



2021 Western Alfalfa & Forage Symposium
November 16-17-18, 2021
Grand Sierra Resort and Hotel, Reno,
Program

Organized by:

University Cooperative Extension Services of Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming, in cooperation with grower members of the California Alfalfa & Forage Association.

Hosted by:

California Alfalfa & Forage Association, representing thousands of California forage growers.

Symposium Chairs:

Dan Putnam, University of California, Earl Creech, Utah State University, Emily Meccage, Forage Genetics International

Schedule of Events

Day One - Tuesday, November 16, 2021

- 6:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.** **Symposium and Exhibitor Registration**
- 7:30 a.m.** **Continental Breakfast (Tour Participants Only)**
- 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** **Exhibitor/Poster Set-Up**
- 8:00 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.** **Agricultural Educational Tour in Northern Nevada**

Overview: Tour stops will include a large western dairy production operation, a specialized goat dairy, Frey Ranch Distillery, the Derby Dam and Newslands Water Project, and a hay export operation. Pest Control (PCA) and Certified Crop (CCA) Continuing Education Credits offered (includes on-bus video training opportunity for pest management).

- 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.** **Symposium Welcome Reception**
Hors D'oeuvres and No Host Cocktails
Exhibits Open
Posters on Display

DAY Two - Wednesday, November 17, 2021

6:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Symposium Registration

7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Exhibits Open

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Symposium Main Session

- **8:00 a.m. Welcome**

Session I. 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Economics and Water Trends:

- 8:10 a.m. Status of the Western Forage Industry,
Josh Callen, The Hoyt Report, Twin Falls, ID
- 8:35 a.m. Current Trends and Challenges for the Western Dairy Industry
Paul Sousa, Western United Dairies, Turlock, CA
- 9:00 a.m. International Trade Dynamics in Hay and Impacts on Markets
Dan Sumner, University of California, Davis, CA
- 9:25 a.m. Water Situation in West and Impacts on Forages
Jason Kelley, USDA-ARS, Parlier, CA
- 9:50 a.m. Discussion
- **10:00 a.m. Break**

Session II. 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Water, Climate Change, and the Environment

- 10:30 a.m. The Important Role of Alfalfa in an Uncertain Water Future
Dan Putnam, University of California, Davis, CA
- 10:55 a.m. Key Role of Forages in Climate-Smart Agriculture
Josh Gamble, USDA-ARS, St. Paul, MN
- 11:20 a.m. Rethinking Methane – Livestock’s Path to Climate Neutrality
Frank Mitloener, University of California, Davis, CA
- 11:45 a.m. Discussion

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Symposium Lunch

1:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Symposium Breakout Sessions – Two Sessions Run Concurrently

Breakout 1: Pest Management

- 1:30 p.m. Alternative Burn-Down Strategies for Alfalfa Weed Control
Earl Creech, Utah State University, Logan, UT
- 1:50 p.m. Weed Control in Seedling Alfalfa
Albert Adjesiwor, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID
- 2:10 p.m. Poisonous Plants in Forage Production
Bryan L. Stegelmeier, USDA-ARS, Logan, UT
- 2:30 p.m. Rodent Control Strategies for Forage Production

Roger Baldwin, University of California, Davis, CA

- 2:50 p.m. Discussion
- **3:00 p.m. Break**
- 3:30 p.m. Grasshoppers: To Treat or Not to Treat?
Greg Abbot, USDA-APHIS, Logan, Utah
- 3:50 p.m. Alfalfa Weevil Management & Resistance Issues
Ian Grettenberger, University of California, Davis, CA and Kevin Wanner, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT
- 4:10 p.m. Alfalfa Aphid Management in California's Low Desert Environment
Michael Rethwisch, UCCE, Blythe, CA
- 4:30 p.m. Using Drones to Control Pests in Alfalfa
Rachael Long, UCCE, Woodland, CA and Ken Giles, University of California, Davis, CA
- 4:50 p.m. Discussion

Breakout 2: Water Management

- 1:30 p.m. Innovative Technologies for Water Conservation in Flood Irrigation Systems
Khaled Bali, University of California, Kearney Research and Extension Center, Parlier, CA
- 1:50 p.m. Optimizing Overhead Irrigation Systems
Matt Yost, Utah State University, Logan, UT
- 2:10 p.m. Plusses and Minuses with the Utilization of SDI in Alfalfa
Doug Larson, Ag Water Chemical, Fresno, CA
- 2:30 p.m. Alfalfa and Groundwater Management Strategies to Address Drought and Limited Water Supplies
Helen Dahlke, University of California, Davis, CA
- 2:50 p.m. Discussion
- **3:00 p.m. Break**

Breakout 3: Alternative Forages

- 3:30 p.m. Sugar Beets and Safflower as Alternative Winter Forages
Dr. Steve Kaffka, University of California, Davis, CA
- 3:50 p.m. Double Cropping Both Winter and Spring Canola as Silage and Grain
Dr. Steve Fransen, Washington State University, Prosser, WA
- 4:10 p.m. Hemp Production and Animal Feed Potential
Dr. Serkan Ates, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR
- 4:30 p.m. Winter and Summer Annual Small Grain Forage Crops
Dr. Guojie Wang, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR
- 4:50 p.m. Discussion

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Exhibit Reception, Poster Presentations, and CAFA Auction

Hors D'oeuvres and No Host Cocktails

Exhibits Open

Posters on Display

Day Three – Thursday, November 18, 2021

8:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Main Session

Soil Health and Fertility, Forage Systems, and the Future of Forage Crops

- 8:00 a.m. P and K Alfalfa Tissue Test Critical Levels
Steve Norberg, Washington State University, Prosser, WA
- 8:25 a.m. Recycling and Management of Manure in Forage Crops
Eric Young, USDA-ARS, Marshfield, WI
- 8:50 a.m. Soil Health: Beyond Organic Matter and Carbon
Robert Dungan, USDA-ARS Kimberly, ID
- 9:15 a.m. Regeneration Nation: Alfalfa's Role in Sustainable Agriculture
Emily Meccage, FGI International, Muncy, PA
- 9:40 a.m. Discussion
- **9:55 a.m. BREAK**
- 10:25 a.m. Grazing Cover Crops, and Opportunity for Forage Producers
Darrin Boss, Montana State University, Havre, MT
- 10:50 a.m. Management of Forages with High Nitrates
Hayes Goosey, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT
- 11:15 a.m. Perspectives and Future of Research/Cooperative Extension (Multi-State Discussion of Priorities and Linkages Within Western States)
Steve Fransen, Washington State University, Prosser, WA

- **12:15 p.m. Adjourn Symposium**

FOR SYMPOSIUM INFORMATION, UP-TO-DATE SCHEDULE, REGISTRATION, AND SPONSORSHIP/EXHIBITOR OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE

<https://calhaysymposium.com/>

