

Almond Culture and Orchard Management

Overall Project Leader: Roger Duncan

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CURRENT PROJECT ACTIVITIES SUMMARY

The Almond Board provides of funding for farm advisors to conduct research projects, including the following four almond-related efforts:

- **Fertilizing One Year Old Almond Trees: How Much Nitrogen?** (Project Leader: David Doll, UCCE – Merced County) The purpose of this experiment is to develop a recommended fertilization rate for non-bearing trees. It is important for growers to understand how to best apply nitrogen to young trees as their developing root systems are small and have limited ability for nutrient uptake. Not only does this address a field concern, but also impending regulations.
- **Survey and Documentation of Field Problems in Madera and Fresno Counties Almond Crop** (Project Leader: Gurreet Brar UCCE – Fresno/Merced Counties) The objective of this project is to create a baseline of challenges faced by growers in Fresno and Madera Counties through on-farm surveys documenting major problems in almond orchards and assessment of crop growth stages, farm operations, and field problems in almonds. The results will serve as the foundation for a viable research and extension program for almond growers in Fresno and Madera Counties.
- **Can Spring Foliar N+K Sprays Increase Almond Yield in Sacramento Valley?** (Project Leader: Franz Niederholzer, UCCE – Sutter/Yuba Counties) Significant spring rains are not uncommon in the Sacramento Valley and may affect almond production in a variety of ways, particularly through cool and wet soil conditions which may limit fertigation practices and nutrient uptake during this period. As an alternative, application of significant amounts of foliar nitrogen and potassium fertilizer soon after bloom may allow growers to increase yield and manage the potential leaching risk from early season soil N application.
- **Efficacy Trials of Registered and Developmental Insecticides for Navel Orangeworm** (Project Leader: Brent Holtz, UCCE – San Joaquin County) Considering the economic scale of the significance of navel orangeworm as a pest of almonds in California, it is essential that we learn more about how these newly registered and developmental insecticides work and might contribute to improved control in the field. Results showed significant control in all tested insecticides when applied at hull-split.

For More Details, Visit

- Poster location **20** (Holtz – Farm Advisor Project: NOW Insecticides); **56** (Doll – Farm Advisor Project: N Management in Young Orchards); **60** (Niederholzer – Farm Advisor Project: Foliar N & K Sprays); **63** (Brar – Farm Advisor Project: Fresno/Madera Field Survey); Exhibit A and B during the conference; or on the web (after January 2014) at www.almondboard.com/researchreports
- 2012.2013 Annual Report CD (12-HORT3-Holtz); or on the web (after January 2014) at www.almondboard.com/researchreports