

# OLENA SAMBUCCI

Agricultural Issues Center □ UC Davis

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Risk Management, Precision Agriculture, Technology Adoption, Agricultural Policy, Behavioral Economics, Agricultural Pests and Diseases, Cannabis Regulation

## EDUCATION

- **Ph.D., Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Davis (2015)**  
Dissertation: “Essays on the Economics of Powdery Mildew Management in the California Grape Industry.” Committee: Travis J. Lybbert, Julian M. Alston and C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell.  
Fields: Natural Resource Economics, Econometrics, Agricultural Economics, Development Economics.
- **M.A., International and Development Economics, University of San Francisco (2005)**  
Thesis: “Role of Relational Contracts Among Entrepreneurs in Emerging Economies.”
- **B.A., Business Administration, International Christian University, Kyiv, Ukraine (2001)**

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Assistant Project Scientist, Agricultural Issues Center, UC Davis**  
March 2020–present
- **Postdoctoral Scholar, Department of Agricultural and Research Economics and Agricultural Issues Center, UC Davis**  
January 2018–March 2020  
[VitisGen2](#). Accelerating Grape Cultivar Improvement via Phenotyping Centers and Next Generation Markers. USDA Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) Project.  
October 2015–October 2019  
[Efficient Vineyard](#). Precision Vineyard Management: Collecting and Interpreting Spatial Data for Variable Vineyard Management. USDA Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) Project.
- **Graduate Student Researcher, Department of Agricultural and Research Economics, UC Davis (2009–2015)**  
An Ex Ante Analysis of An Automatic Powdery Mildew Sprayer. Supervisor: Travis Lybbert  
[VitisGen](#). Accelerating Grape Cultivar Improvement via Phenotyping Centers and Next Generation Markers. USDA Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) Project. Supervisor: Julian Alston  
Powdery Mildew Management Among California Grape Growers. Supervisor: Travis Lybbert

International Lipid Nutrient Supplement (iLiNS) Project. Supervisor: Travis Lybbert

- **Teaching Assistant, Department of Agricultural and Research Economics, UC Davis (2007-2012)**

## PUBLICATIONS

- Daniel A. Sumner, Robin S. Goldstein, William Matthews, and Olena Sambucci. 2020. “Legal and Illegal Cannabis in California: An Overview After Two Years of Taxation and Regulation.” In P.L. Martin, R.E. Goodhue, and B.D. Wright, eds, *California Agriculture: Dimensions and Issues*. Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, University of California.
- Julian M. Alston and Olena Sambucci. 2019. “Grapes in the World Economy.” In D. Cantu and M.A. Walker, eds, *The Grape Genome, Compendum of Plant Genomes*. Springer Nature Switzerland AG.
- Sambucci, Olena, Julian M. Alston, Kate B. Fuller and Jayson Lusk. 2019. “[Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Costs of Powdery Mildew Management: Evidence From California](#).” *American Journal of Enology and Viticulture* 70(2): 177–187.
- Julian M. Alston, James T. Lapsley, and Olena Sambucci. 2018. “[Grape and Wine Production in California](#).” In P.L. Martin, R.E. Goodhue, and B. D. Wright, eds, *California Agriculture: Dimensions and Issues*. Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, University of California.
- Ben Gordon, Olena Sambucci, Itai Trilnick, and David Zilberman. 2018. “[Research, Innovation, Supply Chains, and Precision Agriculture in California](#).” In P.L. Martin, R.E. Goodhue, and B.D. Wright, eds, *California Agriculture: Dimensions and Issues*. Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, University of California.
- Lapsley, J.T., J.M. Alston, and O. Sambucci. 2018. “[Structural features of the U.S. Wine Industry](#).” In: Alonso Ugaglia, A., Luis Miguel Albisu, Jean-Marie Cardebat, Alessandro Corsi, Chema Gil, and Simonetta Mazzarino, eds, *The Palgrave Handbook of Wine Industry Economics*. Palgrave-McMillan, New York.
- Alston, J.M., J.T. Lapsley, O. Sambucci, and D.A. Sumner. 2018. “[A Brief Economic History of the U.S. Wine Industry](#).” In Kym Anderson and Vicente Pinilla, eds, *Wine Globalization: A New Comparative History*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Sambucci, Olena, and Julian Alston. 2017. “[The True Value of California Winegrapes](#).” *Agricultural and Resource Economics Update* 21(1):1–4, Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, University of California.
- Sambucci, Olena, and Julian Alston. 2017. “[Estimating the Value of California Winegrapes](#).” *Journal of Wine Economics* 12(2): 149–160.
- Sambucci, Olena, and Travis J. Lybbert. 2016. “[Behavioral Responses to Disease Forecasts: From Precision to Automation in Powdery Mildew Management](#).” *Agricultural and Resource Economics Update* 20(1): 5–8, Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, University of California.
- Alston, Julian M., Kym Anderson and Olena Sambucci. 2015. “[Drifting Towards Bordeaux? The Evolving Varietal Emphasis of U.S. Wine Regions](#).” *Journal of Wine Economics* 10(3): 349–378.

- Fuller, Kate B., Julian M. Alston and Olena Sambucci. 2015. “Implantation de Cépages Résistants à l’Oidium en Californie.” *Revue des Oenologues*. Special Issue (November 2015):64–66.
- Fuller, Kate B., Julian M. Alston and Olena Sambucci. 2014. “[The Value of Powdery Mildew Resistance in Grapes: Evidence from California.](#)” *Wine Economics and Policy* 3(2): 90–107.
- Fuller, Kate B., Julian M. Alston, and Olena Sambucci. 2014. “[The Value of Powdery Mildew Resistance in Grapes: Evidence from California.](#)” *Agricultural and Resource Economics Update* 17(5): 1–4, Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, University of California.

## WORKING PAPERS

- Sambucci, Olena, Daniel A. Sumner, and Robin Goldstein. ”Effect of Taxes and Costly Regulations on the Licensed and Unlicensed Cannabis Markets.”
- Alston, Julian, and Olena Sambucci. ”Economics of Varietal Improvement in the California Table Grape Industry.”
- Sambucci, Olena, Julian M. Alston, Terry Bates, Kevin Martin. “Economic Benefits of Variable Rate Crop Load Management in Concord Vineyard.”
- Sambucci, Olena, and Travis J. Lybbert. “[Do Online Pest Management Courses Change Grower Behavior? Powdery Mildew and California Grape Growers.](#)”
- Sambucci, Olena, C.-Y. Cynthia Lin Lawell, and Travis J. Lybbert. “[Modeling the Spraying Decisions of Grape Growers In Response to Disease Forecasting Information: A Dynamic Structural Approach.](#)”
- Sambucci, Olena, Travis J. Lybbert and Julian M. Alston. “Drones in the Vineyard: An Ex Ante Assessment of An Automatic Powdery Mildew Sprayer for California Grapes.”

## CONFERENCE AND OUTREACH PRESENTATIONS

- Efficient Vineyard Special Outreach Session. American Society of Enology and Viticulture 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Napa, CA.
- Efficient Vineyard Research Showcase Meeting. June 2017.
- UC ANR Pesticide Use Report Analysis Workshop. UC Davis, June 9, 2016.
- Current Developments in Vineyard Mechanization and Precision Management. UC Davis, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016.
- Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA. July 26–28, 2015.
- Australian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES) Annual Conference. Rotorua, New Zealand. February 10–13, 2015.
- Robert Mondavi Center for Wine Economics. Wine Economics Research Mini-Symposium. Davis, CA. October 20, 2014.
- American Association of Wine Economists (AAWE) Annual Meeting. Walla Walla, Washington. June 22–25, 2014.

- Pests, Germs and Seeds: The Economics of Policies, Programs and Technologies for Managing Agricultural Pests and Diseases. Davis, CA. March 28–29, 2014.
- Giannini Agricultural and Resource Economics Student Conference (GARESC). Davis, CA. April 19, 2014.

## PRESS COVERAGE AND ONLINE CONTENT

- ["Should California winemakers be worried about China's tariffs?"](#) The Conversation, April 2018. Reposted by [NPR](#).
- ["Learning about the Quality of Grapes, Wine, and Vineyard Mechanization at Unified."](#) Efficient Vineyard Outreach Blog, February 2018.
- ["Ag-at-Large: California Wine Production Exceeds Records."](#) Western Farm Press, November 2017.
- ["Economics of Information and Precision Vineyard Management Technologies for Table Grapes and Wine Grapes."](#) Efficient Vineyard Research Blog. July 2017.
- ["Calculating the True Value of California Grapes: Externalities from the Efficient Vineyard Project."](#) Efficient Vineyard Outreach Blog, February 2017.
- ["The Value of Powdery Mildew Resistance in Grapes: Evidence from California."](#) LOCA (The Wines of Lodi, California) Coffee Shop Blog. 2014. (Reblogged by Lewis Purdue/Wine Industry Insight and Wine Industry Advisor, and featured on the VitisGen website).

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- Organization International de la Vigne et du Vin: Prix the OIV dans la catégorie « Économie Vitivinicole » (International Organization of Vine and Wine: Prize for Book in the "Economics of Vitiviniculture" category) for *Palgrave Handbook of Wine Industry Economics*. 2019. (Book includes the chapter "Structural Features of the U.S. Wine Industry" coauthored with J. Lapsley and J. Alston.).
- Most Downloaded ARE Update Article Award 2018/2019, for ["The True Value of California Winegrapes."](#) *Agricultural and Resource Economics Update* 21(1):1–4, Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, University of California.
- Jastro-Shields Award 2009-2010, 2010-2011, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, UC Davis.
- University Block Grant Fellowship, Spring 2008, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, UC Davis.
- Leo T. McCarthy Center for Public Service and the Common Good Research Grant, 2004, University of San Francisco Department of Economics.
- Academic Merit Scholarship, 2004-2005, University of San Francisco Department of Economics.
- Research Grant, Spring 2004, University of San Francisco Department of Economics.

## **SERVICE**

- Referee Service:  
American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Journal of Wine Economics, Wine Economics and Policy, American Journal of Enology and Viticulture, World Development Journal.
- Public Service  
Yolo County Aviation Advisory Committee, District 2 Representative, 2019–2021.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Proficient in STATA, Matlab.

Languages: Native Russian, Ukrainian. Fluent English. Basic French.