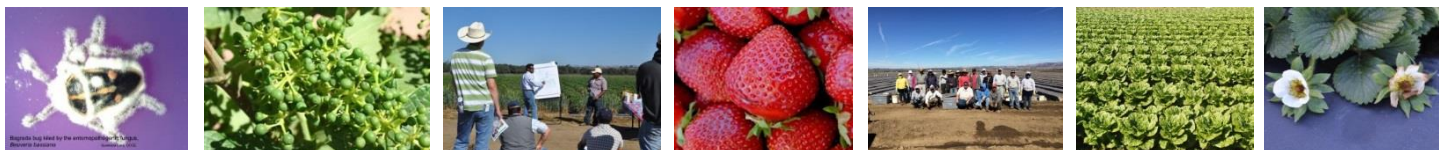


CENTRAL COAST AGRICULTURE HIGHLIGHTS

San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties



RECENT ARTICLES

Dara, Journal of Integrated Pest Management- Weeping Fig Thrips (Thysanoptera: Phlaeothripidae) in California and a Review of its Biology and Management Options
<http://jipm.oxfordjournals.org/content/6/1/1>

Dara, Soil application of the entomopathogenic fungus *Metarhizium brunneum* protects strawberry plants from spider mite damage
http://cesantabarbara.ucanr.edu/Strawberry_Production/?blogpost=16821&blogasset=63881

Dara, Entomopathogenic fungus *Beauveria bassiana* endophytically colonizes strawberry plants
http://cesantabarbara.ucanr.edu/Strawberry_Production/?blogpost=16811&blogasset=63881



MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

Chemtura AgroSolutions TOGETHER WITH Surendra Dara developed three videos about lygus bug monitoring, prevention, and management. Lygus bug is an important pest of strawberries and is the target of multiple pesticide applications. I hope these videos help the grower community to manage this pest.

Lygus bug monitoring: <http://youtu.be/uNR8vOn-sv0>
Lygus bug prevention: <http://youtu.be/0IQP29UYnKg>
Lygus bug management: <http://youtu.be/6Wg6MsbgnIA>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNR8vOn-sv0&feature=youtu.be>

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS AND INFORMATION



Surendra Dara spoke at the North American Strawberry Symposium about h IPM research for strawberry pests. The symposium included a field day tour where Surendra provided an update on his last four years of research about how insect pathogenic fungi promote plant growth and protect plant health as endophytes.



SEE WHAT'S NEW IN THE FIELD

Investigating the potential of micro-sprinklers in water conservation in a field study, Surendra Dara, UCCE

Micro-sprinklers could play an important role in water conservation in strawberry production. They could also help in spider mite management. A study is underway at Manzanita Berry Farms in Santa Maria. Preliminary data from three weeks in November, 2014 show a 38,000 gallon saving per acre compared to water delivered through traditional overhead sprinklers. This represents 32% reduction in water during that period.



MEET THE NEW FIELD ASSISTANT

Fritz Light, Staff Research Associate II, joined the University of California Cooperative Extension on January 5, 2015. He attended Graduate school at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo and gained a Master's of Science Degree in Agriculture with a specialty in Plant Protection Science, and Masters of Arts Degree in Biological Sciences. He completed his Undergraduate at Penn State University. Fritz helps Surendra Dara with his research projects.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Santa Maria Strawberry Field Day

Wednesday May 6, 2015

From 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

Manzanita Berry Farms, 1891 West Main, Santa Maria, CA 93458

1.5 DPR and 3.0 CCA CE Units have been approved

Spanish interpretation and lunch will be provided.

Please register online at <http://ucanr.edu/2015strawberryfieldday> by May 1, 2015 or call Ingrid Schumann at 805-781-5940 if you need additional information.

For the detailed agenda and speakers go to <http://cesanluisobispo.ucanr.edu/files/209810.pdf>

Thanks to Dave Peck, Manzanita Berry Farms, Santa Maria for hosting and California Strawberry Commission for sponsoring this event.

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