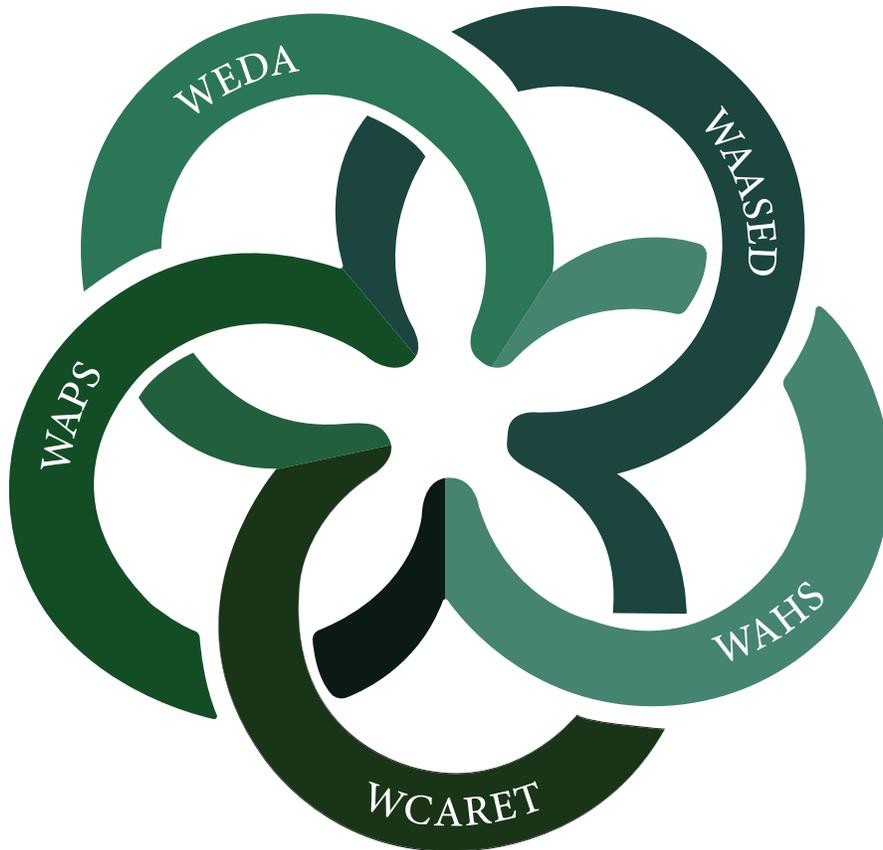


Western Region Joint Summer Meeting



2019 AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

July 9, 2019
Hotel Chaco, Albuquerque, New Mexico

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

KERN COUNTY ENTOMOLOGY EXTENSION PROGRAM



For more than 15 years, the Kern County Entomology Team has helped growers respond to invasive insect pests that threaten California agriculture. This has included more than a dozen applied research and extension programs with documented impacts on top California commodities such as almonds, table grapes, pistachios, cherries, and blueberries. The Kern County Entomology Team have organized Extension meetings, workshops, presentations, publications, and media articles. The collaboration team consists of university professionals and agricultural producers. These collaborations led to reduced pesticide use, increased reliance on biological control, improved worker safety and increased farmer profitability on the more than \$15 billion in agricultural commodities grown in the southern San Joaquin Valley.

TEAM MEMBERS

David Haviland PhD, UC Extension, Kern County
Jhalendra Rijal PhD, UC IPM Advisor, Northern San Joaquin Valley
Emily Symmes PhD, UC IPM Advisor, Sacramento Valley
Robert Beede, UCCE Farm Advisor Emeritus, Kings Co.
Robert Curtis, Research Director, Almond Board of California
Judy Zaninovich, Director, Consolidated Central Valley Table Grape Pest and Disease Control District
Stephanie Rill, Staff Research Associate, UC Cooperative Extension, Kern Co.

WESTERN EXTENSION DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY

U.S. DAIRY EDUCATION AND TRAINING CONSORTIUM



The U.S. Dairy Education and Training Consortium, created in 2008 in response to deadly declining academic resources in dairy, formed an alliance between New Mexico State University, Texas A&M University, and University of Arizona, with the objective to train the next generation of dairy professionals. Students and nationally recognized faculty gather for the 6-week capstone program. The class lectures are alternated with experiential learning at a modern dairy operation. Owners and managers help demonstrate the material, research, and process. Since its inception, the program has reached:

- 427 students from 48 U.S. universities
 - 4 out of 5 students are employed in agriculture
 - 2 out of 3 students are employed in the dairy industry
 - 1 out of 3 students are working on a dairy.

Key success of the program are linking research to application and utilizing area dairy producers and allied industry representatives to train the next generation of dairy production.

TEAM MEMBERS

Robert Hagevoort PhD, Associate Professor, Extension Dairy Specialist and Topliff Dairy Chair, Clovis, NMSU Ag Science Center
Michael Tomaszewski PhD, Visiting Professor and Professor Emeritus Dairy Science, Department of Animal Science, Texas A&M University
Robert Collier PhD, Professor Emeritus, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Arizona, Tuscon Arizona
Shelly Spears, Program Coordinator, NMSU Ag Science Center, Clovis, New Mexico
Armando Garcia Buitrago, Ag Research Scientist, NMSU Ag Science Center, Clovis, New Mexico
Jason White, Southwest Dairy Specialist, Purina Animal Nutrition

WESTERN EXTENSION DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION AWARD OF EXCELLENCE (MULTISTATE)

JAMES DURFEY SENIOR INSTRUCTOR

DEPARTMENT OF CROP AND SOIL SCIENCE,
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

James Durfey holds bachelor's degrees in Forestry and Agricultural Education and a master's in Adult and Continuing Education from Washington State University. He has been a faculty member at Washington State University since 1992. He teaches a plethora of courses in the Agricultural Technology and Production Management (AgTM) program at Washington State. Administrators tout him as a 'legend' and the 'lifeblood' of the AgTM program. Colleagues cite his outstanding devotion and service to the AgTM club, FFA State Contest, and Horticulture Club, as well as community outreach programs, such as "Little Sprouts", just to name a few. His passion and continuous pursuit of excellence enable him to better his students' experience, knowledge, and confidence. A former student states *"James Durfey was a big influence for me pursuing post graduate education. He always pushed me to do more and expand my knowledge of agriculture through class work, club involvement, internships, and professional networking."*



TYSON SORENSEN, PhD ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY &
EDUCATION, UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. Sorensen holds a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education and master's in Agricultural Systems Technology (Agricultural Education) from Utah State University. He earned a doctorate in Science Education: Agricultural Education from Oregon State University. He has been a faculty member at Utah State University since 2015. He teaches a wide range of courses including leadership development, integrated life science, and advanced agriculture teaching methods. Colleagues acknowledge Dr. Sorensen for his prolific teaching, already more than 1,000 students in 11 unique courses, across a variety of delivery formats, while consistently receiving high student ratings. Noting Dr. Sorensen's careful attention to crafting meaningful learning experiences and environments, one student said, *"What I admire most about Dr. Sorensen is that he not only told us how to be an effective teacher, but he also demonstrated it while teaching. He engaged us, included us in activities, and let the students be the teachers. He incorporated theories like Inquiry Based Learning through example while using that method on us himself. He instilled in his students the work ethic and passion good teachers need to have."*



KATTLYN WOLF, PhD ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL AND EXTENSION
EDUCATION, UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

Dr. Wolf received bachelor's degrees in Animal Science and Agricultural Education from University of Wyoming. She earned her master's degree from University of Arizona and doctorate from The Ohio State University in Agricultural Education. She has been a faculty member at University of Idaho since 2008, where she teaches courses in methods of teaching agriculture, program planning, and introduction to agricultural and Extension education. Dr. Wolf ultimately views teaching at the college level in Agricultural Education as *"a catalyst for improving instruction in secondary agriculture, so that every classroom has a teacher who is dedicated, passionate, and focused on student success"*. A fellow colleague writes *"She is a leader in the field of agricultural education and has made outstanding contributions to teaching. She is devoted to her field and the production of well-rounded, agricultural educators. Given that each of her advisees will teach anywhere from 500 to 1,000 students over their careers, Dr. Wolf's work will have lasting impact within the state of Idaho and entire western region."*



BENEFICIAL AND ADVERSE EFFECTS OF NATURAL BIOACTIVE DIET ON HUMAN HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY COMMITTEE (W4122)



Research conducted by W4122 participants is of paramount concern to consumers, agricultural producers, food processors, health professionals, and policymakers charged with maintaining a safe and nutritious food supply and enhanced human health. W4122 is a multidisciplinary group of 30 researchers from 21 universities and ARS that has increased the understanding of the complex relationship between bioactive dietary chemicals and human health. This multi-state research project has a long history of collaborating to improve food safety and human health worldwide. Bioactive chemicals naturally occur in foods or are introduced during food processing and cooking. These chemicals may have either beneficial or undesirable effects on human health. Studies focus on how food-borne bioactive chemicals can protect against or cause human diseases, such as cancer, inflammatory diseases, birth defects, and microbial infections. Members have demonstrated creation of food-borne toxins during processing, preparation, and other post-harvest activities. W4122 researchers have developed approaches to increase beneficial and decrease adverse effects of bioactive chemicals and microbial contaminants in foods. Research has also led to improved understanding of how changes to the human microbiome are related to chronic metabolic diseases. Project outputs and outcomes have been shared with producers, stakeholders, the public and others in journal publications, multimedia, and popular press. Members of W4122 have produced 533 publications over the last 5 years, including 25 joint publications. In addition, these scientists have supported numerous graduate students, post-doctoral researchers, and technicians. Leveraged funds contributing to W4122 objectives over last 5 years amount to \$100,804,961. Funding sources include NIH, DHHS, NIFA-AFRI, NSF, endowments, American Cancer Society, Lupus Foundation, and other private foundation sources.

CURRENT CHAIR ADAM CHICCO, PhD

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES,
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

ADMINISTRATIVE ADVISOR CHRIS PRITSOS, PhD

PROFESSOR, DIRECTOR OF NEVADA
AGRICULTURE EXPERIMENT STATION,
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA

ACCEPTING AWARD EFREN DELGADO, PhD

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, FAMILY AND
CONSUMER SCIENCE
NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY

WESTERN REGION MULTISTATE RESEARCH EXCELLENCE AWARD



H. Michael Harrington, PhD

Executive Director of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Director (WAAESD) since 2001, Dr. Harrington provided leadership for the association in high-priority multi-state initiatives, and management oversight for the multi-state projects funded through the Multi-state Research Fund. He also developed integrated multi-state projects that included research, extension, and academic programs. As a result of his efforts, the Western Region portfolio has robust participation from Extension and Academic Programs and the region's Multi-state Review Committee, likewise, is integrated across these functions. Dr. Harrington emphasized communication, coordination, and collaboration at local, regional, and national meetings; service on regional and national boards/advisory councils; and support for those serving in the leadership of the WAAESD.

His assessment of regional needs resulted in the development of the "Western Perspective and Western Agenda", detailing common areas of interest on which the region is collaborating. Dr. Harrington was instrumental in creating a viable partnership with the Western Governors Association.

Dr. Harrington provided national leadership through the Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy (ESOP), serving as Executive Vice Chair four times. He also served as Executive Vice Chair of the Budget and Legislative Committee from 2008 to 2019. Other committee work included the Budget and Advocacy Committee, Committee on Legislation and Policy and the Strategic Realignment Task Force, Western IMP Center Steering Committee, Western Rural Development Center Board of Directors, and the National Center for Food and Agriculture Policy. Dr. Harrington was at the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii, from 1985 to 2001, where he served as Chair of the Department of Plant Molecular Physiology, Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs, Interim Director of the Hawaii Institute for Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, and Interim Dean.

Dr. Harrington earned BA and MS degrees from Miami University and PhD from Ohio University.

A SPECIAL THANKS