

Production Horticulture Program

Emma Volk
Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties



Program Overview

I serve the nursery, greenhouse, and floriculture industries. Current research projects include vegetable transplant nutrition, IPM strategies for gerbera daisies, and cardboard mulching strategies.

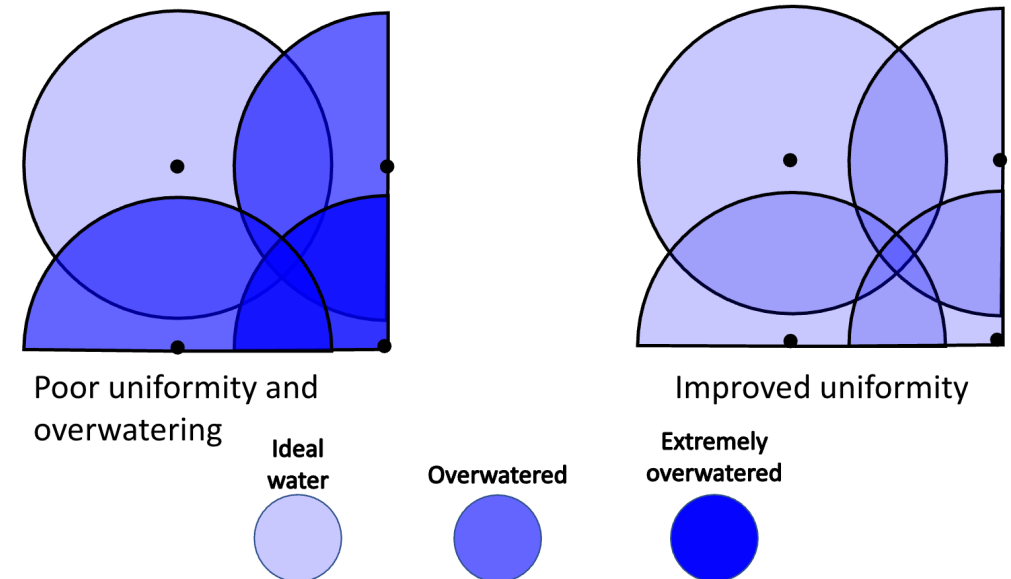


The Problem: Root Disease

- Needs assessment
 - 92% of nursery growers mentioned root disease
- Substrates are purchased sterile
- Prevention practices target majority of root pathogens



Irrigation Uniformity: Why is it Important?



Extension Efforts for Root Disease Prevention

- Irrigation workshops
 - 2 in Ventura County
 - 4 more statewide
- Discovery of new orchid pathogen: *Fusarium solani*
- Over-Irrigation Demonstration Trial

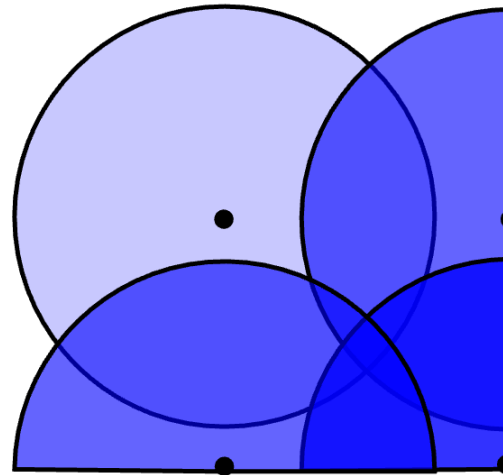


Anticipated Outcomes and Impacts

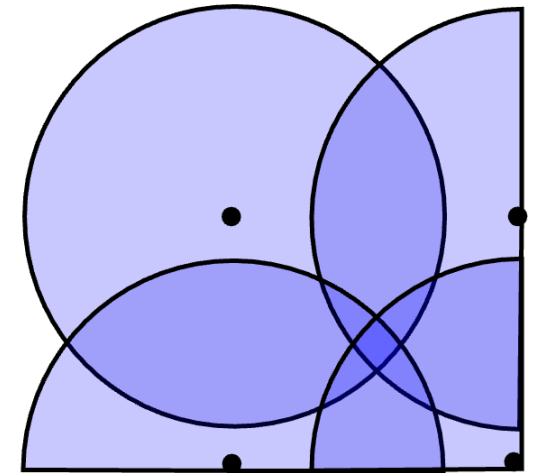
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- Improve water-use efficiency
- Increased ecological sustainability

Irrigation Uniformity: Why is it Important?



Poor uniformity and overwatering



Improved uniformity

Ideal water



Overwatered



Extremely overwatered



Partners

- UC Partners
 - Nursery and Floriculture Alliance
 - UC Specialists Drs. Johanna Del Castillo and Don Merhaut
- Ventura and Santa Barbara Nurseries
- Santa Barbara Nursery and Flower Growers Association
- Santa Barbara Ag Commissioner's Office



A large greenhouse filled with various plants. In the foreground, there are rows of plants in red pots, including some with variegated leaves. Above them, many ferns are hanging from the ceiling in red pots. The greenhouse structure is visible in the background.

Thank you!

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Advisor**