



# 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Walnut Research Conference

Wednesday, January 24 - Friday, January 26, 2024

## Agenda

P=Proposal (15 min), R=Report (15 min); R+P=Report + Proposal (20 min);  
FAR+=Farm Advisor Report with LAWREA Project Funded by CWB (15 min);  
FAR= Farm Advisor Report (10 min)

Report PDFs will be available **after the conference** – online at  
[www.ucanr.edu/sites/cawalnut/YearsListing](http://www.ucanr.edu/sites/cawalnut/YearsListing).

## Wednesday, January 24

9:30 AM to 12:00 PM Walnut Work Group meeting and bag lunch†.....South Wing Lounge, BML

†**UC Walnut Workgroup Meeting is for UC & USDA researchers and UC farm advisors only.**

**Direct Workgroup questions to Clarissa Reyes [clareyes@ucanr.edu](mailto:clareyes@ucanr.edu)**

1:00 PM Conference Welcome.....Peter Larbi, Conference Chair
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## Breeding & Genomics Part

Moderator: Kamyar Aram			
1:15	R+P	P. J. Brown, UCD	Walnut Improvement Program
1:35	R+P	P. J. Brown, UCD	Putting Phenotypic and Genotypic Tools to Work for Improving Walnut Rootstocks
1:55	R+P	A. Dandekar, UCD	Translating Genome Editing Tools for Walnut Improvement
2:15	R+P	A. Dandekar, UCD	Improved Diagnostics for Walnut Blight Disease and Development of a Walnut Blight Protecting Rootstock
2:35	P	A, Dandekar, UCD	Defining The Susceptibility of Kernel Color Darkening
2:50	FAR+	E. Fichtner, UC ANR	SSJV Walnut Projects & Walnut Rootstock Evaluation

3:05	<b>BREEDING &amp; GENOMICS DISCUSSION &amp; BREAK</b>
3:30	<b>ADJOURN</b>

**3:30-5:00 PM      SCRI Walnut Rootstock Advisory Panel      Main Lecture Hall – BML**

**DINNER – On your own at Bodega Bay area restaurants**

**Thursday, January 25**

**7:00 – 8:30 AM** Hot Breakfast.....BML Foyer

## Plant Pathology & Nematology

<b>Moderator: Becky Wheeler-Dykes</b>			
8:30	R	R. Rosencrance, CSU Chico (presented by B. Wheeler-Dykes)	CSU Chico Walnut Variety & Selection Trial
8:45	R+P	T. Michailides, UCD	Determining Levels of Bot and Phomopsis in Walnut Orchards Preseason; Effects of a Bloom Spray on Bot, Phomopsis and Mold; Effects of a Combination of Ethephon with Fungicide Against Mold
9:05	R+P	J. Adaskaveg, UCR	Epidemiology and Management of Walnut Blight
9:25	R+P	A. Westphal, UCR	Implementing Soil Treatment Strategies for Suppression of Plant-Parasitic Nematodes in Walnut
9:45	R	A. McClean, USDA-ARS	Evaluation of Selected Products Marketed for The Management of Crown Gall in Walnuts
10:00	P	S. Siddique, UCD	Nematode-Resistant Walnut Rootstocks: Biotechnological Solutions for a Sustainable California Walnut Industry
10:15	<b>PLANT PATHOLOGY &amp; NEMATOLOGY DISCUSSION</b>		
10:40	<b>BREAK</b>		

# Entomology

<b>Moderator: Mohamed Abdelmoneim</b>			
11:05	R+P	C. Burks, USDA-ARS	Improving Treatment Decisions for Navel Orangeworm in Walnuts
11:25	P	R. Van Steenwyk, UCB	Attract-and-Kill Strategies for Control of Walnut Husk Fly
11:40	R+P	R. Van Steenwyk, UCB	Improved Monitoring of Walnut Husk Fly Through Use of New Aggregation Pheromone Lures, Grower/PCA Evaluation of the New Walnut Husk Fly Pheromone

12:00 Lunch PM.....BML Foyer

1:00	R	J. Rijal, UC ANR	Biology and Management of Walnut Husk Fly
1:15	P	J. Rijal, UC ANR	Field Evaluation of Entomopathogenic Fungus and Nematodes against Walnut Husk Fly, <i>Rhagoletis completa</i>
1:30	FAR+	S. Gyuwaly, UC ANR	Northern Sacramento Valley Walnut IPM Activities Updates
1:45	FAR+	J. Rijal, UC ANR	Walnut Pests Update – North San Joaquin Valley
2:00	ENTOMOLOGY DISCUSSION		
2:25	<b>BREAK</b>		

# Orchard Management Part 1

<b>Moderator: Katherine Jarvis-Shean</b>			
2:55	R. Verloop		State of the CA Walnut Industry – Overview
3:25	R+P	B. Lampinen, UCD	Walnut Orchard Management: Pilot Projects, Field Testing, Adaptive Research and Problem Solving by C.E. Farm Advisors and Specialists

3:45	R	K. Shackel, UCD	Early Season Water Management and Yield Limiting Factors in Walnut
4:00	P	K. Shackel, UCD	Pilot On-Farm Irrigation Trial Using Automated SWP Sensing
4:10	FAR	A. Mohamed, UC ANR	Key Insights from The North San Joaquin Valley's Walnut Irrigation Needs Assessment
4:20	P	C. Daley, CSU Chico	The California Soil Carbon Accrual Project: Impact of Climate Smart Ag Practices in Walnuts
4:35	ORCHARD MANAGEMENT PART 1 DISCUSSION		
5:00	<b>ADJOURN</b>		

**6:00 PM Social** - Hosted by the California Walnut Board; Bay View Room, Inn at the Tides

**7:00 PM Dinner** - Hosted by the California Walnut Board for UC, USDA, and Researchers.  
No-host banquet for industry attendees and guests.

## Friday, January 26

**7:30 – 8:45 AM** Hot Breakfast.....BML Foyer

## Orchard Management Part 2

<b>Moderator: Sudan Gyawaly</b>			
8:45	FAR+	K. Aram, UCD	Improving Irrigation for Walnuts in Contra Costa County
9:00	P	K. Aram, UC ANR	Local Applied Walnut Research & Extension Activities
9:15	FAR+	L. Milliron, UC ANR	Walnut in Northern Sacramento Valley, Whole Orchard Recycling, and Rootstock Evaluation
9:30	R+P	C. Reyes, UC ANR	Walnut Whole Orchard Recycling on Heavy Ground in the Sacramento Valley; Developing Nutrient Requirements for Young Walnut Orchards After Whole Orchard Recycling
9:50	FAR	B. Wheeler-Dykes, UC ANR	Needs Assessment and Program Development in Glenn, Tehama and Colusa Counties

10:00	FAR+	K. Jarvis-Shean, UC ANR	Dormancy Breaking Treatment & Yolanomento Walnut Updates
10:20	ORCHARD MANAGEMENT PART 2 DISCUSSION		

**10:50 Closing Remarks & Adjourn .....Peter Larbi, Conference Chair**