

35th Annual Fall Desert Crops Workshop

December 4, 2024

Workshop Location:

Barbara Worth Country Club, 2050 Country Club Dr., Holtville, CA 92250

Registration link:

<https://surveys.ucanr.edu/survey.cfm?surveynumber=43924>

8:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.

- 7:30 Registration
- 8:00 **Welcome address** - *Oli Bachie, County Director, UCCE Imperial County*
- 8:05 **Opening remarks** - *Paula Pangle, President, Imperial County Farm Bureau*
- 8:15 **Sweetpotato whitefly management in Imperial Valley cropping systems: past, present and future** - *Arun Babu, Entomology Advisor, UCCE Imperial County*
- 8:31 **Physical and chemical weed management in California vegetables** - *Steven Fennimore, UC Extension Weed Specialist, UC Davis*
- 8:47 **Top ten violations of 2024** - *Julián López, Deputy AG Commissioner, Imperial County Agricultural Commissioner's Office, Pesticide Use Enforcement Division*
- 9:03 **Assessing a new approach of cover cropping to mitigate soil and water-related issues in the Imperial Valley** - *Ali Montazar, Irrigation and Water Management Advisor, UCCE Imperial County*
- 9:19 **Diagnosis of plant diseases** - *Ana M. Pastrana, Plant Pathology Advisor, UCCE Imperial County*
- 9:35 **Nutrient composition and forage quality of sudan grass as a livestock feed under variable fertilizer and irrigation rates** - *Brooke Latack, Livestock Advisor, UCCE Imperial County*

Break (15 minutes)

- 10:06 **How effective are soil and plant sensing technology to detect and monitor water stress in cantaloupe production?** - *Jairo Diaz, Director, UC Desert Research and Extension Center*
- 10:22 **2024 update on thrips and impatiens necrotic spot virus (INSV) disease incidence** - *Daniel Hasegawa, Research Entomologist, USDA Agricultural Research Service (Salinas)*
- 10:38 **Summary of 10 years of research trials with fluorinated nematicides** - *Antoon Ploeg, UC Cooperative Extension Nematologist, UC Riverside*
- 10:54 **Effective management strategies for root-knot nematode and alternaria leaf blight in crops: conventional and organic approaches** - *Jaspreet K Sidhu, Vegetable Crop Advisor, UCCE Kern County*
- 11:10 **Industry updates** – *Eliazar Blanco, Bioworks Inc; Brian Guess, Lallemand; Junior Evans, Corteva; Brent Wolfe, BASF; and Melissa O'Neal, ProFarm*
- 11:50 **Lunch** - *Please stay for free industry sponsored lunch*

For additional information on the workshop, please contact event organizers Ana M. Pastrana (ampastranaleon@ucanr.edu), Ali Montazar (amontazar@ucanr.edu),

Philip Waisen (pwaisen@ucanr.edu), or Oli Bachie (obachie@ucanr.edu) or call us at (442) 265-7700.

Approved CEU's: California DPR (#DPR-1737-24 - 2.5 hrs.), Arizona Dept. of AG (#25151 - 2.0 hrs.) & CCA (CA 61992 - 2.5 hrs.)

If you require any accommodations in order to participate in this event, please submit your request to emails listed above

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Advances in Southwest Desert Organic Production and Food Safety Workshop

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12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

- 12:30 **Welcome & introductions**
- 12:35 **Weed management for early-stage seedling growth of guayule** – Oli G. Bachie, *Agronomy & Weed Management Advisor, UCCE Imperial, Riverside & San Diego Counties*
- 12:50 **Organic soil disinfestation for the low desert: solarization/bio-solarization technology** – James J Stapleton, *Advisor Emeritus, UCCE Statewide IPM program*
- 1:05 **Nitrogen Fixing Bacterial Products: Results of Low Desert Cropping Experimentation** – Michael D. Rethwisch, *Crop Production and Entomology Farm Advisor, UCCE – Riverside County*
- 1:20 **Summer Cover Crops for Managing Soilborne Disease, Nitrogen, and Soil Health in Coachella Valley** – Philip Waisen, *Vegetable Crops Advisor, UCCE Riverside and Imperial Counties*
- 1:35 **Implementation Strategies for Predatory Mite-Based Pest Management in Southwest Desert Agricultural Systems** – Andrew Maltby, *President, Biotactics Inc.*

1:45 Break (5 minutes)

- 1:50 **Ensuring Food Safety: California's Pesticide Residue Monitoring Program** – Ian King and Guadalupe Ferreira, *Ag Biologist, Imperial County Agricultural Commissioner's Office*
- 2:05 **CPS Tri-State Special Project on Harvest Equipment: A data-informed consensus of "What is Clean?"** - Channah Rock, *Professor & Water Quality Specialist, Dept. of Environmental Science, The University of Arizona*
- 2:20 **On-Site Sensing Platform for Monitoring Agricultural Water Safety** – Ahmed El-Moghazy, *Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist in Food Safety, Dept. of Microbiology and Plant Pathology, University of California, Riverside*
- 2:35 **Introduction of the University of California Organic Agriculture Institution** – Lexie Wilson, *Extension and Outreach Coordinator, and Maria Orozco, Education & Mentorship Coordinator, UC Organic Agriculture Institute*
- 2:45 **Microbial Risk Assessment of Soil Amendments in Organic Romaine Lettuce, California's Low Desert, 2023 Season**– Cuong (Jimmy) Nguyen, *Food Safety and Organic Production Advisor, UCCE Imperial and Riverside Counties*
- 3:00 **Adjourn**

For additional information on the workshop, please contact organizers Jimmy Nguyen cgnguyen@ucanr.edu, Ana Pastrana Leon ampastranaleon@ucanr.edu, Philip Waisen pwaisen@ucanr.edu, Ali Montazar amontazar@ucanr.edu, or Oli Bachie obachie@ucanr.edu or call us at (442) 265-7700

Approved CE Units: California DPR (1.0 hrs.), Arizona Dept. of AG (#25150 - 1.0 hrs.) & CCA (1.50 hrs.)