

IPM for LBAM

I just read the article on integrated pest management (IPM) for the light brown apple moth (LBAM) in New Zealand, and I want to thank you for publishing this research ("New Zealand lessons may aid efforts to control light brown apple moth in California," by Lucia Varela et al., January-March 2010).

It is such a relief and pleasure to me to see documented — in a peer-reviewed scientific journal by a team with such excellent credentials — what the literature on LBAM and the experience in New Zealand tell us about the real risk (or lack thereof) posed by LBAM and the effectiveness of simple, low-impact IPM methods for managing LBAM, if management is needed.

I sincerely hope that this research on parasitoids for LBAM will lead to a much more rigorously science-based approach that will result both in relieving farmers of burdensome quarantines and in ending the costly, unnecessary, and likely also dangerous and ineffective eradication program that the state has been promoting.

Nan Wishner, Chair Emeritus
Integrated Pest Management Task Force, Albany, CA

Amazing urban bees

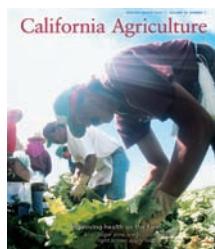
The photo on the cover of the July-September 2009 issue of *California Agriculture* ("Native Bees Enrich Urban Gardens") is amazing (and many of the inside photos are great, too). Was that shot by a researcher or by someone on the magazine's staff?

I just wanted to let you know the magazine looks great.

Kevin Leigh Smith, Editor, Agricultural Communication
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Editor's note: The cover photograph was shot by Rollin Coville, an environmental entomologist, photographer and member of Gordon Frankie's research team at UC Berkeley.

I read *California Agriculture* (July-September 2009) closely enough to have noticed the ACE award you won, so here's a hearty congratulations. Well-deserved, and has been for a long time. I was reading it while eating my bacon and eggs this morn-



Jan.–Mar. 2010



July–Sept. 2009

ing. Not sure how holistic that is, but I thank the farmers and animals.

The article on urban bees ("Native bees are a rich natural resource in urban California gardens") is on the very cusp. I have some friends who keep bees in the suburbs here. What I loved about your bee package was how much I learned about the many varieties of bees and their different life-strategies.

Joseph A. Davis, Writer-Editor
Bethesda, MD

Cal Ag art director retires

Davis Krauter, *California Agriculture*'s art director since 2001, retired on Feb. 26 with 26 years of service to the University. He presided over more than 40 issues of the journal, including several award-winners, with his characteristically strong sense of design and color; attention to detail and the "big picture"; and plenty of wit and humor. During his tenure, *California Agriculture*'s look became more stylized, vibrant and modern, with clear and appealing figures and tables and exacting color calibration. Davis played a major role in the overhaul of the *California Agriculture* Web site to a dynamic, database-driven model. From 1984 to 2001, Krauter worked as artist and senior artist with University and External Relations in the UC Office of the President. Krauter earned a bachelor of science degree in environmental education from UC Berkeley's College of Natural Resources. Davis plans to freelance, travel, work on his Berkeley house and spend more time with his wife Kristine.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

The editorial staff of *California Agriculture* welcomes your letters, comments and suggestions. Please write to us at 6701 San Pablo Ave., 2nd floor, Oakland, CA 94608 or calag@ucdavis.edu. Include your full name and address. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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— Editor

