosser, WA
- 2:10 Annual Warm-Season Grasses for Bio-Fuel Production in the West – Mike Ottman, Extension Agronomist, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
- 2:30 Teff Grass: A new alternative – Don Miller, Director of Product Development, Producer's Choice Seeds, Nampa, ID

## **3:30 – 5 pm, Repeat Concurrent Sessions**

## **5 - 6:00 pm, Exhibitor's Reception**

## **7 pm State Haygrower's Organization Dinner Meeting**

## **Friday, December 4, 2009**

### **6:15 am CAFA Breakfast**

#### **Water Issues**

- 8:00 Future of Agricultural Water in the West – Dan Keppen, Executive Director, Family Farm Alliance, Klamath Falls, OR
- 8:25 The impact of Drought on Crop Choice and Water Marketing – Richard Howitt, Agricultural Economist, UC Davis, Davis, CA
- 8:50 Coping with Low Water Years: What strategies can you use? – Blaine Hanson, Irrigation Specialist, UC Davis, Davis, CA

#### **Innovations and Future Developments**

- 9:55 The Future of Alfalfa and Forage Crops – Maria Monteros, Noble Foundation, Ardmore, OK
- 10:20 Low-Lignin Alfalfa: Redefining the Yield/Quality Tradeoff – Dan Undersander, Extension and Research Forage Agronomist, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI
- 10:45 What's New from the Alfalfa Industry - (series of brief presentations from the alfalfa industry discussing new innovations and product development)

## **12:00 ADJOURN**



# 2009 Western Alfalfa & Forage Conference

## “Improving Your Odds of Profitability”

December 2-4, 2009 • Grand Sierra Resort and Casino • Reno, NV

### General Registration Form

**Paying via credit card?** Don't use this form; use the on-line form at <http://alfalfa.ucdavis.edu>.

Please print or type clearly and complete one form for each person attending.

**Pre-Conference Hands-On Alfalfa Diagnostics Workshop on December 2<sup>nd</sup>** \$ 50.00

**Pre-Registration (before November 2, 2009)** \$125.00

Registration includes all speaker sessions both days, Proceedings, banquet lunch, and refreshments.

**Late Registration (If mailed, it must be received by November 23, 2009. Online registration** \$150.00

**must be completed by November 23, 2009.)** Instructions and link for online registration can be found on our website: <http://alfalfa.ucdavis.edu>

**On-Site Registration** (see Karen at the Registration Table) \$175.00

Each Registration includes one copy of the Proceedings in **either** printed form or on a CD. Additional copies can be ordered below. Please indicate your preference for the complimentary copy by checking one of the following boxes.

PRINTED Proceedings Book  Proceedings Book on CD

**Additional** Printed copy of Proceedings @ \$10 each No. of copies \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional** copy of Proceedings on CD @ \$5 each No. of copies \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Registered Guest Banquet Lunch (12/3/2009 only) @ \$35 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) of lunch guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name of Person Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Ranch Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (Street, City, State, Zip Code) \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**Cancellation/Refund Policy:** Requests for refunds must be received prior to November 23, 2009. **A \$25 processing fee will apply.** Unfortunately we will be unable to honor refund requests made after November 23, 2009.

**Mail this form and your check** made payable to “UC Regents,” to Karen Nephew, UCCE, 1720 S. Maple Avenue, Fresno, CA 93702. Receipts will be available at the conference.

**Registrations will be considered final only after we receive your check.** Please contact Karen Nephew by phone at 559-259-4907 or [sznephew@plantsciences.ucdavis.edu](mailto:sznephew@plantsciences.ucdavis.edu) if you require assistance or need further information.

**Hotel Reservations:** Reserve your hotel room at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino (online at [Grand Sierra Reservations](#) or by phone at 800-648-5080). Be sure to mention the **Western Alfalfa Conference** and reserve by **November 18, 2009** to obtain the outstanding conference rate of \$44 per night. Luxury rooms and suites are available at a higher rate. Visit our website to view the extras the hotel will provide to each registered guest!

Visit our website at <http://alfalfa.ucdavis.edu> to get updates on the symposium.

**Note: Please provide an individual e-mail address – registration and payment confirmation will be by e-mail only.**

## New potential pests

Keep an eye out for the Bagrada bug, an insect pest that mainly feeds on Brassica species (Cruciferae), including cabbage, cauliflower, and broccoli. The adults look like stinkbugs with a mixture of black, white, and orange markings. This pest originated from Africa and first showed up in Southern California last year. It has since spread widely, including into the Imperial Valley, where it is causing extensive damage to organic crops. Adults feed on the growing points of seedlings, and can kill the plant. Early detection and control will help prevent crop damage. This pest has not yet been found in Northern California, but there is potential for it to naturalize here.

There is also a new aphid pest of cereals (*Sipha maydis*) that has been found in our Central Valley. This aphid is dark brown to nearly black, and covered with tiny white hairs. Early detection and control with insecticides in grain crops will help prevent serious potential damage from this pest.

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**October 22, 2009**