WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENTS

I) Enhancing Habitat for Crop Pollinators in Yolo County, with Eric Mussen, UC Davis extension apiculturist and Katharina Ullmann, Xerces Society

Thursday January 17, 2008, 9 am – Noon, in Winters (see page 3 for details). 3 CE credits

• The latest research on European honey bees
• The latest research on crop pollination by wild native bees
• Practical steps to enhance native pollinators on your land

II) Bean Basics with Diane Metz, Yolo County Director and Nutrition, Family and Consumer Science Advisor, Solano and Yolo Counties and Rachael Long, Farm Advisor.

Thursday January 31, 2008 9-11 am (with possible repeats if this time doesn’t work for you and there’s continued interest)
Norton Hall, UC Cooperative Extension, 70 Cottonwood St., Woodland
RSVP at 530-666-8734 or rflong@ucdavis.edu

• Cooking with dry beans
• Nutritional value of dry beans
• Preparing recipes with dry beans
• Dry bean production in California

Dry beans and peas can be counted either as vegetables (dry beans and peas subgroup), or in the meat, poultry, fish, dry beans, eggs, and nuts (meat and beans) group. Generally, individuals who regularly eat meat, poultry, and fish would count dry beans and peas in the vegetable group. Individuals who seldom eat meat, poultry, or fish (vegetarians) would count some of the dry beans and peas they eat in the meat, poultry, fish, dry beans, eggs, and nuts group. Their frequent consumption—several cups a week—as a vegetable selection is encouraged. More information can be found at the USDA website at: http://www.mypyramid.gov/pyramid/ and at our meeting.

Sclerotinia or white mold in garbanzos
With all the rain we’ve had we may begin to see Sclerotinia or white mold show up in garb fields. If you find Sclerotinia in your field, please take a sample and bring it to our UCCE office here in Woodland so that I can take it to the UC Davis Plant Pathology Dept. for identification. We’re interested in determining whether we have Sclerotinia sclerotiorum or S. trifoliorum infecting garbs (or both) and whether the same species are infecting both alfalfa and garbs, to help develop better control.
recommendations. We only see Sclerotinia in some years so we appreciate your help in getting answers about what species are involved in garbs this year - if Sclerotinia cooperates by showing up.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

I) Sample Costs to Establish and Produce Organic Alfalfa Hay, University of California Cooperative Extension 2007, by R. Long, R. Meyer (Extension Specialist, UC Davis), and S. Orloff (Farm Advisor Siskiyou Co.) is now available on line at www.coststudies.ucdavis.edu or through our office.

II) Irrigated Alfalfa Management for Mediterranean and Desert Zones

The University of California Alfalfa Workgroup is pleased to announce the upcoming publication of a new production manual, Irrigated Alfalfa Management for Mediterranean and Desert Zones. This 24-chapter publication is designed to provide detailed information about the growth, production, management, and utilization of alfalfa grown under irrigation. This is a practical guide for alfalfa growers and industry partners, and is a companion to the University of California publication Intermountain Alfalfa Management, focused on the high-elevation valleys of the Intermountain West.

Currently, some chapters are available at http://alfalfa.ucdavis.edu/irrigatedalfalfa (shown in bold and underlined below). Watch this website for links to chapters as they are completed (which should be in the next month). It is anticipated that this manual will be available in printed format by April 2008 (I’ll have more details in my next newsletter).

1 Alfalfa Production Systems in California
2 Choosing Appropriate Sites for Alfalfa Production
3 Alfalfa Growth and Development
4 Alfalfa Stand Establishment
5 Choosing an Alfalfa Variety
6 Alfalfa Fertilization Strategies
7 Irrigating Alfalfa in Arid Regions
8 Weed Management in Alfalfa
9 Managing Insects in Alfalfa
10 Alfalfa Diseases and Management
11 Parasitic Nematodes in Alfalfa
12 Integrated Management of Vertebrate Pests in Alfalfa
13 Harvest Strategies for Alfalfa
14 Harvest: Curing Preservation, and Storage
15 Managing Older or Depleted Alfalfa Stands
16 Forage Quality and Testing
17 Alfalfa Utilization by Livestock
18 Alfalfa Grazing Management
19 Utilization of Alfalfa for Industrial and Other Uses
20 Lagoon Water, Manures and Biosolids Applied to Alfalfa
21 Producing Alfalfa Hay Organically
22 Alfalfa Seed Production in California
23 Alfalfa Marketing and Economics
24 Diagnostic Key to Problems in Forage Alfalfa
Enhancing Habitat for Crop Pollinators in Yolo County
Thursday, Jan. 17
9am to noon

WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT*
Over the past year the European honey bee has made headlines as beekeepers and growers have struggled with the effects of Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). This is the latest in a string of challenges faced by managers of this important crop pollinator.

With the increased concern over honey bees, the value of our wild native bees continues to grow. Overlooked by many growers, unmanaged native bees are important crop pollinators. The presence of nearby natural areas and on-farm habitat can greatly benefit the vital service both native and honey bees provide.

Come learn about:
- The latest research on European honey bees
- The latest research on crop pollination by wild native bees
- Practical steps to improve native pollinators populations on your land

The workshop will include talks by experts in honey and native bees, followed by a panel discussion of landowners and restoration biologists who have created and enhanced pollinator habitat on their land. There will be an optional hedgerow tour following the workshop.

*DPR credits applied for

Location: Farm on Putah Creek, 5265 Putah Creek Rd. Winters, CA 95694

SPEAKERS:
Dr. Eric Mussen is an Extension Apiculturist with the UC Cooperative Extension. Katharina Ullmann is the CA Pollinator Conservation Coordinator for the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation.
PEST CONTROL NOTES

January 7, 2008

Weed Control in Alfalfa
Weed control information in alfalfa can be found on the UC Integrated Pest Management website at: http://ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/selectnewpest.alfalfa-hay.html. Be sure to look at the weed control tables on this site for information on the selectivity of different herbicides and target the herbicides to the complex of weeds in your field. When using Velpar, remember that this material does not work as well on cold foggy days, especially for groundsel control (sunny days are needed for enhanced efficacy of this product). Paraquat is also slow acting on cold, foggy days.

Happy New Year! I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming meetings this month! If you have any questions I can be reached on my mobile at 530-681-8809 or in my office at 530-666-8734 or rflong@ucdavis.edu. The good news too is that Carolyn DeBuse is now on board as our new UCCE pomologist for Yolo and Solano Counties. She can be reached in Solano County at 707-784-1320. Welcome Carolyn!

Rachael Long

Rachael Long
Pest Management – Farm Advisor
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