

Issue 7 – February 2013 - [UC Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center website](#)



Message from the director: Dr. Jeff Dahlberg

It always seems like it takes a bit more time to recover from the holidays and get back into the full swing of things, but spring is right around the corner, new blooms are at hand and new plantings and research are in the works. It has been busy around the center and several really good things have happened. Kearney-based entomologist Marshall Johnson, UC Cooperative Extension specialist in the Department of Entomology at UC Riverside, was recognized as the Distinguished Scientists of the Year by the International Organization for Biological Control. The pistachio industry has provided a gift to UC-ANR to hire a new UC Cooperative Extension specialist to conduct pathology research. We are also working to hire two additional positions, an integrated pest management entomology advisor and a perennial crop nematology specialist. We continue to work to rebuild the research group here at the center as our academics retire and this will take several years. I'm optimistic that we will continue to get the support from our various commodities and our administration to make this happen.

If you are so inspired, you can help us financially and allow us to expand our research efforts so that we can continue to find sustainable solutions to the variety of problems that face our farmers and our food systems by donating to KARE using our [on-line donation button](#).

We again will be at the Tulare World Ag Expo Feb. 12-14 in Pavilion A, space 1412 showcasing the research and outreach we are involved in, so please stop by. As always feel free to contact me at jadahlberg@ucanr.edu, through our [blog](#), or at our website KARE.ucanr.edu.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Dahlberg". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



Come join us at the World Ag Expo

The University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources is participating in eight booths at the [2013 World Ag Expo](#), which will run from Feb. 12-14 at the [International Agri-Center](#) in Tulare. Pavilion A will house a cluster of University of California booths: [UC Cooperative Extension Tulare County](#) (UCCE) at booth 1411 will be next to [Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center](#) (KARE) at booth 1412, and [Agriculture and Natural Resources](#) (ANR) will be across the walkway at booth 1513.

[Read more about the World Ag Expo.](#)



Pistachio industry provides \$1.5 million for new Kearney-based specialist

In 2011, for the first time ever, the value of the California almond crop surpassed the state's iconic grape industry to move into second place, behind dairy. A tremendous amount of UC research is behind the California almond success story, including research at Kearney.

[Read more about new specialist.](#)



Pistachio producers support the power of research

The [California Pistachio Research Board](#) (CPRB) held a meeting at Kearney on January 17, 2013, to allow research programs to present research proposals for 2013 research funding. Twenty-eight research proposals were presented at the meeting, requesting a total of \$1,076,000.

[Read more about the pistachio research funding.](#)



Marshall Johnson named 'Distinguished Scientist of the Year'

Entomologist [Marshall Johnson](#), UC Cooperative Extension specialist in the Department of Entomology at UC Riverside, has received the Distinguished Scientist of the Year Award from the International Organization for Biological Control — Nearctic Regional Section. Johnson is based at the UC Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Parlier.

[Read more.](#)



Glassy-winged sharpshooter and Pierce's disease are continuing threats to grape industry

UC Cooperative Extension experts fear local grape farmers have become complacent about glassy-winged sharpshooter and Pierce's disease, even though all grapes are susceptible. The best way to control its spread, he said, is to monitor and manage sharpshooter vectors and remove and replace vines that have tested positive for *Xylella fastidiosa*.

[Read more about glassy-winged sharpshooter and Pierce's disease.](#)

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