



For Immediate Release

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Contact: Marcia Gibbs

(530) 370-5325

Central Valley field day offers early season tips for 2012 almond crop

To help almond growers get off to a good start, a University of California farm advisor and a UC Statewide Integrated Pest Management specialist will outline valuable pest management and fertilizer tips for the fruit development period on Thursday, April 19 in Los Banos.

The free event will be from 10 a.m. to noon at corner of Mercy Springs and Cotton Gin roads in Los Banos. UC IPM entomologist Walt Bentley will discuss in-season monitoring pest pressures and preserving beneficial populations. David Doll, the Merced County UC Cooperative Extension pomology farm advisor specializing in almonds, will cover horticultural and fertilization practices for preventing diseases in the state's leading export crop, worth \$2.7 billion a year.

Sponsored by San Joaquin Sustainable Farming Project (SJSFP), the field day has applied for 1.5 hours of continuing education credit. For more information and [directions](#) contact Project Director Marcia Gibbs at (530) 370-5325 or at marcia@sustainablecotton.org.

The sustainable farming project is a state- and federally funded program under the direction of the Sustainable Cotton Project (www.sustainablecotton.org), a nonprofit which has worked with San Joaquin Valley growers in the past decade to bring Cleaner Cotton™ to the multi-billion-dollar green consumer market.

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