



**University of California**  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Cooperative Extension



# WALNUT NEWS

STANISLAUS COUNTY

FEBRUARY 2011

University of California Cooperative Extension  
41<sup>st</sup> Annual Quad-County Walnut Institute  
Thursday, February 17, 2011  
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Harvest Hall, Stanislaus County Ag Center  
Corner of Crows Landing and Service Roads, Modesto

**8:00 Update on the New Walnut Varieties**

Kathy Kelley Anderson, UCCE Farm Advisor, Stanislaus County

**8:30 Advances in Pheromone Mating Disruption for Codling Moth and Navel Orangeworm**

Joe Grant, UCCE Farm Advisor, San Joaquin County

**9:00 The State of the Walnut Industry: Report of the California Marketing Board and the California Walnut Commission**

Dennis Balint, Executive Director, CWB and CEO, CWC

**9:30 Basic Irrigation Scheduling Using ET**

David Doll, UCCE Farm Advisor, Merced County

**10:00 Break**

**10:20 Controlling Walnut Husk Fly**

Bob Van Steenwyk, UC Extension Entomologist, UC Berkeley 10:20

**11:05 Blackline Resistant Rootstocks**

Janet Caprile, UCCE Farm Advisor, Contra Costa County

**11:30 Choosing Clonal Rootstocks for Disease Resistance**

Wes Hackett, Walnut Rootstock Program, UC Davis

**Ground Squirrels.** Controlling adult ground squirrels before they reproduce in the spring is a critical part of good management. Burrow fumigation is the method of choice at this time of year when squirrels feed on green vegetation and are not interested in baited grains. A fumigant program followed by anticoagulant baiting in the summer can control 90% of the population. Squirrels typically breed from late January to early March, but the time can vary with the weather and location. During the winter, squirrels with good fat reserves hibernate in sealed burrows. Other squirrels, usually the spring born juveniles, forage above ground even in cold weather. For the best results, use burrow fumigants about three weeks after the first squirrels emerge from hibernation. Zinc phosphide tablets, a restricted use material, is an effective substance. Save supply and labor costs by treating only active burrows. Cover burrow openings and treat only those that are re-opened. Fumigate following rain or irrigation since soil moisture is necessary to release the gas. The best timing is early morning or evening when ground squirrels are most likely to be inside the burrows. Check all treated burrows a few days after fumigation and treat any that have opened. Do not treat burrows that are near or under buildings. More information can be found on the UC Ground Squirrel Best Management Practices website at <http://groups.ucanr.org/gsbmp>.

**Tree & Vine IPM Update Breakfast Meetings.** Roger Duncan and I will hold our integrated pest management breakfast discussions for tree and vine crops again this season beginning March 2. The meetings will be held every first and third Wednesday, March through June, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. **Please note: the location has changed to the Old Mill Café located at 600 9<sup>th</sup> Street in Modesto.**

The meetings are open to any growers or PCA's of tree and vine crops in the area. The meetings are for casual discussions of current pest management issues occurring in the field. Bring your insect or disease infested samples for identification or show and tell if you like! One hour of continuing education credits are offered at each meeting. Any company who would like to sponsor the \$45 cost for offering education credits at each meeting should call Marie at (209) 525-6800.

*Kathy*

Kathy Kelley Anderson, Farm Advisor  
UCCE Stanislaus County

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