March 8 deadline for discount hotel rooms for ANR Statewide Conference

Nearly 300 people have already registered for the 2013 ANR Statewide Conference April 9-11. On the registration page there is a link to a list of registrants so you can see who will be attending.

The Global Food Systems Forum is on the first day of the conference, Tuesday, April 9. To ensure a seat, register early because forum seating is limited. The forum will also be online for the general public to view. Let friends and colleagues know that they can register for the webcast of the forum at http://food2025.ucanr.edu.

The forum keynote speakers are Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland and president of the Mary Robinson Foundation — Climate Justice, and Wes Jackson, founder and president of The Land Institute. There also will be two panels with a mix of UC and non-UC experts and thought leaders. The first panel will focus on the geopolitical, ethical, economic, environmental and technical challenges facing food systems from a global perspective. The second panel will address the implications, responsibilities and innovative opportunities from a California perspective. A list of speakers and panelists is at http://food2025.ucanr.edu/Speakers.

On the second and third days, we will explore ANR’s role in addressing and finding solutions to challenges in agriculture and in natural and human resources. ANR members are encouraged to participate in discussions on science issues, program planning, personnel and policy.

The poster reception will highlight some ANR projects that exemplify the ANR Strategic Initiatives. If you would like to submit a poster, send your request soon because space is filling quickly.

Descriptions of the preconference tours, science sessions and the full agenda for the ANR Statewide Conference are at http://ucanr.edu/sites/statewideconference2013/Program. Program teams and workgroups that plan to meet during the conference can request meeting space at http://ucce.ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=10071. Wednesday night meeting space is filling up.

To register for the conference, visit https://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=10037. Space is limited for the preconference tours so register early to ensure a spot. A day or so after registering, check the list to confirm that your registration is complete.

A block of rooms have been reserved at a discounted rate for UC ANR until March 8. Visit http://ucanr.edu/sites/statewideconference2013/Hotel_Travel for the group code and to make room reservations.
Emerging postharvest technologies workshop March 14-15

A new workshop, offered by the Postharvest Technology Center supported by UC Agriculture and Natural Resources and presented by worldwide experts is designed to provide cutting-edge information on current produce trends such as traceability and packaging innovations, nanotechnology, robotics, packingline improvements and more. This workshop will be presented in a shortened, interactive, and more convenient time format to allow busy agriculture professionals to attend.

The workshop will be held on the UC Davis campus on March 14-15. Special guest speakers will include Errol Hewett, emeritus from the Dept. of Horticultural Sciences, Massey University, New Zealand, Bart Nicolai from the Flanders Centre of Postharvest Technology, Belgium, and a cadre of other cutting-edge academic and industry leaders. For more information or to enroll, visit http://postharvest.ucdavis.edu/Education/Emerging_Postharvest_Technologies_Workshop/.

For more information, contact Carlos Crisosto, Postharvest Technology Center associate director, at (530) 752-7549 or chcrisosto@ucdavis.edu.

Ventura County and Hansen REC director

NR is seeking an academic to lead UCCE in Ventura County and the Hansen Agricultural Research and Extension Center.

The director will help allocate, develop and/or manage resources for UC researchers and educators to conduct quality research and extension programs on county and statewide issues. As director and in conjunction with the REC superintendent and business manager, the incumbent will administer personnel, staff development, budget, liaison activities, and physical facilities. The incumbent will maintain relationships with outside agencies, governing bodies and community organizations and clientele and will provide and promote coordination and collaboration with campus-based and county-based researchers to facilitate the successful delivery of research and educational programs.

An M.S. is required, though other advanced degrees are encouraged, in a discipline related to water, land use, pests, science literacy, economics, horticulture or a closely related field. The successful candidate will also have experience in conducting applied research and education programs, administrative experience in human, financial, agricultural and facilities resources and excellent written and oral communication skills.

To read the full position vacancy announcement and application procedures, visit http://ucanr.edu/jobs. To assure full consideration, applications should be submitted by April 15, 2013.

Stanislaus County director and 4-H Youth Development advisor

NR is seeking an academic advisor to lead 4-H Youth Development programs in Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties. The successful candidate will also serve as UCCE director in Stanislaus County.

The advisor will contribute significantly to the delivery of the statewide 4-H YD Program at the local level and oversee and guide 4-H YD programs using the 4-H Thrive framework.

A master’s degree is required, though other advanced degrees are encouraged, with an emphasis in youth development, human development, child development education or a related field. Administrative education and/or experience with personnel administration, budgeting and working collaboratively with internal and external stakeholders is also required.

To read the full position vacancy announcement and application procedures, visit http://ucanr.edu/jobs. To assure full consideration, applications should be submitted by March 31, 2013.
**Calls for Proposals**

**Desert REC**

The Desert Research and Extension Center is soliciting proposals for new and continuing research and demonstration projects for the period July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014. Located on 255 acres in the Imperial Valley, DREC’s primary research areas are desert agriculture, bio-energy crops, vegetable crops, field crops, alfalfa breeding, livestock environmental and feedlot management, irrigation and drainage management, plant nutrition and pest management.

The center has 5 acres of organic ground available for organic research.

The center provides labor, equipment, research facilities, and technical and management support to UC academics and personnel from cooperating non-UC organizations, such as USDA. Approximately 12,500 hours of labor will be awarded to support approved projects.

The center’s Research Advisory Committee will evaluate proposed research for scientific merit and regional need. Main topics of research interest at the center include bio-energy, variety development; weed, insect and disease control; irrigation management; plant nutrition; and agriculture and wildlife interactions. Researchers will be notified of project approval by June 30.

Submit proposal forms electronically via the “Universal Review System” accessed through the ANR Portal by May 9, 2013.

**Hopland REC**

The Hopland Research and Extension Center seeks research project proposals for the period July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014.

The center encompasses more than 5,300 acres of oak woodland, grasslands, and chaparral rangeland in southeastern Mendocino County. The facility provides research opportunities in fields such as animal science, range management, wildlife ecology, entomology and epidemiology, pest management, viticulture and natural resources management.

Researchers who haven’t used the center’s facilities and lands are encouraged to refer to [http://ucanr.edu/sites/hopland](http://ucanr.edu/sites/hopland) for a complete description. The HREC facilities and resources include an array of habitat types, almost 700 species of vascular plants including 12 species of oaks, a resident large sheep flock, an array of mammal species including black-tailed deer, an array of amphibians and reptiles, 12 acres of irrigated land, all-season road access, lab space, high-speed Internet and a dormitory.

The center expects to award in excess of 1,800 hours of center-provided labor at minimal cost to support approved projects during this coming cycle.

Proposals should be emailed to Meggin Lewman at mdlewman@ucanr.edu by April 1, 2013.

For additional information and proposal forms, please visit the center’s web site at [http://ucanr.edu/sites/hopland/Research/Grants_-_New_Projects](http://ucanr.edu/sites/hopland/Research/Grants_-_New_Projects), or contact the center superintendent Robert J. Keiffer (707) 744-1424 ext. 112 rjkeiffer@ucanr.edu, or center business officer Meggin Lewman (707) 744-1424 ext. 113 mdlewman@ucanr.edu.

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**“Crucial Conversations” offered April 22-23 in Davis**

ANR Training Coordination Committee is sponsoring “Crucial Conversations” training on April 22-23 in Davis. The training will run from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday, April 22, and from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23.

The training is open to all ANR academics, ANR staff employees and county-paid Cooperative Extension employees. All expenses related to the training (registration, travel, lodging, meals and training materials) will be reimbursed from ANR funds.

Crucial Conversations training provides tools for talking when stakes are high, emotions are strong and opinions differ. The program trainers are Darlene Liesch and Linda Marie Manton. The objective of the 14- to 16-hour training is to provide tools that will assist the participant in

- building greater personal influence and power
- moving "stuck" relationships and projects forward
- improving personal, team and departmental results
- reducing stress from team frustration and blocked communication

The training class is limited to 20 people. Individuals selected to participate in the training will need to participate for the full period of the training. Therefore, if you cannot commit to the full 16 hours of training, we ask that you not register for the training.

To register, visit [http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=10326](http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=10326).

Individuals selected to participate will be notified by April 1. A waiting list will be established should a participant withdraw from the training.

If you have questions, contact Manton at (530) 752-0495 or lmmanton@ucanr.edu.
ANR seeks associate editors

Recruitment is under way for ANR associate editors in two subject areas: land, air and water resources (a second associate editor in this area) and vegetable crops.

Associate editors are nominated by the Communications Advisory Board and appointed by Bill Frost, associate director of Cooperative Extension, to manage the peer-review process for ANR educational publications and materials. In doing so, associate editors ensure that the content of ANR publications, videos and online curricula is as accurate as possible. Associate editors also encourage authors to write new publications and revise older publications. They serve as a link between Communication Services and Information Technology and ANR programs. With their efforts, associate editors significantly contribute to the quality of ANR extension and outreach programs statewide. The new associate editors’ terms are four years, beginning July 1, 2013.

To nominate yourself or a colleague for associate editor in one of the above subject areas, please provide the following information: candidate’s name, address, phone number, email address, areas of expertise, length of service with ANR, workgroup or continuing conferences to which candidate belongs, and description of candidate’s prior involvement with both Communication Services and Information Technology and with ANR and/or other peer-review processes. Send nominations by April 19 to David Lewis, chair of the Communications Advisory Board’s recruitment subcommittee, at djlewis@ucanr.edu or Cooperative Extension Marin County, 1682 Novato Boulevard University of California, Davis, CA, 95616.

For more information about the responsibilities of ANR associate editors, contact Mary Louise Flint, associate editor chair, at (530) 752-7692 or mlflint@ucanr.edu; or Ann Senuta, CSIT publications manager, at (530) 754-3908 or aesenuta@ucanr.edu.

UCD to host Climate-Smart Agriculture Global Science Conference

Scientists and policymakers from around the world will gather March 20-22 at UC Davis in an effort to identify science-based actions that can be taken to transform land management and community action in ways that will strengthen food security, encourage conservation of biodiversity and protect the resource base on which agriculture depends.

Planned in coordination with the World Bank, the conference will address the need for new technologies and institutional structures to slow climate change while also meeting goals for food security, livelihood and sustainability.

Plenary talks and poster sessions will be held in the Mondavi Center and breakout sessions will be in the UC Davis Conference Center.

The Climate-Smart Agriculture Global Science Conference builds on a 2011 meeting on the same theme in the Netherlands, recognizing that climate change is occurring more rapidly than anticipated, and the increase in extreme weather events threatens more disruptive effects to agriculture.


CASI seeks more ANR partnerships

Conservation Agriculture Systems Innovation (CASI) was formed last year to promote the adoption of agricultural practices that reduce tillage, fuel use and emissions, and that improve soil, water and air quality, while making crop production more efficient and less costly. The goals of this program tie in closely with efforts in ANR to understand how to sustainably feed a world population of 8 billion by 2025.

Working in partnership with innovative farmers throughout the Central Valley, CASI has already formulated an ambitious education plan to communicate the benefits of conservation agriculture and to teach growers how to implement the practices on their farms.

CASI is now reaching out to ANR colleagues and workgroups to increase its multidisciplinary research and extension education capacity. The group is seeking opportunities for exchanging information and combining expertise with other ANR groups to grow its research, educational and experience base for California.

To join in this effort or learn more about CASI, contact Jeff Mitchell at jpmitchell@ucdavis.edu. More information is also available at http://casi.ucanr.edu.
Names in the News

Mashiri named CD and advisor
Fadzayi Mashiri joined UC Cooperative Extension as director for UCCE in Mariposa County and rangeland and livestock advisor in Madera, Merced and Mariposa counties on Feb. 11.

Prior to joining UC, Mashiri was a senior research specialist at the University of Arizona, where she monitored the effects of taking on adaptive management approach to grazing on vegetation since 2008. In Zimbabwe, she was a senior agricultural extension officer for Agriculture Extension Services, training extension agents and advising farmers from 1995 to 2000. She served the next two years as a lecturer and chairperson for the Department of Livestock and Wild life Management at Midlands State University in Zimbabwe.

She holds a Ph.D. in range-land management from the University of Arizona, an M.S. in management of natural resources and sustainable agriculture from Agriculture University of Norway and a B.S. in forestry from University of New Hampshire.

DeSantis is based in Redding and can be reached at (530) 224-4900 and rdesantis@ucanr.edu.

Sanchez joins ANR
Robin Sanchez joined ANR as principal analyst in Administrative Policies and Business Contracts on Dec. 17. Sanchez is responsible for policy, compliance, California Public Records Act requests, California Information Practices Act requests, subpoenas and other legal matters.

Prior to joining ANR, Sanchez had worked at the UC Davis Alzheimer’s Disease Center as a technology and education analyst since 2002, and for the past three years was also a contract attorney for Balboa Collection of San Luis Obispo, Inc. From 1999 to 2002, she was an event coordinator for the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine.

She earned a J.D. from Lincoln Law School of Sacramento and a B.S. in neuropsychology from UC Davis.

Sanchez is based at the ANR Building in Davis and can be reached at (530) 754-0396 and rgsanchez@ucanr.edu.

Bolda receives NARBA award
The North American Raspberry & Blackberry Association presented its Distinguished Service Award for 2013 to Mark Bolda, UCCE advisor in Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito counties specializing in strawberries and caneberris.

In presenting the award, NARBA Executive Secretary Debby Wechsler noted that Bolda has been important both to the association and to the raspberry/blackberry industry as a whole, as well as to strawberries.

Bolda, who is also UCCE director for Santa Cruz County, was one of the first to identify and draw attention to spotted wing drosophila, a new invasive pest in berry crops, and has taken the lead on developing management programs for this pest and others.

Wechsler quoted one grower as saying of Bolda, "He is plain and simply an outstanding farm advisor who cares about the needs of growers and finding solutions for their problems."

Bolda served on NARBA’s Board of Directors 2007 through 2010. He played a leading role in organizing NARBA’s conference and farm tour in Monterey in 2010 and was also a planner and presenter for the association’s conference in Portland, Ore.

Nadler honored by ASP
Steve Nadler, professor in the Department of Entomology and Nematology at UC Davis, has been selected to receive the Henry Baldwin Ward Medal, presented by the American Society of Parasitologists in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the field of parasitology.

Nadler studies the evolutionary biology and molecular phylogenetics of parasites, focusing mainly on nematodes.

He will be honored at ASP’s 88th annual meeting, set June 26–29 in Quebec City, Quebec. The award, established in 1959, is named for H.B. Ward, the society’s first president and founder of the Journal of Parasitology.

Ingram selected for Pedro Ilic award
Roger Ingram, UCCE county director and advisor in Placer and Nevada counties, has been selected to receive the 2013 Pedro Ilic Award for Outstanding Educator.

“...your support of small-scale California ranchers and farmers through your leadership of the Grazing Academy, Niche Meats Conference and Placer Grown, your publication of the Foothill Rancher Newsletter, your significant support of High Sierra Beef and the Sierra Foothills Meat Buyers Club, and your major role in the development of the regional mobile poultry processing trailer unit,” Sherman Hardesty wrote to Ingram.

“Your research and outreach efforts have benefited many small ranchers and farmers in Placer and Nevada counties, and throughout the state,” wrote Hardesty, who is UC’s Small Farm program leader and Cooperative Extension specialist in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at UC Davis.

Ingram will receive the award at the Small Farm Conference in Fresno on March 11.
Urban ag project surveys ANR to assess needs

Urban agriculture is gaining in popularity around California and the nation. Recently, ANR funded a project through its competitive grants program to conduct a needs assessment and develop resources for UCCE advisors and staff, urban agriculture practitioners and policymakers. Part of the needs assessment is learning about how ANR academic and program staff members are engaging with urban agriculture.

Rachel Surls, UCCE advisor in Los Angeles County and principal investigator for the project, is asking members of the ANR community to participate in a short survey at http://ucanr.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveyname=9435 to help the project team identify resources that would be helpful in assisting this clientele group.

“Our team hopes to gather input from CE specialists and advisors, AES faculty, program representatives and other staff members in all program areas,” said Surls, who specializes in sustainable food systems. “If you are not sure if your community is considered ‘urban,’ please respond to the survey anyway.”

The survey closes March 15.

The urban agriculture project team includes co-principal investigators Aziz Baameur, UCCE advisor in Santa Clara County; Gail Feenstra, food systems analyst in the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program and the Agricultural Sustainability Institute at UC Davis; Shermain Hardesty, UCCE specialist and head of the UC Small Farm program at UC Davis; and Cheryl Wilen, UCCE advisor in San Diego County for IPM. Advisory committee members are Susan Algert, UCCE advisor in Santa Clara County; Ryan Galt, professor in the Department of Human and Community Services at UC Davis; Christy Getz, professor in the Department of Environmental Science, Policy and Management at UC Berkeley; Carol Goldstein, professor in the Department of Urban Planning at UCLA; Claire Napawan, professor in the Department of Environmental Design at UC Davis; Andrew Sutherland, UCCE advisor in Alameda County; and Eli Zigas, food systems and urban agriculture program manager for SPUR-San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association.

Urban agriculture, according to the definition used by the project team, “includes production (beyond that which is strictly for home consumption or educational purposes), distribution and marketing of food and other products within the cores of metropolitan areas and at their edges. Examples include community, school, backyard and rooftop gardens with a purpose extending beyond home consumption and education, urban market gardens, innovative food-production methods that maximize production in a small area, community supported agriculture based in urban areas and family farms located in metropolitan greenbelts.”

In Memoriam

Ray Lyon

Raymond G. Lyon, UCCE director and 4-H youth development advisor emeritus, passed away Jan. 30. He was 79.

Lyon was born in 1933 and raised on a sheep and pear ranch in Lake County. Active as a youth in 4-H and Future Farmers of America, Lyon aspired to be a farm advisor or agriculture teacher. Lyon received a bachelor degree in animal husbandry and a teaching credential from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo.

After teaching high school agriculture in Orland, Lyon joined Cooperative Extension in 1958 as the 4-H, dairy and forage crops advisor. In 1964 he assumed responsibility for both the Glenn and Colusa County 4-H programs.

Lyon was active in 4-H fundraising and program development, including personally running over a dozen summer-long cross-country trips for 4-H participants to visit other regions of the U.S.

In 1979 he was appointed county director in Glenn County and maintained active 4-H programs in both Glenn and Colusa counties. After 12 years of serving as Glenn County director, he also assumed the role of director for Tehama, Shasta and Trinity counties for three years. Lyon retired in 1994 after 36 years of service.

“He was a true leader and believer in Extension,” Larry Forero said of Lyon. “My favorite comment from Ray was, ‘You have to see the people. If you take care of clientele, they will take care of you.’”

“The thing I remember most was his favorite phrase: ‘Do not ask for permission, beg for forgiveness, if necessary after getting it done!’” said Kim Rodrigues.

There will be a memorial service for Lyon on March 24 at 1 p.m. at Glenn County Fairgrounds. In lieu of flowers, his family has named Colusa and Glenn County 4-H programs as the charity of their choice.