

2016 California Alfalfa & Forage Symposium

Aiming Towards Profitability

November 29-December 1, 2016

Peppermill Resort, Reno, NV

Organized by:

The University of California Cooperative Extension Alfalfa Workgroup
....Extension scientists serving the agricultural community

Sponsored by:

The California Alfalfa & Forage Association
...representing thousands of California forage growers

Symposium Organizational Chair: Jane Townsend, California Alfalfa & Forage Association

Symposium Program Co-Chairs: Dan Putnam and Steve Orloff, UC Alfalfa Workgroup

Introduction: The farming community has reeled under an onslaught of poor farm-product prices coupled with increasing costs of production. This conference brings together farmers, Pest Control and Crop Advisors, industry members and university participants to understand pathways to profitability focused on a key western sector: alfalfa and forage crops.

Schedule of Events

DAY ONE – November 29, 2016

6:30am-7:00pm

SYMPOSIUM AND EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION

9:00am-4:50pm

PEST MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP (*Moderators: Pete Goodell, UC IPM Program, Kearney Research and Extension Center, Parlier, CA and Larry Godfrey, UC Davis, Davis, CA*)

Prevention and management of pest damage to alfalfa is an ongoing challenge to alfalfa producers. This day-long workshop examines the various approaches to improve and refine your integrated pest management skills.

- 9:00 Welcome and Introduction
- 9:05 Principles of IPM – There is an “I” in IPM
Pete Goodell, UC IPM Program, Kearney Research and Extension Center, Parlier, CA
- 9:50 Weed Management During Stand Establishment
Kurt Hembree, UC Cooperative Extension, Fresno, CA
- 10:20 Discussion
- 10:30 BREAK
- 10:50 Weed Management in Established Stands
Mick Canevari, UC Cooperative Extension, Stockton CA
- 11:20 Rodents and their Management
Danielle Gunn, University of Idaho Cooperative Extension, Fort Hall, ID
- 11:50 Discussion
- 12:05 LUNCH
- 1:15 Management of Pesticide Resistance (Insecticides and Herbicides)
Jesse Richardson, Dow AgroSciences, Hesperia, CA
- 1:40 Insect IPM: Weevils and Aphids
Larry Godfrey, University of California, Davis, CA
- 2:05 Insect IPM: Worms and Other Pests (leafhopper, mites, clover root curculio, ground mealybug, cutworms)
Vonny Barlow, UC Cooperative Extension, Blythe, CA

- 2:30 Discussion
- 2:45 BREAK
- 3:05 Management of Nematodes in Alfalfa
Don Miller, Alforex Seeds, Nampa, ID
- 3:30 IPM Approaches to Diseases in Alfalfa
Deborah Samac, USDA-ARS, St. Paul, MN
- 3:55 Diagnosing Problems in Alfalfa
Tim Hays, Buttonwillow Warehouse Co., Buttonwillow, CA, Steve Orloff, UC Cooperative Extension, Yreka, CA and Dan Putnam, University of California, Davis, CA
- 4:30 Stump the Experts: Free for all question and answer session
Pete Goodell, Moderator
- 4:50 Adjourn

5:30pm-7:00pm SYMPOSIUM WELCOME RECEPTION with Exhibitors
Cocktails and Hors D'oeuvres. Exhibits Open.

DAY TWO – November 30, 2016

6:30am-7:00pm SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION

7:00am-8:00am CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

7:00am-7:00pm EXHIBITS OPEN

8:00am-12noon SYMPOSIUM MAIN SESSION

- 8:00 Welcome & Introduction
Dan Putnam, Symposium Chair, University of California, Davis, CA

Economics and Industry Trends (Moderator: Philip Bowles, Bowles Farming, Los Banos, CA)

- 8:05 Hay Market Trends in 2016/2017
Seth Hoyt, The Hoyt Report, Lone, CA
- 8:35 California Dairy Trends
Eric Erba, California Dairies, Inc., Visalia, CA
- 9:05 When Someone Claims to Know Where Commodity Prices are Really Heading... Grab Your Wallet and Run!
Daniel A. Sumner, Ag Issues Center, University of California, Davis, CA
- 9:35 Cutting Costs in a Down year: Where to Cut and Where NOT to Cut Corners
Steve Orloff, UC Cooperative Extension, Yreka, CA
- 10:05 Discussion
- 10:05 BREAK

Exports, Regulation and Research (Moderator: Robert Ferguson, Ferguson Farms, Stockton, CA)

- 10:30 Alfalfa Export Trends and GMO Acceptance in Export Markets
Dan Putnam, University of California, Davis, CA
- 11:00 Challenges of Our Regulatory Environment: Emerging Issues of Importance to the Alfalfa Industry
Dennis Albiani, California Advocates, Sacramento, CA
- 11:30 National Research Funding: Although Forages are the Underdog, New and Enhanced Opportunities
Beth Nelson, National Alfalfa & Forage Alliance, St. Paul, MN and Brandon Fawaz, Fawaz Farming, Etna, CA
- 11:45 Developing Funding for Research and Educational Purposes: Why Hay Growers Must Act
Brandon Fawaz, Fawaz Farming, Etna, CA
- 12:00 Discussion

12:10pm SYMPOSIUM LUNCH -- Jim Kuhn Award

1:30pm-5:10pm SYMPOSIUM MAIN SESSION

Irrigation & Water Use Efficiency (Moderator: Dennis Hannaford, Netafim, Fresno, CA)

- 1:30 Principles of Irrigation Management in Alfalfa Utilizing Evapotranspiration Data
Daniele Zaccaria, University of California, Davis, CA
- 1:55 Irrigation of Alfalfa During Water Shortages
Troy Peters, Washington State University, Prosser, WA
- 2:20 Tools for Improved Management of Surface Irrigation
Khaled Bali, Kearney Agricultural Center, Parlier, CA
- 2:45 Subsurface Drip Irrigation and Possibilities in Alfalfa
Freddy Lamm, Kansas State University, Colby, KS
- 3:10 Discussion
- 3:15 BREAK

Fertility and Soil Management (Moderator: Shannon Mueller, UC Farm Advisor, Fresno, CA)

- 3:45 Management of Salinity in Alfalfa
Michelle Leinfelder-Miles, UC Cooperative Extension, Stockton, CA
- 4:10 Management of Phosphorus and Potassium for Alfalfa Production
Nick Clark, UC Cooperative Extension, Tulare, CA
- 4:35 Global Fertilizer Trends and Proper Interpretation of Your Soil Test Report
Rob Mikkelsen, International Plant Nutrition Institute, Merced, CA
- 5:00 Discussion
- 5:10 Adjourn

5:30pm-7:00pm EXHIBITOR RECEPTION AND CAFA AUCTION

DAY THREE – December 1, 2016

8:00am-12:30pm SYMPOSIUM MAIN SESSION

Producing Quality Alfalfa (Moderator: Konrad Mathesius, UCCE, Colusa, CA)

- 8:00 Defining and Re-defining Forage Quality
David Combs, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI
- 8:25 Changing Nature of Dairy Rations
Heidi Rossow, University of California Veterinary Medical Center, Tulare, CA
- 8:50 Key Agronomic Effects on Forage Quality
Dan Putnam, University of California, Davis, CA
- 9:15 Innovative Methods to Preserve Quality
Kevin Shinnors, University of Wisconsin, Madison WI
- 9:40 Preserving Quality and Other Advantages of Bale Wrapping: Iowa and California Experiences
Dan Funke, Funke Custom Baling & Hay Sales, Larchwood, IA, and Brandon Fawaz, Fawaz Farming, Etna, CA
- 10:05 Discussion
- 10:15am BREAK

Genes and the Future of Forage Crops (Moderator: Dan Putnam, University of California, Davis, CA)

- 10:40 Roundup Ready Alfalfa: Avoiding Injury while Maximizing Weed Control
Steve Orloff, UC Cooperative Extension, Yreka, CA
- 11:05 Emerging Genetic Technologies that May Impact Forage Crops
Charlie Brummer, Plant Breeding Center, University of California, Davis, CA
- 11:30 Low Lignin Alfalfa: Wide Area Field Test Results
Mark Sulc, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH
- 11:55 Roundtable Discussion Q & A: What is the Potential Role of Reduced Lignin for Alfalfa and Dairy Production Systems and Hay Markets?
Mark McCaslin, Forage Genetics International, Don Miller, Alforex Seeds, David Combs, University of Wisconsin, Heidi Rossow, University of California, Mark Sulc, The Ohio State University and Charlie Brummer, University of California
- 12:30 Adjourn