

# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

## AGRICULTURE AND WEIGHTS & MEASURES NEWSLETTER

Spring 2013

Santa Barbara County Agriculture  
and Weights & Measures

### EMERGENCY PROJECT AGAINST ASIAN CITRUS PSYLLID IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Submitted by Katie Caterino, Agricultural Biologist, taken in part from CDFA

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Adult Asian Citrus Psyllid

Recent detections of the Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP), *Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama, in Santa Maria, Santa Barbara and Goleta have triggered an emergency program against ACP in Santa Barbara County. The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) conducted additional surveys around the detection sites in

order to determine the extent of the infestation, and to define an appropriate response area around each detection site. Emergency action is necessary to protect Santa Barbara County and more largely, California, from the negative environmental and economic impact this pest will cause, should it be allowed to remain in this area and spread.

ACP is an exotic insect that is originally from Asia. It has been introduced into Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Mexico. In the United States, ACP has been found in Alabama, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and California (San Diego, Orange, Los Angeles, Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura, Santa Barbara counties). ACP feed on members of the plant family Rutaceae, primarily on *Citrus* and *Murraya* species, but it also known to attack several other genera. The most serious damage caused by ACP is due to it vectoring the phloem-inhabiting bacteria in the genus *Candidatus Liberibacter*, the causal agents of huanglongbing (HLB). HLB is considered one of the most devastating diseases of citrus in the world. Symptoms of HLB include yellow shoots with mottling and chlorosis of the leaves, misshapen fruit, fruit that does not fully color, and fruit that has a very bitter taste, making it unfeasible for human consumption.

#### CONTACT US:

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Mottling and chlorosis of the leaves



Misshapen fruit



Fruit not fully colored

Continued on next page...

## EMERGENCY PROJECT AGAINST ASIAN CITRUS PSYLLID IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

...continued from previous page

This pest presents a major threat to citrus grown in the State. California is the top citrus-producing state in the U.S., with total production valued at over \$1.8 billion. Additionally, the establishment of ACP in California would increase the need for pesticide use by commercial and residential citrus producers, as well as require enforcement of quarantine restrictions. Recent studies in Florida have shown that the presence of HLB increases citrus production costs by up to 40 percent and has resulted in a loss of over \$7 billion and 6600 jobs over the last five years. Because HLB has been detected in Mexico, the establishment of ACP in California will pave the way for HLB to spread. HLB would have severe consequences to both the citrus industry and to the urban landscape via the decline and the death of citrus trees.

The emergency program in Santa Barbara County is based on recommendations developed in consultations with the California HLB Task Force, the United State Department of Agriculture, the Primary State Entomologist, and the Primary State Plant Pathologist. Based on these recommendations, the program includes insecticide treatments to control all life stages of ACP. In accordance with integrated pest management principles, CDFA has evaluated possible eradication methods and determined that there are no mechanical, biological or cultural control methods available to eradicate ACP. To comply with the Food and Agriculture Code (FAC) mandates, the treatment plan for ACP eradication in Santa Barbara County is as follows:

- ◆ Tempo®SC Ultra (cyfluthrin), a contact insecticide for controlling the adult and nymph life stages of ACP, will be applied to the foliage of host plants; and
- ◆ Merit®2F or CoreTect™(imidacloprid), a systemic insecticide for controlling the immature life stages of ACP, will be applied to the soil underneath host plants.

Tempo®SC Ultra and Merit®2F are applied from the ground using hydraulic spray equipment. CoreTect™, if used in place of Merit®2F, is applied by inserting the tablets into the ground and watering.



Agricultural Biologist, Tom Donlon (left), oversees an ACP treatment in Santa Maria

Treatments to eradicate ACP from Santa Barbara County have commenced around the detection sites in Santa Maria. CDFA and contracted pest control companies are carrying out the treatment protocol as described above. Santa Barbara County Agricultural Biologists are on site to witness treatments and ensure all California pesticide laws and regulations are being followed. Treatments around the most recent detection site in Goleta will commence in the very near future. Residents of affected properties will be invited to a public meeting where officials from CDFA, the Department of Pesticide Regulation, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, and the Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner's Office will be available to address residents' questions and concerns. Residents are notified in writing at least 48 hours in advance of any treatment in accordance with FAC Section 5779. After treatment, completion notices are left with the residents detailing precautions to take and post-harvest intervals applicable to the citrus fruit.

Please contact CDFA's toll-free telephone number 800-491-1899 and staff will be able to assist with any questions related to this project.

## MATTHEW MAITEN APPOINTED DEPUTY SEALER

Submitted by Cathy Fisher, Agricultural Commissioner



Deputy Sealer, Matthew Maiten, and his 1930's visible gas pump.

I am pleased to announce two new additions to our Santa Barbara office, our new Deputy Sealer, Matthew Maiten, and his 1930's visible gas pump displayed in the main lobby. Matt spent the last 13 years working for the Ventura County Department of Weights & Measures, where he was a Senior Inspector and assisted the county Sealer with daily administrative functions. After graduating with a BS in Biology from California State University, Los Angeles, he started his career in the County Agricultural Commissioner's system as a trapper for Los Angeles County in 1995. He then became a full time Inspector, and later moved to Ventura.

Matt brings to our department a wealth of technical expertise from device inspections, price and quantity inspections, to working with industry and cooperating with the district attorney's office and our local and state agency partners. Matt has been a long time member of California Association of Standards and Agricultural Professionals and served on the Board of Directors. He has contributed to many of their annual conferences and training sessions.

In the challenging days ahead at the Agricultural Commissioner's Office, Matt looks forward to working with members of the Department to build the Weights & Measures division in order to protect and educate the businesses and consumers of Santa Barbara County. Please join me in welcoming Matt to our Department.

## TWO STAFF MEMBERS AWARDED 30 YEAR SERVICE PINS

Submitted by Katie Caterino, Agricultural Biologist

On December 11, 2012, two staff members of the Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures Office, David Chang and Rod Ross, were awarded with 30 year service pins.



David Chang was hired on October 8, 1981 as an Agricultural Biologist II, starting as a pesticide enforcement inspector. David graduated in 1980 from San Diego State University with a BS in Zoology, emphasis in Entomology. He was the department's first computer administrator and webmaster. In 1990, David was promoted to Supervising Agricultural Biologist of Pesticide Enforcement and Pest Detection. In 2001, David restarted the Department's noxious weed program. He is currently working as the department's Weed Management Program Specialist. David enjoys helping

protect property, agriculture and habitat from noxious weed infestations.



Rod Ross was hired on December 8, 1981 as a Weights and Measures Inspector I. Rod earned a BS in Physical Education, specializing in exercise physiology and sports medicine, in 1976. Rod spent many years working in the health and fitness field before being hired on at the Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures Office. Rod was promoted to a Weights and Measures Inspector III in 1985. Rod enjoys the variety of services he provides, as well as the science behind the Weights and Measures programs.

Please join us in congratulating and thanking David and Rod for their commitment and dedication to serving Santa Barbara County.

## INVASION OF THE DEATH CAPS

Submitted by Heather Scheck, Plant Pathologist

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*Amanita phalloides* is an introduced species that is spreading like crazy throughout the oak woodlands of California. It is now found from the Sierra foothills to the Channel Islands and it is the number one cause of fatal mushroom poisonings worldwide.

The Death Cap was first collected in California in 1938 but it's a European species, forming ecto mycorrhizal associations with the roots of several different trees. It may have been introduced with the Cork Oak (*Quercus suber*) or it may have come in with fruit or nut trees. In this mutualistic relationship, the mycelium of the fungus grows interconnected with the tree roots – the fungus receives carbohydrate, and the tree receives hard to gather micronutrients (mostly phosphorus) and water in exchange. Most trees have co-evolved with mycorrhizal fungi but their native partners are being displaced by the Death Cap, making it the first documented invasive mycorrhizal fungus.

This maybe a problem for the natural diversity and ecology of our oak woodlands, but the bigger danger is to people. In their button stages, the Death Cap, and its close relative the Destroying Angel (*A. ocreata*), look like edible puffballs due to their enclosure in a universal veil, which surrounds the embryonic cap and stipe. And these two killers are said to taste sweet or very slightly acrid when cooked and are quite tasty with no bad odors. However, eating them exposes you to highly stable proteins called amatoxins. If untreated, your body cannot rid itself of these toxins and the result is liver failure and even death. Medical treatment should be sought immediately and can greatly improve your chances of survival, but you can still expect excruciating pain and permanent damage to your liver.

Death Caps can be found at all times of the year but are most abundant during the early winter rainy season through late spring. Even during our rainless summers they can be found in areas of coastal fog drip or in stands of irrigated oaks. They spread through windblown spores.

Please remember there are no easy ways to identify mushrooms. Don't rely on amateurs or anecdotes about smells or textures or tarnishing silver coins. Many poisonings occur when people think Death Caps are the same as edible mushrooms they have known from other parts of the world.



Description: Death Cap, *Amanita phalloides*: large cap (6 to 15 cm), cap color varies from olivaceous or greenish brown to a brassy yellow brown, at times fading to dingy yellowish or buff. The surface is slightly to moderately tacky when moist. As the mushroom expands beyond the button stage, the cap breaks the outer or universal veil, leaving a thin white volva at the base and a few thin white patches on the cap. The gills, stipe and volva are also white. The gills of mature specimens are free and fairly close together. The thin cup or sac-like free-margined volva may not be seen, unless the whole specimen is dug up. A white secondary veil protects the young gills on the underside of the cap. When this partial veil breaks, it leaves a thin membranous ring on the stipe. This veil remnant atrophies or disappears with aging.

## ALONG CAME A SPIDER...

Submitted by Brian Cabrera, Entomologist

When people bring spiders to the Ag Commissioner's Office for identification, the two most common questions they ask are: "What kind of spider is it?" and "Is it a brown recluse?". The most common spiders we see are orb-weavers, wolf spiders, funnel weaver/grass spiders, house and sac spiders, and false widows – but we have never seen a brown recluse. The main reason we haven't is because the brown recluse is not native to California. The brown recluse spider's home range is the Midwest, Texas, and the Gulf states. California does have a native recluse spider, the desert recluse, but it is found in the desert areas. Brown recluses are somewhat easy to identify because they have six eyes. All of the suspects I have seen have had eight eyes. There have never been any confirmed occurrences of a brown recluse spider in Santa Barbara County.



Brown recluse spider with six eyes



Sun spider

I have also identified a few sun spiders (aka camel spiders, solifugids, and solpugids) which are not actually spiders but closely related to them. They look threatening because they have large fangs, scurry quickly on the floor, and often raise their front appendages, but they are relatively harmless. Sun spiders have been the subject of Internet myths with reports of them screaming while chasing people, and a popular photo from the early days of the Iraq War showed a sun spider which looked like it was two feet long.

Many people worry about getting bit by a spider and think they are dangerous. However, spiders are not aggressive and usually try to flee and hide if they are disturbed. The black widow is the only native spider with highly toxic venom but their bites are rarely fatal. People often conclude that a small puncture or irritation on the skin is from a spider bite. However, studies have shown spider bites are often erroneously diagnosed by medical personnel. Few people actually see a spider biting them and I have only encountered one instance of a confirmed spider bite. Most bites occur when someone picks up wood, boxes, etc. and accidentally grabs an unseen spider. Wearing gloves is the best protection from getting bit.

In the last few years the non-native brown widow spider has been found throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties but so far, we have only seen one brown widow here in Santa Barbara County. The brown widow has a similar body shape as the black widow but has a mottled brown color with an orange rather than red hourglass shape on the underside of the abdomen. Fortunately, the bite of a brown widow is less toxic than a black widow's.

If you find a spider and would like it identified, bring the specimen to any of our offices. You can also visit these sites for more information:

University of California, Riverside spider pages: <http://spiders.ucr.edu/>

University of California, Integrated Pest Management: <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/menu.house.html>

University of California, Irvine - Pictures of sun spiders: <http://www.dbc.uci.edu/~pjbryant/biodiv/Other%20Arachnids/Solifugid.htm>



Brown widow

## ARE DAMAGING WOOD-BORING BEETLES BEING SPREAD THROUGH INFESTED FIREWOOD?

Submitted by Brian Cabrera, Entomologist

Some of the greatest threats to our trees come from exotic pests and diseases. Back east, invasive species like the emerald ash borer and Asian longhorned beetle are killing thousands of trees. Fortunately, neither of these beetles has been found in California, but in the past few years two species of concern, the polyphagous shothole borer and the goldspotted oak borer, have been found in parts of southern California.



Goldspotted Oak Borer



Polyphagous Shothole Borer

The goldspotted oak borer (GSOB) has been responsible for the deaths of thousands of oak trees in the mountains of San Diego County. The polyphagous shothole borer (PSHB) has been found infesting numerous trees in Los Angeles, Orange and San Bernardino Counties and infecting some species, including avocado, box elder, coast live oak, and sycamore, with an unidentified fungal disease.

PSHB is a major threat to California's avocado industry while GSOB could have a devastating impact on oaks in our landscapes, parks, and woodlands.

Although GSOB and PSHB can spread naturally by flying, a major pathway for these pests to be spread quickly over long distances is through the movement of infested firewood. Huge piles of wood are created after trees killed by these pests are cut down and the natural inclination is to use it for firewood. Anybody that takes this infested wood when they go camping in other parts of the state could be unknowingly spreading these pests. This appears to be what happened in Idyllwild in the San Jacinto Mountains of Riverside County where a single oak tree was found infested with GSOB. GSOB begins emerging in May so we won't know for a few months if there'll be any new finds elsewhere in the state. Meanwhile, PSHB continues to be found in more

locations in the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys.

Because of the widespread damage that GSOB has already caused to oaks in San Diego County, a multi-organization workgroup was created there to



Oak tree damage caused by GSOB

address the problem and create public awareness. Plans are underway for the creation of a GSOB Taskforce to help stop the spread of this pest and develop action plans should it show up in other counties. A California Firewood Task Force has also been created which is working to protect forests by providing education and outreach to the public and industries involved in recreation and wood use. They established the "Buy It Where You Burn It" campaign to encourage everybody to leave firewood at home and buy it from local sources. The avocado industry is funding research on PHSB and the unidentified fungus. Public and industry education and cooperation will be extremely important in finding and preventing further spread of GSOB and PSHB as well as the introduction and establishment of new wood-borer pests in California.

As always, the Agricultural Commissioner's Office will accept beetles, other pests, and plant disease samples for identification. For more information on GSOB, PHSB, the Firewood Task Force and other invasive pests, please visit the following sites on the Web:

[http://civr.ucr.edu/goldspotted\\_oak\\_borer.html](http://civr.ucr.edu/goldspotted_oak_borer.html)

[http://civr.ucr.edu/polyphagous\\_shot\\_hole\\_borer.html](http://civr.ucr.edu/polyphagous_shot_hole_borer.html)

<http://firewood.ca.gov/index.html>

<http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/invasives/>

<http://www.hungrypests.com/>

## NATIONAL WEIGHTS AND MEASURES WEEK

Submitted by Chris Tyler, Weights and Measures Inspector



Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> marked the beginning of National Weights and Measures Week. This annual event celebrates the role played by Weights and Measures officials both locally and across the nation, who are responsible for price and quantity inspections, and the verification of

weighing and measuring devices used in commerce.

Consumers take it for granted that they automatically get what they pay for when purchasing items sold by weight, volume, count, or measure. It is the mandate of Weights and Measures officials to ensure the integrity of these transactions through routine inspections where they certify the accuracy of the devices used in these transactions.

The theme for Weights & Measures Week 2013 was "It's Common Cents", a topic designed to show the relationship between funding for the program and the payback that consumers receive from accurate business transactions. Stephen Benjamin, the National Conference

for Weights and Measures chairman, said "Weights and Measures enforcement has been a fundamental role of civilized governments for 5,000 years, accuracy in commerce serves the common interest of every person and every business owner, and it comes at a very affordable cost to taxpayers."

Due to ongoing Weights and Measures Programs, consumers can have confidence in the marketplace and retailers can depend on unbiased, regulatory oversight to ensure fair competition in the industry.

The date of March 1<sup>st</sup> holds significance in weights and measures history. On March 2, 1799, President John Adams signed the first United States weights and measures law. The National Conference of Weights and Measures is a professional not-for-profit association of state and local weights and measures officials, federal agencies, manufactures, retailers and consumers.

For additional information, contact the Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures Office in Santa Barbara at (805) 681-5600 or in Santa Maria at (805) 934-6200.

## 2012 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

By USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service



There is little rest for U.S. farmers and ranchers this spring as many rush to submit their 2012 Census of Agriculture forms. Knowing that information from the Census is used to shape local, state and national farm services, programs and policies, many producers have already answered the call to respond to the Census and share their story. USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) thanks those producers for completing their Census – ensuring their voice is heard and their farm is represented for the future of agriculture – and reminds others to respond now.

Have you responded yet? Although the deadline to submit Census forms recently passed, NASS stresses that it is not too late for producers to respond. YES, farmers can still send in their forms to be counted.

Conducted only once every five years by NASS, the Census provides detailed data covering nearly every facet of U.S. agriculture at the national, state and county levels. It looks at land use and ownership, production practices, expenditures and other factors that affect the way farmers do business. Decision makers and commodity groups at the local and national level use Census of Agriculture data to make decisions that directly impact farmers, their operations and their communities – whether the farm is two acres or 2,000 acres.

"The Census is the leading source of facts about American agriculture," said Renee Picanso, NASS Census and Survey Division Director. "The wealth of data available from the Census includes statistics on small, family farms to large farms; information on young farmers to older farmers; and insight into traditional, rural farming versus trends in areas such as lifestyle and urban farming. The information gathered is important, so it can provide a true picture of where U.S. agriculture is today and help plan for tomorrow."

Farmers can return their forms by mail or online by visiting a secure website, [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov). Federal law requires all agricultural producers to participate in the Census and requires NASS to keep all individual information confidential.

"If you have questions about the Census; lost, did not receive, or need help filling out your form, I encourage you to visit [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov) or call 1-888-4AG-STAT (1-888-424-7828)," added Picanso. "NASS has helpful tips available and people standing by to provide assistance – we want to help you share the story of American agriculture and be counted."

## PROPAGATING NATIVE OAKS AND EDUCATION

Submitted by Robyn Moon, Santa Barbara County Farm Bureau

As spring approaches, native oak tree seedlings are sprouting at many Santa Barbara County High Schools. The Santa Barbara County Oak Tree Education Program spent the fall and winter months collecting over 6,000 acorns and planting oak seedlings with Cabrillo, Carpinteria, Lompoc, and Santa Ynez High Schools. These oaks are being planted in an effort to ensure that the population of native oaks in our county is sustained through the Oak Tree Protection Ordinance.

The Oak Tree Protection Ordinance only covers land that is zoned for agriculture that is not in the coastal zone and not part of any project that would require a building permit. Questions about oak removal on non-agricultural land, in the coastal zone or projects requiring building permits should be directed to the Planning and Development Department.

The County now has a contract with the Santa Barbara County Farm Bureau for the public outreach and oak tree regeneration components of this program. Robyn Moon, the program coordinator, utilizes local agriculture education and horticulture programs to propagate oak seedlings to be used for regeneration throughout the Santa Barbara County.

As part of the SBC Oak Tree Education Program, Robyn also visits two elementary schools in the Lompoc area for their annual Ag days. They have planted nearly 1000 acorns with children in grades K-6. Those children get to take home their seedling, care for it and eventually transplant. In an effort to start educating the community at an early age, the Program Coordinator would like to start more planting projects in elementary school classrooms. If you are interested in having an oak tree planting project in your classroom, please contact Robyn Moon at the Santa Barbara County Farm Bureau.



Santa Ynez High School class



Santa Ynez High School students planting acorns



Carpinteria High School class with planted acorns



A second Carpinteria High School class with planted acorns

## RUTH JENSEN HONORED AS AMERICAN AGRI-WOMAN LEAVEN AWARD WINNER

By Abby Amick (taken from: <http://www.americanagriwomen.org>)

The LEAVEN award is the highest honor bestowed on a member of American Agri-Women. Nominated by her peers, these women exemplify the meaning of the words that make up 'LEAVEN': Loyalty, Enthusiastic, Anticipatory, Valiant, Effectiveness and Nurturing. The first Awards Committee (1977) came up with the word "Leaven" as a means of evaluating the candidates. "Leaven" (yeast) is a small element that can interact and influence everything around it. It permeates and raises the elements it's mixed with. Leaven multiplies its effectiveness for good. AAW presents the LEAVEN AWARD to those persons who, to an outstanding degree, have acted as "leaven", a truly feminine concept since "lady" means giver of bread.

The 2012 recipient, Ruth Jensen, of Santa Maria, California was nominated by Wisconsin Women for Agriculture. Ruth currently serves as the AAW StART Chair for Food Safety and is on the Media and Public Relations Committee for American Agri-Women.



Ruth Jensen, American Agri-Woman LEAVEN Award winner

Ruth is the Business and Political Affairs Specialist for United Agribusiness League, representing the agriculture industry and members throughout the Central Coast of California in Washington, D.C. Ruth is currently in her 2nd term as a member of the Santa Barbara County Human Services Commission as well as her first term on the Santa Barbara County Agricultural Advisory Commission.

In her position as Legislative Assistant to the Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee in Colorado, Ruth was motivated to complete her education and begin a policy consulting career on behalf of farmers and farm organizations. She has worked with a variety of groups, including, World Bank, United Nations, and the US State Department. Ruth has been involved in work on water resources, water quality and environmental issues on behalf of farmers and ranchers.

"We, as women's agricultural organizations & individuals, unite to communicate with one another and with other consumers to promote agriculture for the benefit of the American people and the world." Ruth embraces the mission of American Agri-Women through mentoring a new generation of AAW members, communicating with news media on current topics pertaining to the agriculture industry, sharing AAW's viewpoint and message to partner organizations, all the while strengthening the foothold of American Agriculture by helping to form new affiliates across the country.

Congratulations to Ruth Jensen, a 2012 recipient of the prestigious American Agri-Women LEAVEN Award.



**Cachuma Resource Conservation District**  
*Your Local Partner in Conservation*

### Strawberry Production Manual

*being produced for June 2013*

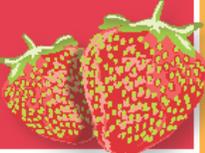


Topics include:

- Local Production Calendar
- Business Management
- Cost of Production
- Market Trends and Outlets
- Food Safety
- Regulatory Compliance
- Site Establishment
- Plant Establishment
- Irrigation Management
- In-Season Fertilizer Management
- Pest and Disease Management
- Harvest and Post-harvest

Cachuma RCD will be soliciting feedback on draft versions of the manual beginning in April. This manual will be available in both English & Spanish.

To contribute suggestions for manual content, please contact Julie Fallon  
(805) 928-9269 Ext. 116 or E-mail: [jfallon@rcdsantabarbara.org](mailto:jfallon@rcdsantabarbara.org)



RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT \*The RCD, NRCs, UCCs & FSA are equal opportunity providers and employers.\*



**UCCE MASTER GARDENERS OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**  
**ANNUAL PLANT SALE and MINI LECTURE SERIES**

**DATE:** Sunday, April 7, 2013  
**TIME:** 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
**PLACE:** Earl Warren Showgrounds  
 Lawn Area at the Exhibition Hall  
 3400 Calle Real  
 Santa Barbara, CA 93105

**FEATURES:** For Sale: Plants - Books - Garden Items – Seeds (Cash Only, please)  
 Information: Mini-Lectures and “Advice to Grow By” Booth



**MINI LECTURE SERIES SCHEDULE at the ANNUAL PLANT SALE**  
**10:00 AM: BEES** - Master Gardener Barbara Hughes  
**10:45 AM: FABULOUS HERBS** – Master Gardener Katy Renner  
**11:30 AM: GROWING RASPBERRIES LOCALLY** - Master Gardener Ken Falstrom  
**12:15 PM: BUTTERFLY GARDENS** - Master Gardener Lynn Kirby  
**1:00 PM: COMPOSTING** - Master Gardener Steve Lewis  
 Note: Each lecture will be approximately 20-30 minutes followed by Q & A session.



**Drosophila Management for Strawberries**

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

English Session - 10:30 a.m. to noon  
 Spanish Session – 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Santa Maria Library – Shepard Hall  
 421 S. McClelland Street  
 Santa Maria, CA 93454

The California Strawberry Commission is hosting a meeting for growers and PCAs on drosophila management. This meeting will address identification, field monitoring, and management strategies for drosophila and spotted wing drosophila in strawberries. Topics will be presented by Dr. Hillary Thomas of the California Strawberry Commission and Kelly Hamby, graduate student, U.C. Davis entomology laboratory of Dr. Frank Zalom.

1.5 hours of continuing education have been solicited from California DPR.

**Main Offices****Santa Barbara**

263 Camino del Remedio  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110-1335  
Phone: (805) 681-5600  
FAX: (805) 681-5603  
Hours: M-F 8:00AM to 4:30PM

**Santa Maria**

624 W. Foster Rd., Suite E  
Santa Maria, CA 93455-3623  
Phone: (805) 934-6200  
FAX: (805) 934-6202  
Hours: M-F 8:00AM to 4:30PM

**District Offices****Carpinteria**

941 Walnut Avenue  
Carpinteria, CA 93103  
Phone: (805) 681-5600  
FAX: (805) 681-5603  
Hours: By Appointment Only

**Solvang**

1745 Mission Drive  
Solvang, CA 93463  
Phone: (805) 686-5064  
FAX: (805) 686-5065  
Hours: Tuesdays 1:00 to 2:00 PM  
and By Appointment

**Lompoc**

401 E. Cypress Avenue  
Lompoc, CA 93436-6806  
Phone: (805) 737-7733  
FAX: (805) 737-7735  
Hours: By Appointment Only

[www.agcommissioner.com](http://www.agcommissioner.com)

<http://www.facebook.com/agcommissioner>

## STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

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Katie Bell (left) and Kendra Stites (right), Administrative Office Professionals, were recognized by the Board of Supervisors as Santa Barbara County Employees of the Month, January 2013. Katie and Kendra were recognized for their repeated acceptance of additional duties and responsibilities, and their desire to learn and grow personally and professionally. Katie and Kendra are positive forces in the department who embrace the County's core ACE values in their willingness to hold themselves accountable, their commitment to quality customer service, and their fearlessness to initiate change to improve efficiency. Katie and Kendra share their opinions and ideas openly and honestly, listen attentively to others, do not shy away from conflict or confrontation, and treat everyone professionally, with warmth, courtesy and respect. Katie and Kendra understand all aspects of providing administrative support to all divisions of the Agricultural Commissioner's Office as they both successfully tackled the challenging dynamics of the department's new Weights and Measures ordinance and met the administrative needs and demands of the Agricultural Advisory Committee. Katie and Kendra do so many things to make other staff's jobs easier, and their overall compassion and dedication to public service serve as models for the entire Department.

Please join us in congratulating Katie and Kendra and thanking them for their exceptional service.