



University of California Cooperative Extension – Kern County

NEWS RELEASE

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Year-Round IPM Program for Table Grapes Now Available Online



The University of California Statewide IPM Program (UC IPM) has long been known as a resource for unbiased, research-based information on pest management. Recently it has released a new year-round IPM program for table grape growers that adds even more value to the existing pest management guidelines available on its web site (<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu>).

Year-round IPM programs are a new tool designed to help growers, pest control advisors and crop consultants carry out comprehensive IPM programs in production agriculture. In the past, table grape pest management guidelines have been organized on a pest by pest basis. In contrast, the new year-round plan organizes information by crop development stage and includes information across all pests, including insects, mites, pathogens, weeds, nematodes, and vertebrates.

The table grape year-round program is organized into seven sections, including delayed-dormant period, bud break, rapid shoot growth, bloom, veraison, harvest and post-harvest. It provides an annual checklist of activities detailing what growers should do over the course of a year and what pests or damage may be observed during important crop physiological stages. It includes detailed monitoring instructions with decision thresholds, monitoring forms to print and use in the field for record keeping, printable photo sheets of pests and natural enemies, and all links back into the existing pest management guidelines for more information.

Another purpose of the year-round program is to maintain the effectiveness of IPM programs while improving the quality of the environment. For example, the WaterTox database can be used to compare pesticides and different application methods according to their potential to damage water quality. Similarly, pesticide tables can be used to identify pesticide modes of action and impacts on natural enemies and bees. Utilization of these tools can assist in the process of making the most informed decisions that weigh cultural, biological, and chemical control methods, and allow pesticide use, when justified, to be done with minimal impact to worker safety and environmental impact.

The year-round IPM program for table grapes was developed as a cooperative effort between the UC Statewide IPM Program and UCCE Farm Advisors with expertise in table grape production. Authors of the Year-round plan include David Haviland, Walt Bentley, Jennifer Hashim-Buckey, Steve Vasquez, Anil Shrestha, and Carmen Gispert. The year-round IPM program can be found at the UC IPM web site at <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu>. Just click on the link for Agriculture and floriculture (Pest Management Guidelines) and then the link for grapes. ■