

Kearney Research News



University of California

Agriculture and Natural Resources

Research and Extension Center System

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Message from the director: Dr. Jeff Dahlberg

Welcome to the dog days of summer. To say it has been hot and dry would be an understatement this year. Fresno County has already had 19 days of 100+ temperatures and we are just starting August. This is a busy time on the Center with lots of plantings, research data collection, and harvesting of some of our 44 different crops grown on the Center. There are also a couple of new things you'd notice around the Center. We've added additional solar panels to help offset our electrical needs in our Post-Harvest facilities and we've added new roofs to some of our buildings.

We had a couple more retirements. Marshall Johnson, Scott Johnson, Mike McKenry, and Kris Lynn-Patterson left us at the end of June and they all are on to new and exciting things in retirement. Roger Baldwin is moving to UC Davis and we will miss his expertise on mammalian pests. On a more upbeat note, we are also working to refill some of our retired positions and as this e-newsletter goes out we're interviewing for a new IPM specialist and should be advertising soon for a new pathology and nematology position. There are lots of activities and field days taking place on the Center, so I encourage you to get onto our website and check out our calendar to see if there might be something that you would like to attend.

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 (<http://kare.ucanr.edu>). As always, feel free to contact me at jadahlberg@ucanr.edu, through our Facebook page, our blog, or at our website <http://kare.ucanr.edu>.

KARE sees recent retirements



[Manuel Jimenez](#), Tulare County UC Cooperative Extension advisor in small farms, vegetable crops, and integrated pest management; [Marshall Johnson](#), IPM Specialist and Research Entomologist at the UC Riverside Department of Entomology and Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center; [Scott Johnson](#), Cooperative Extension Pomologist at the UC Davis Department of Plant Sciences and Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center, [Kris Lynn-Patterson](#), Geographic Information Systems Academic Coordinator at Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center, [Michael McKenry](#), Nematologist and Cooperative Extension Nematology Specialist at the UC Riverside Department of Nematology and Kearney

Research and Extension Center; and [Richard Molinar](#), Fresno County UC Cooperative Extension advisor in small farms, vegetable crops, organic farming, and Asian vegetables all retired recently.



KARE will get a new IPM advisor for nut, fruit and vine crops

During the week of July 29, 2013, the University of California, Cooperative Extension is interviewed for an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Advisor, Entomology position. This position is designed to develop and deliver IPM strategies and practices to nut, fruit and vine growers and pest control advisers in the San Joaquin Valley. This position, located at Kearney, will continue the excellent work of Bill Barnett and Walt Bentley and is dedicated to the 30 year mission of [UC IPM](#). [Read more about the interviews.](#)



Biennial UC Grape Day 2013 August 13 in Parlier

Research results from an irrigation study on red wine grapes will be presented during the opening session of UC Grape Day 2013, 8 to 11:30 a.m. Aug. 13 at Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Parlier.

Larry Williams, professor in the Department of Viticulture and Enology at UC Davis, made use of a large, wine grape variety trial at Kearney to determine the contribution that water relations and vine hydraulics have on growth differences among grapevine cultivars. The study will help determine the most appropriate parameters for managing irrigation across divergent varieties and growing locations. [Read more.](#)



KARE completes new solar energy project

KARE's new solar energy project has been completed. PG&E did their final safety checks for the new 42 kW solar system located at our Postharvest Facility. This brings KARE's solar output to about 65 kW. Special thanks to JKB Energy, Bob Ray, Patrick West, Andy Padilla, Santiago Aldana, Rudy Gonzales, Dan Mulligan, and Dale Pattigan for all of their hard work in helping to get this done. KARE will continue to get more green technologies on the Center. We continually strive to lower our carbon footprint and look at new and innovative ways to bring green technologies to our farming operations.

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