

University of California
Desert Agriculture & Natural Resources Symposium
Wednesday, February 28, 2018

University of California Riverside, Palm Desert Campus
75080 Frank Sinatra Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92211

For question / further information regarding, please contact the main organizers;

Oli Bachie, [Agronomy Advisor, Imperial County, \(obachie@ucanr.edu\)](mailto:obachie@ucanr.edu), (442)265-7700; Desert WG co-chair and UCCE Imperial County Director
Etaferahu Takele, Farm Management Economics Advisor, southern California, ettakele@ucanr.edu, (951) 683-649, UCCE Riverside County Director
Janet Hartin, Environmental Horticulture advisor, San Bernardino, Riverside and Los Angeles Counties, jshartin@ucanr.edu, (951) 313-2023 UCCE San Bernardino County Director

Who Should Attend? Growers, Agronomists, Land Managers, Landscapers, Livestock Industry Personnel, and Other Public Agency and Allied Industry Professionals Involved in Desert Farming and Farm-Related Activities Will Benefit from Attendance.

PLENARY SESSION (FREE)
8:00 AM-11:45 AM

Time	Presentation	Speaker (s)
8:00 AM	Welcome	Oli Bachie, Co-Chair Desert Workgroup
8:05 AM	UCANR Programs and Strategic Initiatives	Wendy Powers, UCANR Associate Vice President
8:25 AM	UCANR Strategic Initiatives and Statewide Programs	Mark Bell, UC ANR Vice Provost
8:45 AM	UCR's Role in Desert Agriculture	Kathryn Uhrich & Peggy Mauk (UCR)
9:15 AM	Overview of UCCE Research and Education Programs in the Desert	UCCE County Directors Eta Takele, Janet Hartin, and Oli Bachie
9:45 AM	Coffee Break	
10:00 AM	Role of the Riverside County Agricultural Commissioner	Ruben Arroyo

PLENARY SESSION/cont..

10:20 – 11:15 AM	Overview of Non-Profit Organizations Serving the Desert (Speakers from several organizations)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Al Kalin Representative, Imperial County Farm Bureau• Yvonne Franco CV Resource Conservation District• Ellen Way CV Chapter, Women for Agriculture• Jim Schmidt Hi-Lo Golf Course Association• Katie Barrows CV Association of governments• Ginny Short CV Preserve• xxxxx Friends of Desert Mountains

On-Site Lunch (nominal fee): 11:15 AM to 12:15 PM

You are Invited to Bring your lunch into the auditorium and hear *Marion Champion*'s Update on the Salton Sea

Concurrent Afternoon Sessions

12:15 PM-5:30 PM

(\$40 if Pre-registered by February 23, 2018)

Participants Must Register on the CAPCA Website:

<https://capca.com/events/palm-desert-capca-ed-uc-anr-desert-agriculture-landscape-symposium/>

Sessions	Moderator (s)
<i>Session I:</i> Irrigation and Crop Production	Pratap Devkota & Ali Montazar
<i>Session II:</i> Landscape Management	Janet Hartin
<i>Session III:</i> Livestock Production	Brooke Latack

Concurrent Session I: Irrigation and Crop Production Session

12:15 Session Overview

- 12:20 Strategies for Improving Irrigation Efficiency in the Low Desert Region:** Ali Montazar, UCCE, Irrigation & water management advisor, Imperial & Riverside counties, Holtville, CA;
- 12:40 Alternative Low Water Use Crops in the Low Desert** – Khaled Bali, UCCE Irrigation Water Management Specialist, Kearney Agricultural Research & Extension Center, Parlier, CA;
- 1:00 Irrigation Management for Salinity Control,** Todd Skaggs, US Salinity Laboratory, USDA agricultural Research Service, Riverside, CA;
- 1:20 Pests, Soil health and Biochar-** Michael Piña., UC Cooperative Extension Specialist & Plant Physiologist, UCR, Riverside, CA;
- 1:40 Update on the Diamondback Moth in the Desert-** John Plaumbo, University of Arizona;
- 2: 00 Insect and Disease Problems of Vegetable Crops in the Coachella Valley-** – Jose Aguiar, Vegetable Crops Farm Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension Riverside County, Indio, CA;
- 2:20 Management of Canker Disease on Table Grapes in the Coachella Valley** – Carmen Gispert, Area Viticulture/Pest Management Advisor, UCCE, Riverside County, Indio, CA;
- 2:40 – 2:55 PM - BREAK**
- 2:55 Downy mildew and other diseases of vegetables in desert production -** Alexander Putman, Assistant Specialist in Cooperative Extension and Assistant Plant Pathologist, UC Riverside, Riverside, CA;
- 3:15 Bell Pepper Nematodes of the Coachella Valley and other Desert fields -** Antoon Ploeg, Associate Nematologist & Associate CE Nematology Specialist, UC Riverside, Riverside, CA;
- 3:35 Weeds of Low Desert Region and Their Identification,** Pratap Devkota, Weed Science Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension Imperial & Riverside Counties, Holtville, CA;
- 3:55 Climatic factors and bunch management influence date fruit skin separation -** Sonia Rios, Area Subtropical Horticulture Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension Riverside & San Diego Counties, Moreno Valley, CA;
- 4:15 Causes of Sugarbeet Seedling Mortality and Emergence Failure in the Imperial Valley-** Steve Kaffka, Extension Specialist, Department of Plant Sciences and Director, California Biomass Collaborative, UC, Davis, CA;

4:35 **DPR Laws and Regulations Update** – Riverside County Agricultural Commissioner’s office, Moreno Valley, CA (UCR PD auditorium)

5:30 **Session Adjourns;**

Concurrent Session II: Landscape Management Session

12: 15 **Diseases of Landscape Trees** – Akif Eskalen, Department of Plant Pathology UCR, CA;

1:15 **Update on the South American Palm Weevil** - Mark Hoddle, UCR, Riverside, CA;

2:15 – 2:30 PM – BREAK

2:30 **Identification and Control of Invasive Plants in the Coachella Valley** - Chris McDonald, UCCE, San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego Counties;

3:30 **Disease-Resistant Landscape Trees for the Coachella Valley** - Janet Hartin, UCCE, San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego Counties;

4:30 **DPR Laws & Regulations Update**-Riverside County Agricultural Commissioner’s Office (UCR PD auditorium);

5:30 **Session Adjourns;**

Concurrent Session III: Livestock and Feed Quality Session (12:15 – 5:30 PM)

12:30 **Instruction to the session**

12:35 **TBD (forage analysis/quality)** – Daniel Putnam, Agronomist and Forage Specialist, UC Cooperative Extension, Davis, CA;

1:05 **U.S. forage exports: Markets, trends, and challenges** – Bill Plourd, President/CEO El Toro Export, LLC;

1:35 **Bovine tuberculosis in California and Mexico** – Dr. Andrea Mikolon, DVM, MPVM, Binational Liaison for Animal Health, California Department of Food and Agriculture, Animal Health and Food Safety Services;

2:05 **Common diseases in backyard poultry flocks** – Dr. Alisha Olmstead, DVM, California Department of Food and Agriculture, Animal Health and Food Safety Services;

2:35 – 2:50: BREAK

2:50 **Heat stress and dairy cattle productivity, a challenge to solve in Northwestern Mexico** – Leonel Avendaño-Reyes, Research Professor, Instituto de Ciencias Agrícolas at the Universidad Autonoma de Baja California, Mexico;

3:20 **Physiological and metabolic responses to heat in livestock** – Miguel Cervantes, Researcher, Instituto de Ciencias Agrícolas at the Universidad Autonoma de Baja California;

3:50 **Desert Livestock Research Update** – Brooke Latack, Livestock Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension Imperial, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, Holtville, CA;

4:20 **Final Comments**

4:30 **DPR Laws & Regulations Update**-Riverside County Agricultural Commissioner's Office (UCR PD Auditorium)

5:30 **Session Adjourns;**