



your Lake County HORTICULTURAL NOTES

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NEW HORTICULTURAL ADVISOR

How do you do! Since I arrived in September, I have met many of you via farm calls, meetings and in the office. Everyone has helped these past weeks go by smoothly and enjoyably. I would like to establish relationships with as many growers, PCA's and other people involved in Lake County agriculture as possible, so PLEASE call or stop by anytime to get acquainted. As I settle in, I will plan organized opportunities to meet all of you. So, stay tuned!

My main research and education responsibilities in Lake County are pears, walnuts and wine grapes. I will also cover kiwis and other horticultural crops as well as public service. The diversity of crops assigned to me attracted me to the job. I am looking forward to help maintain this diversity for the future.

Since arriving, I have been going over past research and programs in order to develop a program which builds on my predecessors' achievements. I will work closely with the Extension Specialists and faculty at the UC Davis and Berkeley campuses. Primary specialists include Jim Beutel - pears and kiwis, Dr. Jim Wolpert - wine grapes and Dr. Dave Ramos - walnuts. I will also be in close contact with other pear, grape and walnut advisors to ensure Lake County benefits from and participates in the latest research work going on throughout California.

For the next few months, and even a year or two, I will be in a "learning mode". In many cases, you will be my instructor. As a start, please take the time to fill in the brief, informal survey of research/education areas you feel should be addressed on the attached form. Either mail or drop it by the office.

All of us - Pat, Jamie Vanderberg, Shirley Rosekrans, Kandee Stolesen, Jim Benson and I - are looking forward to enthusiastically serving Lake County agriculture.

Sincerely,

Rachel Elkins

Rachel Elkins
Farm Advisor

RE:jv

LAKE COUNTY VINEYARD SEMINAR

Reserve December 17th for a full day of presentations on vineyard irrigation and floor vegetation management. Speakers will be UC researchers and question/answer sessions will be included. The meeting will be held at the Finley Grange. Details and final agenda will be given in the next newsletter around December 1st. Spread the word! Orchardists as well as grape growers will find the program useful.

WALNUT GROWERS - DO YOU HAVE A COMPUTER?

Farm Business Worksheets Series - Walnuts is a new software package developed by UC Cooperative Extension personnel. There are 12 worksheets including budgets, cash flows, financial statements and others, designed to help budget, plan and track your operation. Each worksheet includes sample (default) values that can be changed to fit your operation. Programs can be run on SuperCalc 3 and 4 and Lotus 1-2-3 (Version 1 and 2) MS-DOS spreadsheet software. 640K of RAM memory is required. The cost is \$100.00 which includes a detailed User Manual and attractive binder. We have a sample order form. If there is enough interest, I will get a large supply of order forms and a sample copy of the worksheet series. Give us a call.

SHORT COURSES

University Extension (not to be confused with UC Cooperative Extension) offers a wide range of continuing education classes for agriculturalists. Courses generally run 1 - 2 days and average \$50.00 - \$125.00 depending on course length and materials. PCA credit is often included. Latest listings are announced in the Agricultural Dateline available from our office. Upcoming classes of interest are:

The Role of Organic Matter in Maintaining Productive Soil -
A special course on alternatives to chemical fertilization
November 12, 1987 in Visalia - \$60.00

Grower Assessment of Irrigation Management
December 2, 1987 at UC Davis - \$25.00

Current Topics in Wine Grape Pest Management
December 8, 1987 at UC Davis - \$55.00

Let me know if you are considering any of these and need further details.

FARM CONFERENCE - 88

This year's Farm Conference will focus on family farming, direct marketing and agricultural sustainability. The program will include tours of small farms and wineries, a tradeshow tailored to family farms and over 40 workshops on direct marketing, farm production/management and sustainability (such as organic certification, non-chemical pest control, food safety, diversification, cover crops and erosion management).

Co-sponsors are various direct marketing associations, UC Cooperative Extension, UC Santa Cruz and CDFA. Conveniently for local participants, it will be held in Santa Rosa, February 5 - 7, 1988. Contact us as soon as possible to get on the mailing list for further information and a registration packet.

FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

Horticultural Notes is an informal format allowing me to communicate in a timely manner and to discuss topics of interest to growers. If there is a topic you are burning to learn more about, let me know and we'll do our best. In the future, pears and grapes will be covered in a single newsletter and walnuts will be covered separately. Other fruit crops - kiwi, berries, etc. will be included in the pear/grape letter. Call Jamie, at our office, if you would like to be added to the grape, pear or walnut mailing list.

INFORMAL GROWER SURVEY

Please take a few minutes to let us know what you want to know about. Rate up to 5 general areas of interest, the top priority = 1 to least priority = 5. Add other topics at the bottom if not already on the list. This will help guide my discussions with specialists and others as I plan my program.

RESEARCH/EDUCATION PRIORITIES

<u>TOPIC</u>	Name (optional) _____			
	<u>CROP</u>			Other Crops (list)
	<u>Grapes</u>	<u>Pears</u>	<u>Walnuts</u>	
1. Rootstocks/varieties	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. Nutrition/fertilization	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. Spacing/trellising	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. Pruning/thinning	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. Irrigation	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. Pest Management	_____	_____	_____	_____
Insects	_____	_____	_____	_____
Diseases/nematodes	_____	_____	_____	_____
Weeds	_____	_____	_____	_____
Vertebrates	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. Pesticide application/ safety	_____	_____	_____	_____
8. Equipment/harvest operations	_____	_____	_____	_____
9. Post-harvest problems	_____	_____	_____	_____
10. Alternative practices/ sustainable agriculture (or organic methods)	_____	_____	_____	_____
11. Farm Management/Economics	_____	_____	_____	_____
12. Labor/personnel Management	_____	_____	_____	_____
13. Marketing	_____	_____	_____	_____
14. Computer applications in farming	_____	_____	_____	_____
15. Other	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____	_____

Rate up to 5 choices per crop; 1 = most important; 5 = least important

Comments:

IN MEMORIUM

JOHANNES L. JOOS

AREA PEST MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

With sadness and regret we mark the passing of John Joos on Tuesday, November 3, 1987.

John came to Cooperative Extension from the San Joaquin County Agricultural Commissioner's Office in 1969. He was selected as the most qualified individual to head a pilot program which was loosely defined on a regional pest management basis that covered the North Coast Counties. As a pioneer in pest management, his knowledge and insight lead to established practices in controlling many of the common and uncommon pests of agriculture including the apple maggot. So far reaching are his contributions to the field, today's Integrated Pest Management Program stands as a monument to his vast knowledge and tireless efforts.

At John's request, a private service for the immediate family will be held. Anyone wishing to contribute to his memory may do so with donations to the Scholarship Fund in the Entomology Department at UC Berkeley or to a charity of individual choice.

The absence of Johannes L. Joos, Entomologist, Area Pest Management Specialist, will be strongly felt by all.