THE ALMOND CONFERENCE

BOLD HORIZONS



california almonds

2026

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2026

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The Almond Conference is made possible thanks to the generous support of our exhibitors and sponsors. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to each one for their invaluable contributions!

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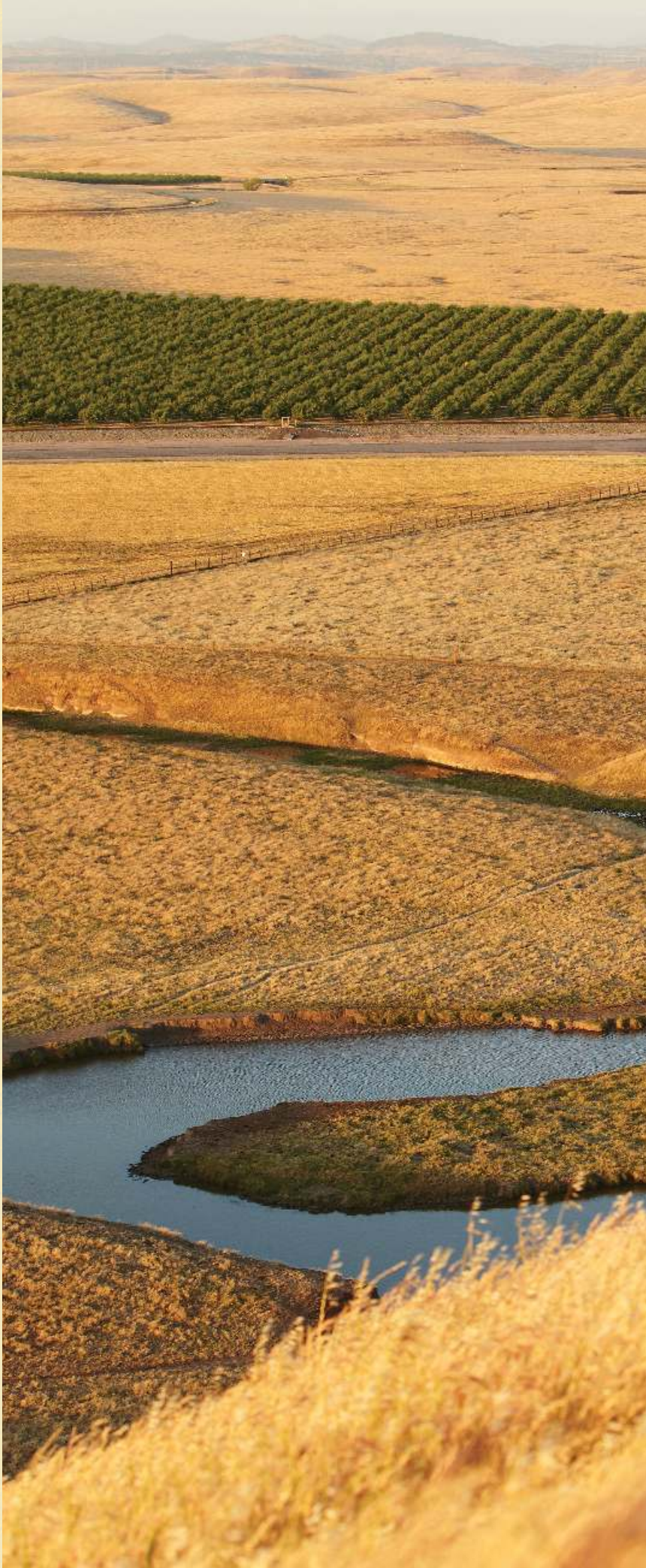
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THE ALMOND CONFERENCE

BOLD HORIZONS

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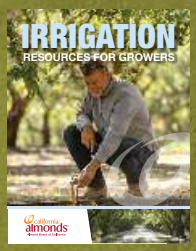
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2026 THE ALMOND CONFERENCE

VISIT OUR BOOTH

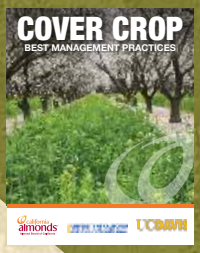












TOOLS FOR TODAY.
INSIGHTS FOR TOMORROW.

Visit booth #1018 for practical resources to take home and use.

From production guides and decision-support tools to educational materials and industry updates, the Almond Board of California booth is your source for practical, research-based resources. Stop by to explore the latest Almond Board initiatives, and pick up tools and insights that can help support better decisions throughout the season.

GENERAL RESOURCES

- 2026 Almond Almanac
- 2026 Research Update
- 2026 Fast Facts
- An Almond Story
- Everything You Get with a Handful of Almonds
- Guide to California Almonds Poster
- Technical Kit
- Why Almonds Wallet Guide

IRRIGATION RESOURCES

- Irrigation Resources Booklet
- Guide to Irrigation Automation in Almond Production
- Comparing ETa and ETc for Irrigation Management in Almond Production
- Almond Irrigation Improvement Continuum

GROWER GUIDES

- Cover Crops (also available in Spanish)
- Groundwater Recharge
- Honey Bee BMPs
- Nitrogen BMPs (also available in Punjabi)
- Rootstock Guide
- Salinity Management
- Soil Management
- Stockpile BMPs
- Variety Guide
- Whole Orchard Recycling
- Identification Books (updated in 2026: Disease and Nutrient Deficiency ID, Pest ID and Weed ID)

WANT RESOURCES SENT TO YOUR DOOR?
Scan the QR code to order your free materials.

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ALMOND BYTE

ALMOND JOURNEY PODCAST

MARKETING BULLETIN

HAVE YOU HEARD THE *ALMOND JOURNEY* PODCAST?

The *Almond Journey* podcast brings you inside the world of California almonds—where growers, handlers and industry leaders share how they're innovating, connecting with communities and moving the industry forward.

Tune in for fresh insights from the *Almond Byte* podcast, with global updates from the Almond Board of California, and the *Marketing Bulletin* podcast, spotlighting efforts to drive worldwide demand.

AMAZON APPLE SPOTIFY OVERCAST



ALMOND LEARNING HUB

The Almond Learning Hub is a free online resource, now offering more than 125 continuing education units for almond growers, pesticide applicators, handlers or any other almond industry professional.

VISIT OUR ALMOND LEARNING HUB, A FREE ONLINE RESOURCE

AlmondLearningHub.com

CEU INFORMATION

WHETHER YOU'RE A GROWER, A PESTICIDE APPLICATOR, A HANDLER OR ANY OTHER ALMOND INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL, WE HAVE A COURSE TO FIT YOUR NEEDS.



COMPLIMENTARY RESOURCES

Find helpful links, useful guides and videos for growers and handlers in one place—from incentive programs to tools for irrigation, crop protection, pollination, food safety and more!

ALMONDS.ORG/GROWERTOOLS

HOW TO RECEIVE CREDIT

MUST SHOW PHOTO ID FOR DPR CREDIT

ATTENDANCE TABLE IS LOCATED OUTSIDE OF THE SESSION ROOM

1. **A staff member will be present** at the attendance table outside of each session room to help assist participants with the process.
2. **Attendees will check in before the session starts** by showing **photo ID** and signing in at the table located outside of the session room.
3. **Attendees will provide** name, email address, license type and number, and credit type that they wish to receive.
4. **Attendees must check out at the end of the session on the sign-in sheet**. Certificates of attendance will only be available after the session ends, and only to attendees leaving that session room.

MONITORING

One to two Almond Board of California staff members will monitor every session to ensure that attendees remain for the entire duration of the session. Attendees leaving early will be reminded that by doing so, they forfeit all credits for that session.

CERTIFICATES

- **Attendance information will be tracked** and compiled after the sessions.
- **Course Completion Certificates will only be provided** to attendees that were present for the entire duration of that session.
- **Course Completion Certificates** will be available at the **end of the sessions** at the CEU attendance table outside of the session room.
- **No partial credits** will be offered.

CEU SESSIONS

CREDITS AND HOURS

TIME/LOCATION	SESSION	DPR CREDIT/ UNIT	CCA CREDIT/UNIT	CDFA-IRRIGATION + NITROGEN MANAGEMENT PLAN (INMP) CREDIT/UNIT
TUESDAY | DECEMBER 8				
10:30–11:45 a.m. BALLROOM A-9	**Rootstocks & Varieties: The Cost of Your Decision**		Crop Management – 1.0	
12:45–1:45 p.m. MEETING ROOM 2	**Pollination Update: Research, Bees & Bloom Success**		Sustainability – 1.0	
12:45–1:45 p.m. BALLROOM A-9	**Optimizing Fertigation: Aligning Yield Expectations, Nutrient Management and ROI**		Nutrient Management – 1.0	INMP – 1.0
WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 9				
10:30–11:15 a.m. BALLROOM A-9	**NOW & Carpophilus Beetle Updates**	Other – 1.0	Integrated Pest Management – 0.5	
10:30–11:30 a.m. BALLROOM B-1	**Practical Regenerative Farming: How-Tos and Co-Benefits**		Sustainability – 1.0	
11:20 a.m.–12:00 p.m. BALLROOM A-9	**Plant & Leaffooted Bugs: Management Discussion**		Integrated Pest Management – 0.5	
2:45–4:00 p.m. BALLROOM A-9	**Updates on Red Leaf Blotch, Hull Rot and Foliar Diseases**	Other – 1.0	Integrated Pest Management – 1.0	
2:45–4:00 p.m. BALLROOM B-1	**Would You Pass Inspection?**	*	Professional Development – 1.0	
THURSDAY | DECEMBER 10				
9:00–10:30 a.m. BALLROOM B-1	**Water Strategies in Challenging Regulatory Times**		Soil & Water Management – 1.5	INMP – 1.0

*The DPR credit listed above was submitted for approval. Please visit the CEU kiosk for final credit hours awarded.

AGENDA

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

Exhibit Hall: 1:00–6:00 p.m.
Sessions: 10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.
Food Trucks: 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
Registration: 8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

	GENERAL/BREAKS	MEETING ROOM 2	BALLROOM A-9	BALLROOM B-1	EXHIBIT HALL
10:00 a.m.					
10:30 a.m.	**Coffee Break** **Ballroom A Foyer** Sponsored by NATE'S HIVES		**Rootstocks & Varieties: The Cost of Your Decision**	**Policy Outlook: Progress, Priorities and What's Ahead for Almonds**	
11:00 a.m.					
11:30 a.m.					
12:00 p.m.					
12:30 p.m.					
1:00 p.m.	**Coffee Break** **Ballroom A Foyer** Sponsored by TriCal GROUP	**Pollination Update: Research, Bees & Bloom Success**	**Optimizing Fertigation: Aligning Yield Expectations, Nutrient Management and ROI**	**Global Trade—What a Difference a Year Makes!**	**Exhibit Hall Open**
1:30 p.m.					
2:00 p.m.	**State of the Industry** **Ballroom A**				
2:30 p.m.					
3:00 p.m.					
3:30 p.m.					**Trade Show Time & Opening Reception** Sponsored by FARM CREDIT AgWest Farm Credit | American AgCredit CoBank | Colusa-Glenn Farm Credit Fresno Madera Farm Credit
4:00 p.m.					
4:30 p.m.					
5:00 p.m.					
5:30 p.m.					
6:00 p.m.					

Sessions & exhibit hours Conference events & breaks

SESSIONS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

ROOTSTOCKS & VARIETIES: THE COST OF YOUR DECISION

10:30–11:45 a.m. | Ballroom A-9

Moderator: *Sebastian Saa (ABC)*

Speakers: *Luke Milliron (UC ANR), Brandon Rebiero (Rebiero Brothers), Gaby Chavarria (Harris Woolf Almonds), David Phippen (Travaille & Phippen), Ian Darling (Monte Vista Farming Company)*

Choosing the right variety and rootstock is one of the most consequential decisions an almond grower makes. This panel will explore how these choices influence productivity, profitability, pest management, orchard longevity and resilience under changing production conditions, providing practical insights from researchers, growers, handlers and additional industry experts.

POLICY OUTLOOK: PROGRESS, PRIORITIES AND WHAT'S AHEAD FOR ALMONDS

10:30–11:45 a.m. | Ballroom B-1

Speaker: *Alexi Rodriguez (Almond Alliance)*

A changing political and policy landscape continues to shape the outlook for California almonds. This session will cover key industry issues, advocacy developments from the past year and priorities for the year ahead. The Almond Alliance will also examine what a new governor, a new Secretary of Agriculture, shifting legislative leadership and the midterm elections could mean for California agriculture, and how the Alliance is directing its advocacy to improve the operating environment and strengthen industry competitiveness.

POLLINATION UPDATE: RESEARCH, BEES & BLOOM SUCCESS

12:45–1:45 p.m. | Meeting Room 2

Moderator: *Lauren Fann (ABC)*

Speakers: *Michael Simone-Finstrom (USDA-ARS), Cade Cappello (Pollinator Partnership)*

Honey bees are essential to almond production, and every bloom season presents opportunities and challenges. This session will provide updates on pollination research, cover crop benefits and bee best management practices growers can use to support pollinator health and orchard performance.

OPTIMIZING FERTIGATION: ALIGNING YIELD EXPECTATIONS, NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT AND ROI

12:45–1:45 p.m. | Ballroom A-9

Moderator: *Sebastian Saa (ABC)*

Speakers: *Sebastian Saa (ABC), Patrick H. Brown (UC Davis), Yufang Jin (UC Davis), Tom Bottoms (TV Farming Company; CDFA-FREP TASC)*

Fertilizer decisions are only as good as the yield expectations behind them. This session will showcase new grower-informed decision-support tools developed to help growers make more informed nitrogen and potassium management decisions. Presenters will demonstrate how improved yield forecasting, in-season adjustments and economic analysis can help increase nutrient use efficiency, avoid unnecessary inputs, optimize resource allocation and maximize return on investment.

GLOBAL TRADE—WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES!

12:45–1:45 p.m. | Ballroom B-1

Moderator: *Lindsay Tello (ABC)*

Speakers: *TBC*

From tariff challenges to market-access wins, panelists will explore the changing trade agenda, recent successes, opportunities and uncertainties ahead for California almonds.

STATE OF THE INDUSTRY

2:00–3:30 p.m. | Ballroom A

Speakers: *Clarice Turner (ABC President and CEO), Bob Silveira (ABC Board of Directors Chair)*

California almonds are at a pivotal moment. Join ABC President and CEO Clarice Turner and Board Chair Bob Silveira as they explore the opportunities and challenges ahead and share the industry's roadmap to build demand, strengthen consumer relevance, expand market opportunities and support grower viability. Be among the first to see the unveiling of the Almond Board's new marketing campaign and learn how innovation, market development and strategic partnerships are enabling new pathways for growth. To talk about how almonds are leading in addressing key trade and regulatory issues, we'll be joined by California Department of Food and Agriculture Secretary Karen Ross and U.S. Trade Representative Chief Agricultural Negotiator Julie Callahan.

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

Exhibit Hall: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
Sessions: 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Food Trucks: 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.
Registration: 7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

	GENERAL/BREAKS	MEETING ROOM 2	BALLROOM A-9	BALLROOM B-1	EXHIBIT HALL
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast Session: The Bold New Frontier: Reaching the Next Generation of Almond Consumers Ballroom A				
8:30 a.m.					
9:00 a.m.					Exhibit Hall Open
9:30 a.m.					Trade Show / Researcher Meet & Greet Poster Session
10:00 a.m.	Coffee Break Ballroom A Foyer Sponsored by SATAKE				
10:30 a.m.		Almond Hulls for Food Use, Really?	NOW & Carpophilus Beetle Updates	Practical Regenerative Farming: How-Tos and Co-Benefits	Exhibit Hall Open
11:00 a.m.					
11:30 a.m.			Plant & Leaffooted Bugs: Management Discussion		
12:00 p.m.	Lunch Session: A Legacy Rooted in California Ag Ballroom A Sponsored by Yosemite Farm Credit				
12:30 p.m.					
1:00 p.m.					Trade Show / Researcher Meet & Greet Poster Session
1:30 p.m.					
2:00 p.m.					
2:30 p.m.		A Quarter Century of Almond Pasteurization: Program Evolution, Lessons Learned and Future Opportunities for Validation Success	Updates on Red Leaf Blotch, Hull Rot and Foliar Diseases	Would You Pass Inspection?	Exhibit Hall Open
3:00 p.m.					
3:30 p.m.					Wednesday Reception & Trade Show Time
4:00 p.m.					
4:30 p.m.					
5:00 p.m.					

Sessions & exhibit hours Conference events & breaks

SESSIONS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

BREAKFAST SESSION: THE BOLD NEW FRONTIER: REACHING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ALMOND CONSUMERS

8:00–9:30 a.m. | Ballroom A

Speakers: *Emily Fleischmann (ABC), Laura Morin (ABC), Mani Pandher (ABC), Agency Representatives*

A strong future for almonds depends on connecting with tomorrow's consumers. Join us to learn more about the debut of the Almond Board's new campaign and how we're taking a bold approach to building interest and demand in the U.S. and India.

Anyone may attend this session. However, if you want to purchase breakfast as an add-on, visit an Onsite Registration kiosk to see if tickets are still available.

ALMOND HULLS FOR FOOD USE, REALLY?

10:30–11:30 a.m. | Meeting Room 2

Moderator: *Michael Kelley (Central California Almond Growers Association)*

Speakers: *Guangwei Huang (ABC), Carole Widmayer (The Widmayer Group), Aashish Mane/ William Ghirardelli (BUHLER Group), CarmenMaria Navarro (ABC)*

This session will highlight the pathway to Generally Recognized As Safe status for almond hull powder (AHP) and its importance in enabling broader food applications. Speakers will discuss progress toward key technical and regulatory considerations, commercial-scale production and the market potential for AHP as a sustainable food ingredient. The session will also explore strategies for successful market adoption, including value proposition development, customer engagement and commercialization opportunities across food applications.

NOW & CARPOPHILUS BEETLE UPDATES

10:30–11:15 a.m. | Ballroom A-9

Moderator: *Lauren Fann (ABC)*

Speakers: *David Haviland (UC ANR), Houston Wilson (UC Riverside)*

Learn about recent wins and new concerns in navel orangeworm management and explore the Decision Aid Support tool, current research and its next-step potential for the industry. Experts will also give the latest updates on *Carpophilus* beetle research.

PRACTICAL REGENERATIVE FARMING: HOW-TOS AND CO-BENEFITS

10:30–11:30 a.m. | Ballroom B-1

Moderator: *Gabriele Ludwig (ABC)*

Speakers: *Sat Darshan Khalsa (UC Davis), Christine Gemperle (Gemperle Orchards)*

Regenerative farming isn't new—almond growers have used these practices for generations, and 80% already use at least 11 in their orchards. This session will share research on benefits like water savings and added nutrients, plus a farmer panel on what's working, what's not and how to get involved.

PLANT & LEAFFOOTED BUGS: MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION

11:20 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | Ballroom A-9

Moderator: *Lauren Fann (ABC)*

Speaker: *Houston Wilson (UC Riverside)*

This session opens with an update on leaffooted bug research, including new pheromone lure and trap technology. Growers and pest control advisors will then be invited to share research priorities in an open, interactive discussion.

LUNCH SESSION: A LEGACY ROOTED IN CALIFORNIA AG

11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | Ballroom A

Speakers: *Clarice Turner (ABC), Karen Ross (Secretary, California Department of Food and Agriculture)*

As California's longest-serving woman as Secretary of Agriculture, Karen Ross has spent her career protecting and promoting California agriculture. Over lunch, we'll explore some of her experiences and learnings during that time—and gain Karen's insights for how the almond industry should prepare to engage a new governor and administration.

Sponsored by Yosemite Farm Credit

A lunch ticket is required to attend this session. Please visit an Onsite Registration kiosk to check ticket availability.

The 2026 Almond Achievement Award and Almond Technical Achievement Award winners will be announced during this session.

A QUARTER CENTURY OF ALMOND PASTEURIZATION: PROGRAM EVOLUTION, LESSONS LEARNED AND FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES FOR VALIDATION SUCCESS

2:45–4:00 p.m. | Meeting Room 2

Moderator: *Tim Birmingham (ABC)*

Speakers: *Karen Lapsley (ABC TERP Chairperson), Linda Harris (ABC TERP), Tim Birmingham (ABC), Ian Hildebrandt (ABC TERP)*

Review the 25-year evolution of almond pasteurization and the lessons learned along the way. Gain practical insights on validation preparation, avoiding common pitfalls and preparing for future opportunities in validation.

UPDATES ON RED LEAF BLOTCH, HULL ROT AND FOLIAR DISEASES

2:45–4:00 p.m. | Ballroom A-9

Moderator: *Lauren Fann (ABC)*

Speakers: *Florent Trouillas (UC Davis), Jim Adaskaveg (UC Riverside)*

This session covers what researchers know to date about red leaf blotch, hull rot and foliar diseases, plus automated spore trapping, disease forecasting, suspected red leaf blotch response steps and current best management practices.

WOULD YOU PASS INSPECTION?

2:45–4:00 p.m. | Ballroom B-1

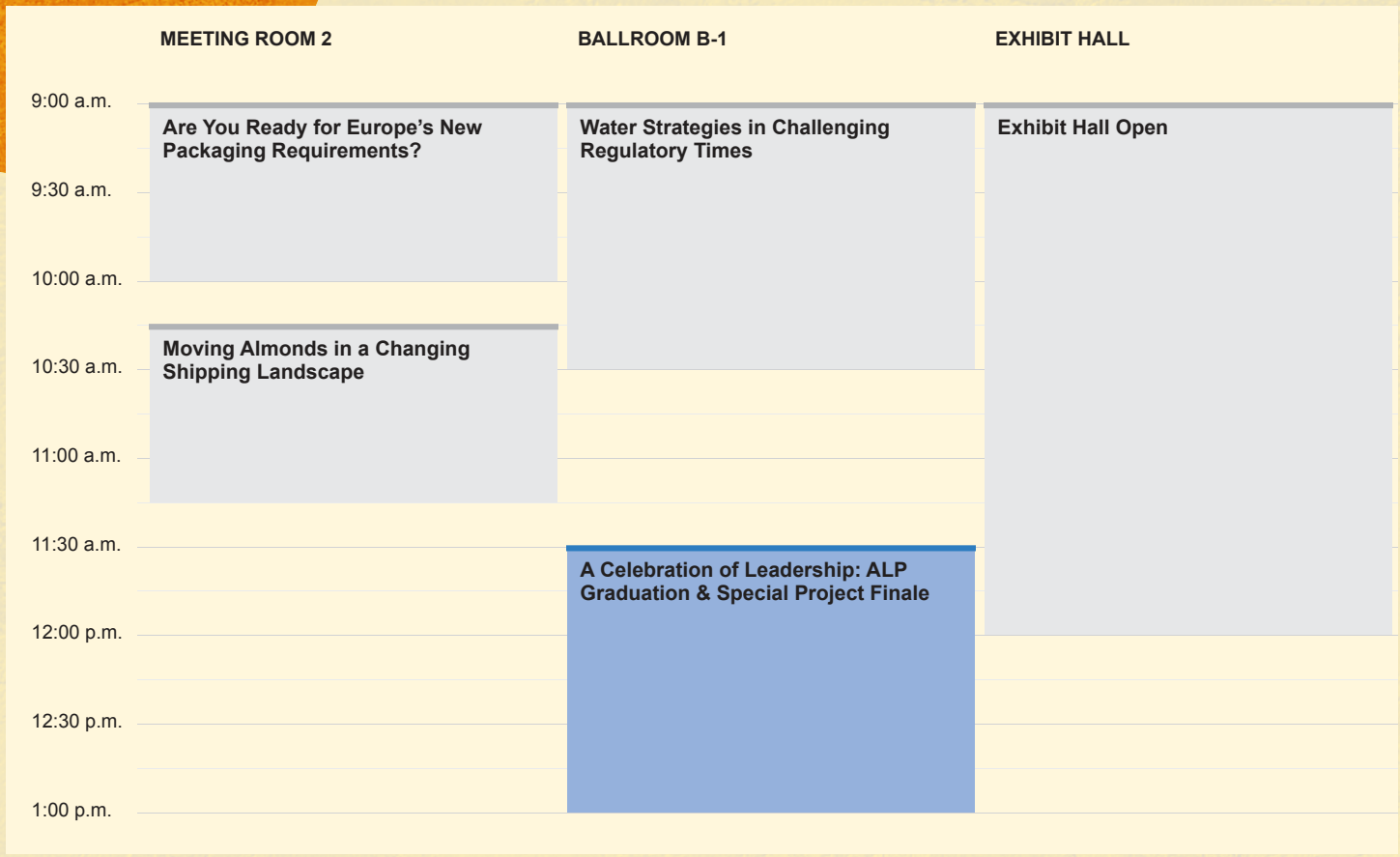
Speaker: *Anna Genasci (Farm Employers Labor Service)*

Stay ahead of California's evolving employment and workplace compliance requirements with a practical overview of new laws and regulations impacting agricultural employers in 2027. This session will cover key updates from the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health, Department of Industrial Relations and Department of Pesticide Regulation, along with important wage-and-hour developments, timely reminders about current enforcement priorities and common compliance pitfalls. Attendees will leave with actionable information to help prepare their operations for the year ahead.

AGENDA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

Exhibit Hall: 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
Sessions: 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Registration: 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.



GET INVOLVED

In addition to the Board of Directors, nearly 200 active almond industry members serve on committees and workgroups to further the work of the Almond Board of California. Volunteering with the Almond Board helps ensure almonds remain an essential crop in California and are demanded by consumers around the world.

ATTEND A MEETING
ANY INDUSTRY MEMBER IS WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND ABC MEETINGS AND EVENTS. USE QR TO SEE CALENDAR OF EVENTS.

JOIN A COMMITTEE
APPLICATIONS ARE ACCEPTED YEAR-ROUND, WITH NEW APPOINTMENTS IN AUGUST. USE QR TO APPLY NOW.



SESSIONS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

ARE YOU READY FOR EUROPE'S NEW PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS?

9:00–10:00 a.m. | Meeting Room 2

Moderator: *Abhi Kulkarni (ABC)*

Speakers: *Kristen Sukalac (Prospero & Partners—ABC Consultant), Jens Borchert (PALM Nuts and More, Germany), Matthew Wright (Specright and FOREST-PKG)*

Europe's rapidly evolving packaging and recycling regulations are influencing supply chains worldwide and could have significant implications for the almond industry. Learn what these changes mean for handlers and exporters, the risks of falling behind, and the strategies being explored to meet requirements while protecting product quality, food safety and customer expectations.

WATER STRATEGIES IN CHALLENGING REGULATORY TIMES

9:00–10:30 a.m. | Ballroom B-1

Moderator: *Michael Roots (ABC)*

Speakers: *Michelle Paul (California Farm Water Coalition), Caitlin Peterson (Public Policy Institute of California), Katie Carlson (Zanjero, Inc.), Carl B. Evers III (AgIS Capital)*

This session will provide updates on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act implementation, Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program incentive programs, and practical strategies for managing farms and orchards amid water and regulatory challenges. Participants will explore resources, land repurposing opportunities and water-smart approaches that support long-term resilience and profitability.

MOVING ALMONDS IN A CHANGING SHIPPING LANDSCAPE

10:15–11:15 a.m. | Meeting Room 2

Moderator: *Brock Densel (ABC)*

Speakers: *Courtney Collins (ABC), Sunny Toor (Valley Pride), Wendi Haggard (Famoso Nut Company), Debbie McMillan (Derco Foods)*

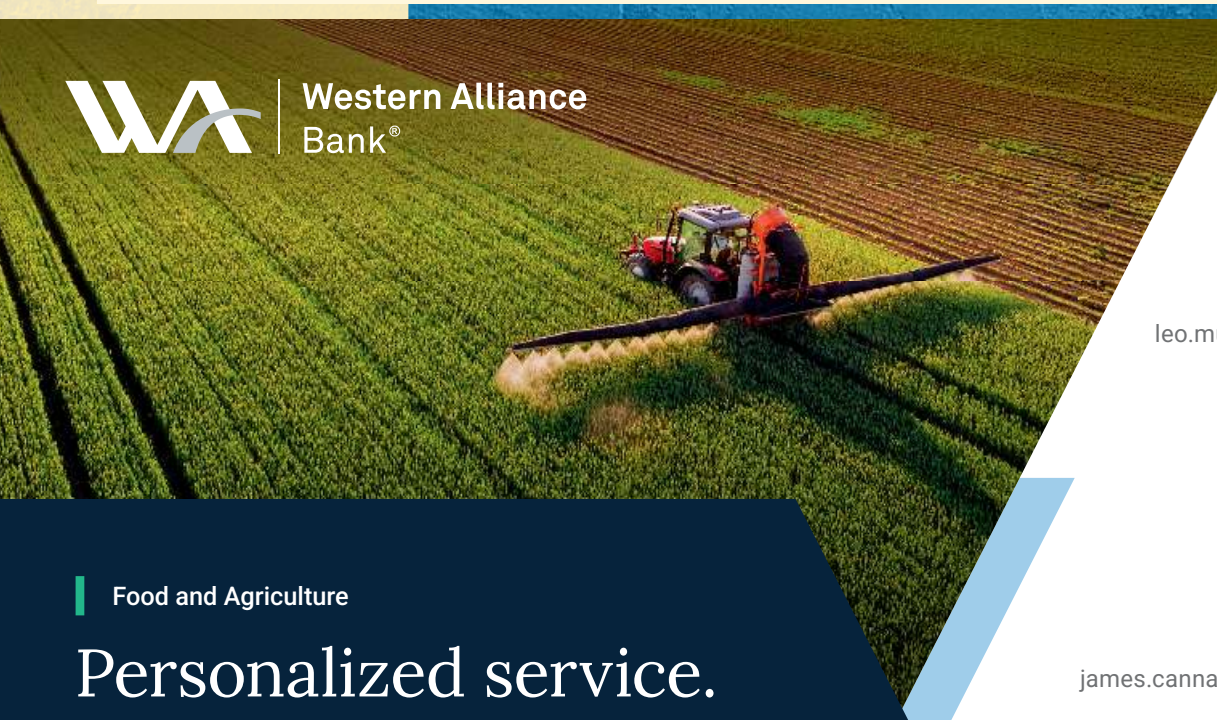
This session will examine how transshipment hubs such as the UAE, Turkey and Southeast Asia are shaping new pathways for California almonds amid shipping disruptions.

A CELEBRATION OF LEADERSHIP: ALP GRADUATION & SPECIAL PROJECT FINALE

11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. | Ballroom B-1

Join us for a celebration of leadership, innovation and industry impact. Learn more about the Almond Leadership Program and honor the graduating Class of 2026 during the official pinning ceremony. You'll also hear from the winner of the 2026 Special Project Competition.

Visit page 11 for a list of Almond Leadership Program graduates.



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Leo Munoz
Industry Executive,
Food, Agriculture & Beverage
leo.munoz@westernalliancebank.com



James Cannariato
Senior Vice President,
Senior Relationship Manager,
Food, Agriculture & Beverage
james.cannariato@westernalliancebank.com



Brandon Lewis
Vice President,
Commercial Underwriter
brandon.lewis@westernalliancebank.com

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Visit this year's class members during Wednesday's Poster Session to hear about their special projects.

Almond Leadership PROGRAM

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2026!



Established in 2009, the Almond Leadership Program (ALP) is a yearlong initiative designed to inspire and equip members of the almond community with the skills to lead a dynamic and evolving industry. Since its inception, nearly 270 participants have graduated from the program, with more than 80 going on to serve on Almond Board of California committees or the Board of Directors.

2026 GRADUATES

Rebekah Burrows, Advancing Eco Agriculture | GGI Farms
Grace Fales, Baugher Ranch Organics
Daniel Frea, Hanson Bridgett LLP | Frea Farms
Austin Jackson, Blue Diamond Growers
Andrew Jensen, Crop Syndicate
Julian Jimenez, Pomona Farming LLC
Natalie Kidd, Kidd Farms
Catherine Machado, Manulife Farmland Mgmt Services
Madison Martella, Monte Vista Farming Company
Prabh Monder, Monder Farms
Connor Pate, Belkorp Ag LLC
Alexus Powell-Crow, Grow West
Noah Riley, Kula Bio
Hyeong Shin, HS Ventures
Orlando Tapia, Corteva Agriscience
John Unzueta, Cache Creek Foods LLC
Alyssa Valdez, Pistachio Processing
James Williamson, PGIM Real Estate

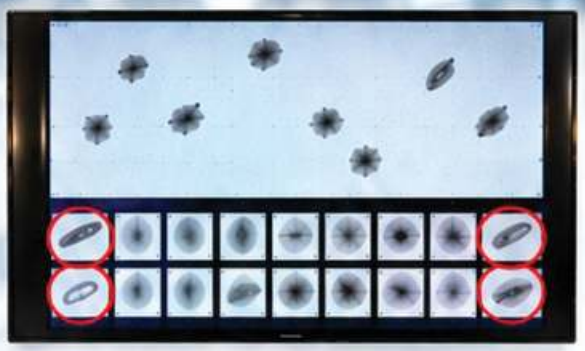
THANK YOU TO THE 2026 MENTORS

Jaspaul Bains, Bains Ag LLC
Jose Borrell, Borrell USA Corp.
Dominique Camou, Famoso Nut Company
Stan Chance, Yosemite Farm Credit
Craig Duerr, Campos Brothers Farms
Jerry Enriquez, Satake
Jereme Fromm, California Nut Co.
Ladd Hackler, Jenjil Packaging, Inc.
Amanda Hernandez, TriCal Group
Donny Hicks, RPAC LLC
Ashley Hollis, Chandler Automation
Alyssa Luna, Netafim
Michael Marsh, Yosemite Farm Credit
Joe Palomino, Axiom Ag
Carson Pettit, RPAC LLC
Lucas Schmidt, Grow West
Manny Sousa, Burchell Nursery, Inc.
Megan Stetser, Manulife Investment Management
Chandler Wilson, Valent BioSciences

OPTICAL SORTING | DEEP LEARNING AI | X-RAY INSPECTION | COMPLETE PACKAGING LINES

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Thank you to Liberty Ranch FFA, Madera FFA and Turlock FFA for assisting at The Almond Conference.

The Almond Conference's silent auction supports the California FFA Foundation, funding scholarships that help high school students pursue agriculture-related college degrees.

Stop by the Exhibit Hall to see this year's auction items. Your next great find could help a student take their next big step.

AUCTION HOURS

Tuesday	1:00–6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
	The auction closes at 4:00 p.m.
	Auction checkout 4:00–5:00 p.m.

Winners need not be present. FFA staff will contact absent winners to collect payment and arrange item delivery.

YOUR GENEROSITY GOES FURTHER THIS WEEK.

Thanks to 2026 Emerald Sponsor Qcify, silent auction proceeds will be matched up to $10,000.

EMERALD QCIFY member of eivis The Almond Conference

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- ✓ Advocates for your interests and for policies that support a strong, profitable almond industry.
- ✓ Keeps you informed about legislative, regulatory, and political issues affecting your business.
- ✓ Connects you with the people, resources, and relationships you need.

Visit **OUR BOOTH # 1333**

Almond Alliance

ALMONDALLIANCE.ORG



INCENTIVE AND GROWER SUPPORT ZONE

The Incentive and Grower Support Zone is returning to The Almond Conference! This is the place to learn about government incentives and other forms of support. Many of these incentive programs began as research projects with funding from the Almond Board of California, with proven agronomic benefits.

Grower incentives through federal, state and local programs provide funding for adoption of many practices of interest to almond growers.

EXAMPLES OF AVAILABLE FUNDING INCLUDE:

- More efficient irrigation, distribution uniformity testing and nutrient management systems
- Groundwater recharge
- Cleaner on-farm equipment
- Low-dust harvesters
- Habitat projects, including pollinator hedges
- Navel orangeworm mating disruption and Integrated Pest Management
- Planning grants, and many other practices

The tables with agency staff and program materials are located near the Exhibit Hall's main entrance. Just keep an eye out and you can't miss it.



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POSTER SESSION LISTING

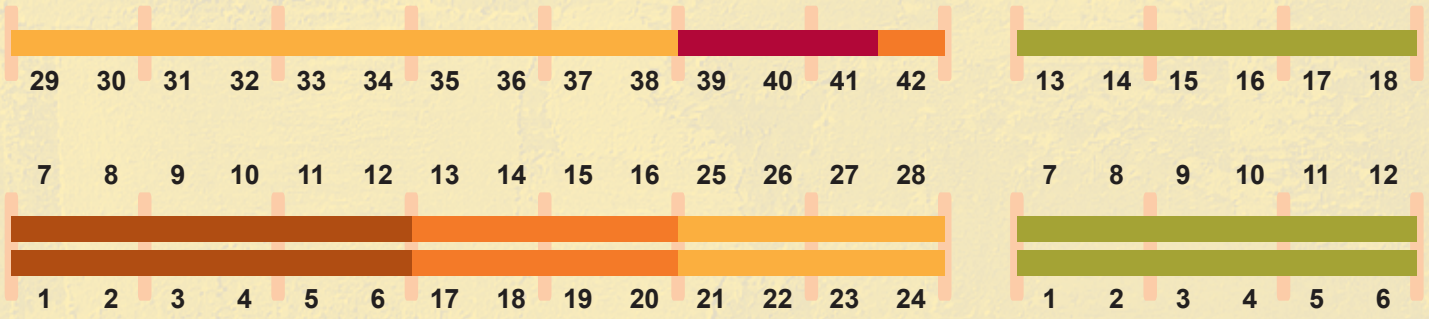
1 **PEST06 G2-Crowder:** Expanding and Refining a Decision Support System for Navel Orangeworm in California Almonds
2 **PEST05-Haviland:** Evaluation of Microbial and Biological Pesticides for Navel Orangeworm
3 **PEST04&13-Trouillas:** Integrated Management of Red Leaf Blotch of Almond
4 **PATH1-Browne:** Improving Non-Fumigant-Based Approaches for Management of Almond Replant Problems
5 **PEST09&10-Wilson:** Improved Monitoring and Management of the Invasive Carpophilus Beetle
6 **PEST11-Wilson:** New Tools for Monitoring Leaffooted Bugs in Almond Orchards Management
7 **PEST07-Adaskaveg:** Region-Wide, Almond Disease Risk Prediction System
8 **PEST08-Adaskaveg:** Epidemiology and Management of Phytophthora Diseases of Almond
9 **ENTO32-Rijal:** Improving Integrated Pest Management Practices of Major Hemipteran Pests
10 **2025 PEST Eval-Fann:** Performance Evaluation of Biopesticides
11 **NOW01-Matzen:** Development of a Friendly Navel Orangeworm Solution for Targeted Pest Management
12 **POLL30-Simone-Finstrom:** Areawide Model to Evaluate and Support IPM Control of Varroa Across Commercial Beekeeping Operations
13 **WATER17-Zwieniecki:** How to Irrigate Almond Orchards—for the Current Year's Expected Yield or for Maximum Yield Potential?
14 **WATER16-BAM-Bambach:** Determining Almond Tree Water Use and Stress Using Surface Energy Balance Models with Unmanned Aircraft Systems
15 **WATER20-Bambach:** Refining Water Footprints: An Evaluation in the Context of California Mediterranean Cropping Systems
16 **INSH10-Gordon:** Evaluation of the Drought Tolerance of Commercially Available Almond Rootstocks
17 **INSH11-Geisseler:** Potassium Fixation in the Central Valley and Its Impacts on Plant-Available Potassium for Almond Production
18 **SUS01-Inman:** Avian Biodiversity in Almond Orchards of Central California
19 **INSH06-Culumber:** Optimizing Nitrogen and Water Use Efficiency in Replanted Orchards after Whole Orchard Recycling
20 **WATER19-Shackel:** Does a Low Fruit Set Year Require Less than Full In-Season Irrigation?
21 **HORT78-Shackel:** Supporting 3.5 Acres of Fully Mature Almond Irrigation Demonstration Plot at UC ANR Kearney Agricultural Extension Center
22 **INSH05-Gaudin:** Multi-Scale Evaluation of Stacked Regenerative Practices in Almond Systems
23 **HORT16 G2-Westphal:** Integrated Conventional and Genomic Approaches to Almond Rootstock Development
24 **HORT67-Volder:** Comparing Root Traits and Depth Distributions for Mature Almond Rootstocks; Is There a Link Between Root Architecture and Propagation Method?
25 **HORT03-Zuber:** Farm Advisor Extension and Outreach Initiatives
26 **Strat01&02-Zuber:** Almond Board, UC Merced and UC ANR Strategic Partnership: Almond Demonstration Orchard
27 **HORT03-Angeles and Mireles:** Assessing Soil Adjuvants to Enhance the Residual Activity of Pre-Emergence Herbicides in Almonds
28 **ENTO34-Haviland:** Experimental Farm Project
29 **HORT6 G2-Niederholzer:** Nickels Soil Lab Projects
30 **HORT61-Stover-Blackburn:** Strategic Partnership Between Fruit and Nut Research and Information Center and Almond Board of California
31 **STRAT03&04-Milliron:** Strategic Almond Board Partnership with CSUC and UC ANR
32 **HORT04-Yaghmour:** Field Evaluation of Almond Rootstocks
33 **HORT74-Yaghmour:** Regional Field Evaluation of New Almond Varieties & Selections—4th Generation
34 **OTR02-Brown:** Developing Genomic and Phenomic Tools for Almond Breeding
35 **HORT02-Duncan:** Regional Field Evaluation of New Almond Varieties & Selections—4th Generation
36 **HARV09-Foresti:** Stockpile Ambient Aeration and Wet Crop Transport for Off-Ground Harvesting
37 **HORT01&HORT51-Gradziel:** Almond Variety Development and Accelerated Assessment of Almond Variety Candidates
38 **HORT66YJ G2-Jin:** Yield Prediction for Resource Management and Yield Optimization in Almond G2
39 **2026-AQFS-Mitchell:** Identifying Flavor Potential in Almond Hulls: Effects of Cultivar and Roasting on Volatile Organic Compounds Relevant to Food Applications
40 **23-AQFS-AM-1-Mitchell:** Valorizing Almond Hulls: Understanding Composition and Stability of Phenolic Compounds in Almond Hulls
41 **2026-AQFS-Wang:** Proactive Strategies to Ensure the Microbial Safety of Almond Hulls and Almond Hull Powder for Human Food Applications
42 **INSH15-Bailey:** Software Tools for Increasing Energy and Water-Use Efficiency of Irrigation System Design and Management

ALMOND LEADERSHIP PROGRAM*

1 **ALP-Rebekah Burrows** Using Sap Sampling to Identify Early Nutrient Deficiencies in Almonds and Improve Nutrient Efficiency
2 **ALP-Grace Fales** Almond Passport: Your Guide to California Almond Experiences
3 **ALP-Daniel Frea** Beyond the Kernel: Almond Byproducts and the Squeeze on Farmland
4 **ALP-Austin Jackson** Drone & Airplane Spray Applications Data Research
5 **ALP-Andrew Jensen** Winston AI: Almond Intelligence
6 **ALP-Julian Jimenez** Meet the Grower: Bridging the Gap Between Consumers and Growers
7 **ALP-Natalie Kidd** Almond Education
8 **ALP-Catherine Machado** The Cost of Compliance: Evaluating the Economic Impact of Regulation on California Almond Farmers
9 **ALP-Madison Martella** Roots of Resilience
10 **ALP-Prabh Monder** AgTech at Scale
11 **ALP-Connor Pate** Evaluation of Foliar Spray Application Efficiency and Efficacy in Almonds Using Smart Apply Intelligent Spray Systems
12 **ALP-Alexus Powell-Crow** Not Your Almond Mom's Kitchen
13 **ALP-Noah Riley** Revolutionizing Nitrogen for California Almonds
14 **ALP-Hyeong Shin** Margins Through the Supply Chain
15 **ALP-Orlando Tapia** Biologicals to Maximize Yield Potential
16 **ALP-John Unzueta** SGMA—Effects of Water Policy on Land Productivity and Property Value
17 **ALP-Alyssa Valdez** Project Orchard Shield: Almond Perimeter Protection Initiative
18 **ALP-James Williamson** Inflationary Pressures in the Almond Industry

**2026 Almond Leadership Program participant*

POSTER SESSION MAP



- Pest and Diseases (1–12)
- Irrigation, Nutrient and Soil Health (13–20, 42)
- Orchard Tree Rootstock, Tree Physiology, Nutrients, Harvest, Soil Health and Pollination (21–38)
- Almond Quality and Food Safety (39–41)
- Almond Leadership Program (1–18)

RESEARCHER MEET AND GREET OPPORTUNITIES AND ALMOND LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

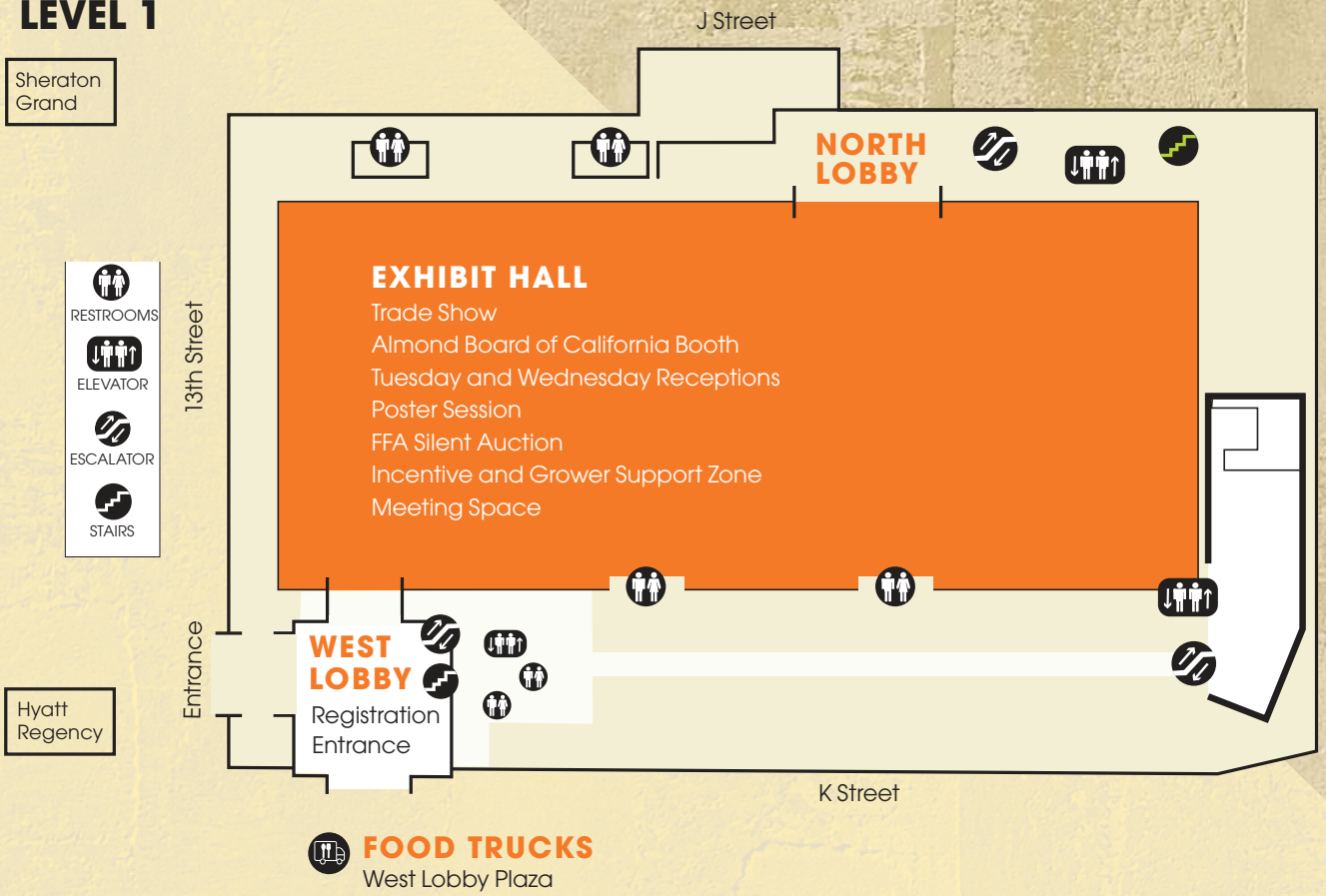
Stay up to date with the latest Almond Board of California–funded research projects. Research posters will be on display in the Exhibit Hall during exhibit hours. Make sure you stop by during Wednesday's designated Poster Session times to meet with researchers.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9 | 9:30–10:30 a.m. and 1:00–2:30 p.m.



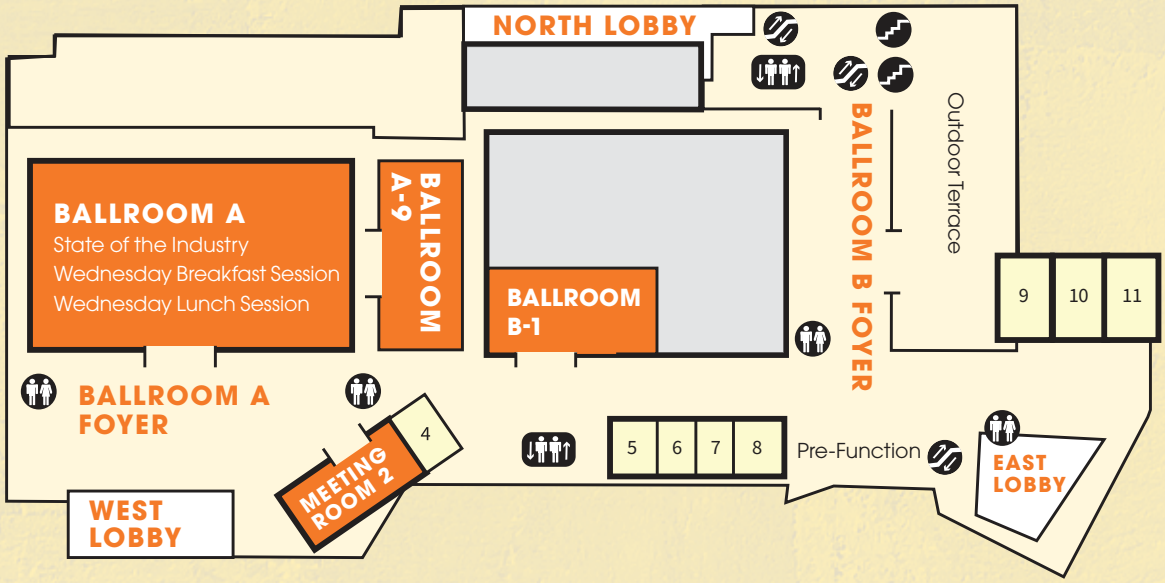
CONVENTION CENTER MAP

LEVEL 1



FOOD TRUCKS
West Lobby Plaza

LEVEL 2



ALMOND CONFERENCE EXHIBITOR LISTING

3P Partners	414
Acadian Plant Health	1315
Ag Spray Equipment	533
Agility Ag	221
AgPro	216
Agri Technovation	317
AgriBusiness Financial Inc.	515
AgriERP by Folio3	726
Agriland Farming Company / Agrisystems / Agriland Nursery	314
AgriMortgage Inc.	517
AgroPlantae	232
Agworld	526
Air-O-Fan Products	716
AIVISION FOOD	1512
Almond Alliance	1333
Almond Board of California	1018
Alzchem LLC	810
Amcor Flexibles North America	613
AMD OPTICAL SORTING	1312
American Almond Company Inc.	1427
Amiad Water Systems	421
AMVT LLC	**825, 1141**
Antles Pollen Supplies, Inc.	1634
Anysort	1041
Apex Ag Technologies	321
B&L Neeley	621
Balchem	618
BASF	**1033**
Bee Technologies	1611
BeeHero	531
Beeler Industries	727
Beewise	800
Best Drayage LLC	1219
Best Sanitizers, Inc.	320
BioPollen Solutions	330
Blue Tech Water	233
Bonsai Robotics	1410
Borde, Inc.	913
BORRELL USA CORP.	**1119**
Brandt	714
Branif Systems, Inc.	230
Bratney	1621
Broekema Beltway	1414
BUHLER Group / West-Link	1133
Burchell Nursery, Inc.	832



EXHIBITOR LISTING

C & C Engineering	1515
Calcat	1327
California Agave Council	218
California Department of Pesticide Regulation	1417
Capay Canyon Ranch	615
Carbon Friendly	328
Chain-Vey (A Division of MPE)	1213
Chandler Automation	600
Coit and Hewes, LLC	1516
Corteva Agriscience	312
Dave Wilson Nursery	1311
Deerpoint Group, LLC	733
Degesch America, Inc.	614
Deibel Laboratories	715
Desert Control	1433
DMM Packaging, Inc.	741
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ECO2MIX, Inc.	423
Express Agriculture	310
Farm Credit	721
Farmblox	1616
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FARMSENSE INC.	**527**
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Fleet Tracker, Inc.	429
FloraPulse	236
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Fortress Technology Inc.	327
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JH Biotech, Inc.	812
John Deere Company	1400
Kamper Fabrication Inc.	620
KAP Agro Products	717
Kelpak USA	1435
Key Technology	1429
Kingman Ag	833
Koch Agronomic Service	211
Kraemer & Co. Mfg., Inc.	1532
Kula Bio	718
LIDCO Inc.	522
Linda Squires Insurance Agency	234
Live Earth Products, Inc.	334
LIVENTIA	523
LMC Manufacturing	1527
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Material Motion Inc.	630
Mesutronic Inc.	1411
Michelson Laboratories, Inc.	412
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N & S Tractor Co.	210
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Netafim	719
Niverplast	513
Nutstar Software LLC	435
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Orchard Machinery Corporation	1600
Orchard Robotics	227
Orchard-Rite / Pacific Distributing Inc.	1100
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Rears Manufacturing / Agri Guys Equipment LLC	427
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Sierra Valley Almonds, LLC	622
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SWECO	1421
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UnitedAg	331
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Valent U.S.A. LLC	814
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Valley Welding & Machine Works	1231
Vapos of California, Inc.	1511
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Verdegaal Brothers, Inc.	430
Verdi	229
VESERIS	619
Waterford Irrigation Supply, Inc.	514
Watts Solitary Bees	1318
Wilkey Industries	732
Winton-Ireland, Strom & Green Insurance Agency	1322
Wiseconn	516
WSP USA	329
Zenith Insurance Company	332

2026 ALMOND CONFERENCE EXHIBIT HALL MAP



***Visit these booths during select times for a beverage or a snack:**

3P Partners #414 | Wednesday 1:00–4:00 p.m.
BASF #1033 | Tuesday 1:00–6:00 p.m.; Wednesday 9:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.
TriCal Group #1113 | Tuesday 1:00–6:00 p.m.; Wednesday 9:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.; Thursday 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Need a meeting spot? Seating is available in the Meeting Space area and Lounges!

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CONFERENCE HOURS

REGISTRATION HOURS:
Tuesday, December 8
8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 9
7:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 10
8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

EXHIBIT HALL HOURS:
Tuesday, December 8
1:00–6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 9
9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 10
9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

SESSION HOURS:
Tuesday, December 8
10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 9
8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 10
9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

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ALMOND BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
1150 Ninth Street, Suite 1500
Modesto, CA 95354
T: 209.549.8262 | F: 209.549.8267
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