

UC ANR Water Webinar



Asking growers if their trees are thirsty

By: Luke Milliron, Orchard Systems Farm Advisor for Butte, Glenn, and Tehama Counties

University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources

Day/Time: Friday 3/18, 3 - 4 PM

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://ucmerced.zoom.us/j/93722796133?pwd=a2FsKzBTUGVtOEovSTNVanRSNjZMdz09>

Meeting ID: 937 2279 6133; Passcode: 92837

Speaker Bio: Luke Milliron is the Orchard Systems Farm Advisor for Butte, Glenn, and Tehama Counties. He grew up in Chico, California and completed his B.S. in Ag Science at CSU, Chico and M.S. in Horticulture and Agronomy at UC Davis. His primary crop responsibilities include almonds, walnuts, and prunes. Current research includes the start of irrigation in almond, evaluation of new almond varieties, walnut rootstock evaluation, and walnut whole orchard recycling. As part of his grower education program, he is working to increase the adoption of plant-based, pressure chamber irrigation management. Milliron is a co-host of the UC orchard podcast *Growing the Valley* and contributor to the *Sacramento Valley Orchard Source* website:

growingthevalleypodcast.com / sacvalleyorchards.com / twitter.com/MillironLuke

Abstract: Orchard irrigation management is a continuum, ranging from simply irrigating when your neighbor does, all the way to employing cutting-edge remote sensing technology. As an orchard farm advisor, Luke Milliron faces questions from growers about why their trees are sick or performing poorly. Often the answer comes back to very basic irrigation management and cultural best practices. One of those best practice solutions is asking the trees if they're thirsty with the use of the pressure chamber before deciding to irrigate. Despite this technology being around since the 1950's adoption rates are low in California orchard production. Luke will discuss where he's seen recent success in grower adoption and some of the questions, he's asking growers going forward.

Host: Safeeq Khan & Ellen Bruno, CE Specialists UC ANR