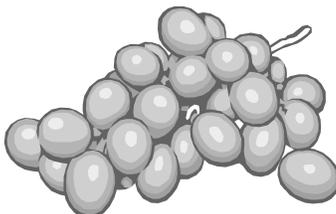
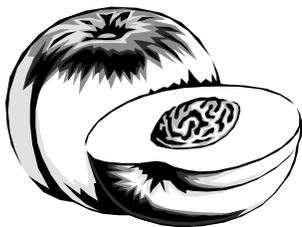


THE SCOOP

on fruits and nuts in Stanislaus County

Roger Duncan
Pomology & Viticulture Advisor



**The University of California Cooperative Extension
in Stanislaus & Merced Counties present a:**

Mechanized Blossom Thinner Demonstration Field Day for Peach Growers

Friday, March 4, 2011
10:00 – 11:30

Location: Chuck Voss' orchard
Gilbert Road, south of Hatch Road in Ceres.

- Discussion of our results from two years of local field trials
- Demonstration of the string blossom thinner in "vase" shaped peach trees
- Sign up to try the machine in your orchard

We have proven that the string blossom thinner reliably increases fruit size and yield while reducing hand thinning costs in certain cling peach varieties. By removing excess fruit at bloom time instead of in May, fruit size is significantly increased, potentially leading to higher yields. The research phase is largely finished. Now it is time for growers to try it in their own orchards.

For questions, contact Stanislaus County Farm Advisor, Roger Duncan at 209-525-6800 or Merced County Farm Advisor, Maxwell Norton at 209-385-7403

U.S. Department of Agriculture, University of California, and Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors cooperating

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New Cooperative Extension Director

As of January 1, 2011, I will assume the role of director for the University of California Cooperative Extension office in Stanislaus County. Despite severe budget cuts at the university and county level, our office will continue to produce and extend research-based information vital to the agricultural community in Stanislaus County. If you have suggestions on how we might better serve the local agricultural community (or have words of encouragement), we can be reached at 525-6800 or at raduncan@ucdavis.edu.



The Scoop on Fruits & Nuts
In Stanislaus County
February 2011

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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
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