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# Pomology Notes

October 2005 Issue

## This Issue Contains:

- **Almond Orchard Practices to Consider in October/November**
- **Almond Pruning Demonstration Announcement**
- **Almond Conference**

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## ALMOND ORCHARD PRACTICES TO CONSIDER IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER

### ALMONDS

- ❑ **Pest Management:** Review crop quality report. Carolyn Pickel, UC IPM Area Advisor tells me this is the most important piece of pest management information available on an almond block. Use this information to help plan pest (worms, ants, etc) control program(s) for next year.
- ❑ **Nutrition:** Plan fall fertilizer program. Use leaf and hull nutrient analysis results from this and previous years to help. Key nutrients that can effectively be applied at this time of year are potassium, zinc, and boron.
- ❑ **Dormant Spray Options:** Monitor your orchard in late fall or early winter to find out if a dormant/delayed dormant spray is needed for scale control. Consider whether you need a dormant spray for [peach twig borer](#) (PTB) control, after reviewing reject sheets. Dormant sprays do not control [navel orange worm](#) or [spider mites](#).
- ❑ **Orchard Clean-up:**
  - **Shaker damage:** Clean up "barked" trees damaged by shaker. Trunk/limb damage at harvest can result in *Ceratocystis* canker infection and possible tree death. Remove loose, damaged bark with hammer and chisel, draw knife, or hatchet. Paint injury with dilute interior latex paint to reduce chance of sunburn. Spraying the trunk with Lorsban ® 4E or 75WG prior to painting can help control borers attracted to the wound, and reduce the potential for infection with *Ceratocystis* canker. (Borers can spread the disease.) The paint helps to preserve the insecticide and give protection over a longer period of time. If needed, contact Franz for details on cleaning up "barked" trees.
  - Prepare to replant where needed. Pull weak trees and prep for replanting. Mark dying or weak trees for removal. Backhoe out old trees, making sure to get as much of the roots out of the hole as possible.

- Fumigating replant orchards (almonds following almonds) has shown to benefit newly planted orchard growth. Spot treatment of replant holes in an established orchard may improve replant growth, although the specific research to demonstrate this has not been done.
- Calibrate your orchard sprayer for next year. Call Franz (822-7515 or 218-2359) for free on-farm calibration demonstration.

### **ALMOND PRUNING DEMONSTRATIONS**

Almond pruning and young tree training methods will be demonstrated October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2005 during 2 sessions conducted by John Edstrom, UCCE Farm Advisor, Colusa County and Bill Krueger, UCCE Farm Advisor, Glenn County. “Long”, “short”, “minimum”, and “multiple scaffold” pruning will be all shown, discussed, and debated at these field meetings. Also featured is Rob Fanno, who will discuss the “selection, maintenance and repair of pruning tools”.

#### **TWO LOCATIONS: WEDNESDAY- OCT 26TH**

9:00 am **DAVID ALVE’S ORCHARD. HILLGATE RD, ARBUCKLE**  
Take Arbuckle/College City exit off Hwy 5  
Go west 4.2 miles on Hillgate  
Turn right at 1st yr almonds (watch for yellow UCCE meeting sign)  
Go 3/4 mile N on gravel road.

2:00 PM **MARTY BAILEY’S ORCHARD, 3626 Co. Rd P, 5 MILES S OF ORLAND**  
Take Road 27 exit off of Hwy I-5, south of Orland  
Go east on Road 27 until Road P  
Turn south on Road P  
Meeting site is 2/10 mile S of Rd 27 on E side of Road P

### **ALMOND INDUSTRY CONFERENCE SET FOR DECEMBER 7-8 IN MODESTO**

The 33<sup>rd</sup> annual Almond Industry Conference will be held in Modesto on December 7-8. This is a very valuable meeting for all almond growers and those considering planting almonds. Credit hours for CCAs, PCAs, and Private Applicators are available. Program includes a trade show, research/education presentations, and industry meetings on a range of topics crucial to the future of almond production in California. For information about conference registration call the Almond Board of California at (209) 549-8262 or visit [www.AlmondBoard.com/Conference](http://www.AlmondBoard.com/Conference).

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