

Imperial County

Agricultural Briefs



Features from your Advisors

January 2022 (Volume 25 Issue 1)

Table of Contents

32 ND ANNUAL FALL DESERT CROPS WORKSHOP REPORTAli Montazar, Oli Bachie, Apurba Barman					
DECEMBER 2021 CATTLECAL NEWSLETTER UPDATE	_				
Brooke Latack	- 7 -				
SAMPLES WANTED FOR RESEARCH ON LETTUCE FUSARIUM WILT	-9 •				
IMPERIAL VALLEY CIMIS REPORT AND UC WATER MANAGEMENT RESOURCES					
Ali Montazar	- 10-				

32nd ANNUAL FALL DESERT CROPS WORKSHOP

Ali Montazar, Irrigation and Water Management Advisor, UCCE Imperial and Riverside Counties
Oli Bachie, Director, UCCE Imperial County & San Diego County; Agronomy Advisor, UCCE Imperial,
Riverside & San Diego Counties

Apurba Barman, Area Low Desert IPM Advisor, UCCE Imperial County

University of California Cooperative Extension - Imperial County held its 32nd "Fall Desert Crops Workshop" at Farm Credit West in Imperial on December 9th. The workshop was run as a hybrid event with in-person and virtual speakers and attendees. At this event, 15 speakers from UC Riverside, UCCE Imperial and Riverside Counties, University of Arizona, Imperial County Agricultural Commissioner Office, and water industry and private sectors came together to bring innovative ideas and solutions; and disseminate the outcomes of their recent studies and experiences in the desert region. The event was co-organized by UCCE Imperial County advisors; Oli Bachie, Ali Montazar, and Apurba Barman. We thank all presenters, growers, industries, and other participants for making this event successful.



Margo Sanchez, Imperial County Agricultural Commissioner Office, delivers a talk on The Imperial County Agricultural Benefit Program.

2



Ali Montazar, UCCE Imperial Irrigation and Water Management Advisor, delivers a talk on research advances in adopting drip irrigation for spinach production.



Amir Haghverdi, Assistant CE Professor of Irrigation and Water Management at UC Riverside, delivers a talk on advancing precision agriculture in California's desert environment (this talk was presented online).



Alex Putman, Assistant Specialist in Cooperative Extension and Assistant Plant Pathologist at UC Riverside, delivers an update on lettuce Fusarium wilt in California.



Apurba Barman, UCCE Imperial IPM Advisor, delivers an update on low desert pest management program update.



Antoon Ploeg, Cooperative Extension Specialist & Nematologist at UC Riverside, delivers a talk on low desert crop nematodes (carrots and other crops) and management approaches.



Michael Rethwisch, UCCE Riverside Crop Production and Entomology Advisor, delivers a talk on 2021 alfalfa weevil insecticide efficacy comparisons.



Marco Pena, Area weed management agent Arizona Cooperative Extension, delivers a talk on Weed seedling identification and management in the desert (this talk was presented online).



Oli Bachie, UCCE Imperial Agronomy Advisor and County Director, delivers a talk on What have we learned from impacts of the pandemic on low desert farming.

DECEMBER 2021 CATTLECALL NEWSLETTER UPDATE

Brooke Latack, Livestock Advisor – Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties

The December 2021 edition of the CattleCal newsletter covered information on the feeding steam-flaked corn in feedlot diets, the career and research of UCCE animal systems management specialist Jim Oltjen, and a discussion of a study looking at the effect of implant strategies on feedlot calf-fed Holstein steer performance and carcass characteristics when fed in excess of 300 days.

If you would like to subscribe to the CattleCal newsletter, please visit this site and enter your email address: http://ceimperial.ucanr.edu/news_359/CattleCal_483/

November CattleCal podcast episodes:

Quiz Zinn

In this episode, we asked Dr. Richard Zinn a question from our listeners related to feeding steam-flaked corn in feedlot diets.

Career Call

In the career call of the month, Brooke Latack and Pedro Carvalho called Dr. Jim Oltjen, a UCCE animal systems management specialist. Jim talks to us about his undergraduate work in physics and math and how that turned into a robust career in animal science.

- Research Call

Brooke Latack and Pedro Carvalho call Dr. Jim Oltjen. Jim takes us through his work developing the Davis growth model that he started in graduate school and continues to improve today.

- Feedlot Research Call

In this episode, join Pedro Carvalho and Brooke Latack as they discuss a study looking at the effect of different implant strategies on the performance and carcass characteristics of calf-fed Holstein steers fed in excess of 300 days.

The podcast can be found at

https://open.spotify.com/show/6PR02gPnmTSHEgsv09ghjY?si=9uxSj3dYQueTEOr3ExTyjw or by searching "CattleCal podcast" in Spotify. It is free to listen!

If you have burning questions about cattle management and would like your questions featured on our Quiz Zinn episodes, please send questions to cattlecalucd@gmail.com or DM your question to our Instagram account @cattlecal.

If you have any questions or comments or would like to subscribe to the newsletter, please contact:

Brooke Latack (UCCE Livestock advisor) – <u>bclatack@ucanr.edu</u>
Pedro Carvalho (CE Feedlot Management Specialist) - <u>pcarvalho@ucdavis.edu</u>
CattleCal: cattlecalucd@gmail.com

Samples wanted for research on Lettuce Fusarium wilt

WHAT we are looking for

Samples of lettuce plants affected by Fusarium wilt

WHERE we are looking

Imperial County (including Bard/ Winterhaven area) and Huron, other regions of California also welcome

WHY we are doing this

To monitor for emergence of new pathogen races

HOW you can help

If you are a grower or PCA and you have Fusarium wilt in your lettuce crop, contact us and we will survey your field and collect samples



Contact: Alex Putman, UC Riverside (951-522-9556, aiputman@ucr.edu)

Collaborators: Fun

9

IMPERIAL VALLEY CIMIS REPORT AND UC WATER MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

Ali Montazar, Irrigation & Water Mgmt Advisor, UCCE Imperial & Riverside Counties

The reference evapotranspiration (ET_o) is derived from a well-watered grass field and may be obtained from the nearest CIMIS (California Irrigation Management Information System) station. CIMIS is a program unit in the Water Use and Efficiency Branch, California Department of Water Resources that manages a network of over 145 automated weather stations in California. The network was designed to assist irrigators in managing their water resources more efficiently. CIMIS ET data are a good guideline for planning irrigations as bottom line, while crop ET may be estimated by multiplying ET_o by a crop coefficient (K_c) which is specific for each crop.

There are three CIMIS stations in Imperial County include Calipatria (CIMIS #41), Seeley (CIMIS #68), and Meloland (CIMIS #87). Data from the CIMIS network are available at:

http://www.cimis.water.ca.gov/. Estimates of the average daily ET_o for the period of January 1st to March 31st for the Imperial Valley stations are presented in Table 1. These values were calculated using the long-term data of each station.



Table 1. Estimates of average daily potential evapotranspiration (ET_o) in inch per day

	January		February		March	
Station	1-15	16-31	1-15	16-28	1-15	16-31
Calipatria	0.09	0.10	0.12	0.13	0.16	0.19
El Centro (Seeley)	0.10	0.11	0.13	0.15	0.19	0.22
Holtville (Meloland)	0.09	0.10	0.12	0.14	0.17	0.21

For more information about ET and crop coefficients, feel free to contact the UC Imperial County Cooperative Extension office (442-265-7700). You can also find the latest research-based advice and California water & drought management information/resources through link below:

http://ciwr.ucanr.edu/

