



CSC Research Update

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Introduction



RosBREED

DISEASE RESISTANCE × HORTICULTURAL QUALITY → SUPERIOR CULTIVARS



WWW.ROSBREED.ORG



Region III Waterboard Grant

- ▶ 3-year project
 - ▶ Santa Maria, Salinas & Watsonville

GOALS:

- ▶ Develop a pilot voluntary certification program for strawberries
- ▶ Define best practices for irrigation and nutrient management
- ▶ Recognize & reward strawberry operations that use effective irrigation, nutrient and pest management BMPs
- ▶ Cultivate positive relationships with water regulators

Voluntary Water Quality Certification Program

- ▶ Set of BMPs identified by growers through a consensus process and adopted
- ▶ List of protocols a company follows that serve as evidence a practice is being implemented
- ▶ Third party verification process

Certification Program Benefits

- ▶ Voluntary
- ▶ Growers know what to expect to be in compliance
- ▶ BMPs are defined and standards are strawberry-specific
- ▶ Regulatory Relief: e.g., move to a lower tier
- ▶ Confidentiality: All growing information is maintained by the grower or third party; not to the Waterboard
- ▶ CSC will develop training programs for BMPs

Irrigation Monitoring

- ▶ Santa Maria, Watsonville/Salinas, Oxnard
- ▶ Irrigation training classes



CSC Sprayer Calibration Survey (2016)

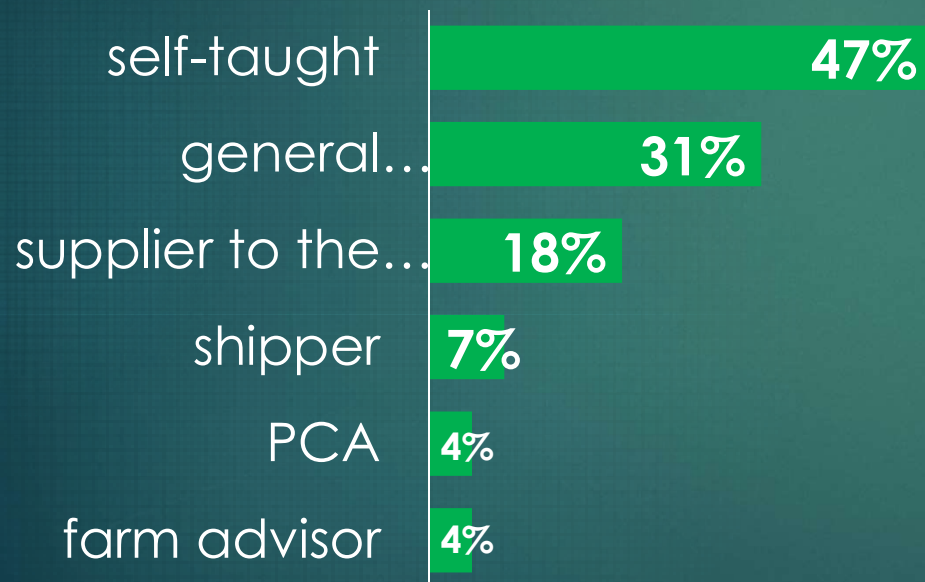
- ▶ What is current status?
 - ▶ Surveyed majority of the industry/growers and operations
- ▶ Sought information on:
 - ▶ Training
 - ▶ Equipment



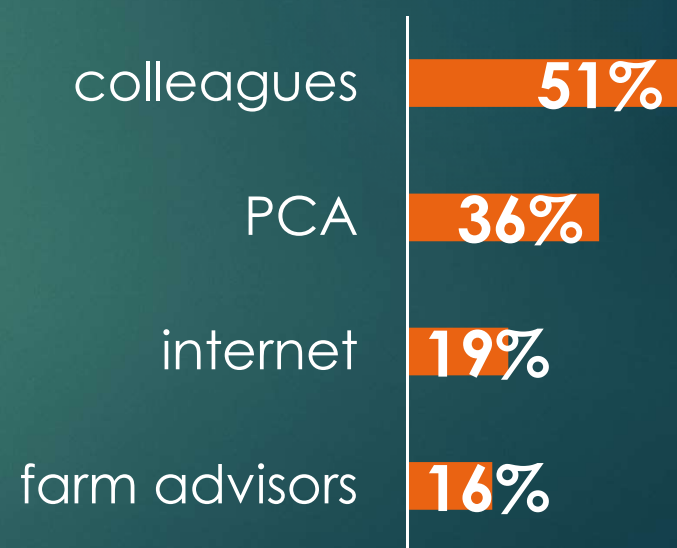
Photo: M. Bolda

Education and Training of Applicators

Who trained you on sprayer calibration?



Where do you get information about sprayers?



Common Issues



- ▶ Mismatched nozzles
- ▶ Lack of formal training
- ▶ Clogged filters
- ▶ Nozzles being used outside of recommended pressure range

- ▶ Issues found regardless of grower/shipper size

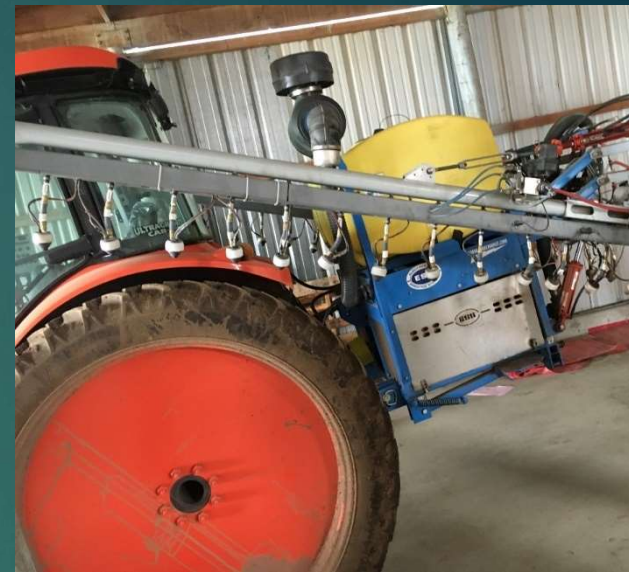
Worn/plugged nozzles



**Different nozzles on same boom
(no pattern)**



Different # nozzles/bed



Clogged filters



**Design-related
(e.g., hoses)**



Sprayer Calibration Training

- ▶ Field day and training materials
 - ▶ Targeting
- ▶ On-site visits to calibrate farm rigs



Vacuum Calibrations

- ▶ Contact us!
- ▶ Calibrate/adjust louvers for maximum efficiency

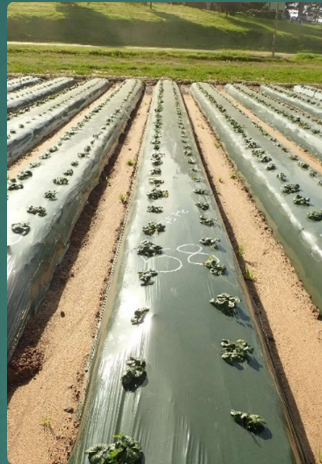


Monterey Bay Academy



Projects

- ASD
- Low Fumigation
- Nematodes
- Fusarium



Researchers



Challenges and Opportunities

- Fusarium



Thank You!

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