



2023 Western Alfalfa & Forage Symposium
December 12-14, 2023 | Nugget Casino Resort | Sparks, NV
Main Session Program
**Program Subject to Change*

Time **Wednesday, December 13 | Main Session**

6:30 —6:00 pm Registration Open
6:30—8:00 am Continental Breakfast
7:00—7:00 pm Exhibits Open/Posters on Display/CA Alfalfa & Forage Research Auction Bid Sheets

Session I **Economics, Dairy, Trade, and New Markets**

8:00– 10:00 am *Moderator: Dan Putnam, University of California, Davis*

8:00 am **Welcome**
Dan Putnam, University of California, Davis | Davis, CA

8:05 am **Hay Industry Economic Trends**
Josh Callen, The Hoyt Report | Twin Falls, ID

8:30 am **Hay Export Dynamics**
Scot Courtright, Courtright Enterprises, Inc. | Moses Lake, WA

8:55 am **Dynamics of the Western Dairy Situation**
Anja Raudabaugh, Western United Dairies | Turlock, CA

9:20 am **New Markets for Alfalfa**
Jo Heuschele, USDA-ARS | St. Paul, MN

9:45 am **Discussion**

10:00 am **Break**

Session II **Irrigation and Water Storage**

10:30—12:00 pm *Moderator: Matt Yost, Utah State University*

10:30 am **Dynamics of the Western Water Outlook for 2024**
Jeff Silvertooth, University of Arizona | Tucson, AZ

11:00 am **Intermittent Agricultural Managed Aquifer Recharge (Ag-MAR) on Alfalfa**
Khaled Bali, UC Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center | Parlier, CA

11:30 am **Adjusting Alfalfa to Highly Variable Water Supplies: Deficit Irrigation Strategies**
Dan Putnam, University of California, Davis | Davis, CA

11:45 am **Discussion**

12:00 pm **Lunch**

Session III **Pest Management**

1:30—3:00 pm *Moderator: Leonard Laurault, New Mexico State University*

1:30 pm **Alfalfa Weevils Across the Western United States are Resistant to Multiple Type II Pyrethroid Insecticides**
Erika Rodbell, Corteva Agriscience

1:50 pm **New Caterpillar Pests of Western U.S. Alfalfa**
Michael Rethwisch, University of California Cooperative Extension | Blythe, CA

2:10 pm **Comparison of Methods of Controlling Pocket Gophers**
Mark Nelson, Utah State University | Beaver, UT

2:30 pm **Use of Drones for Weed Management**
Earl Creech, Utah State University | Logan, UT

2:50 pm **Discussion**

3:00 pm **Break**

Main Session Program Continued

Session IV Forage Quality

3:30—5:00 pm Moderator: *Jody Gale, Utah State University*

3:30 pm **Key Measurements for Forage Quality**
Dave Taysom, Dairyland Labs Inc. | Arcadia, WI

3:50 pm **Influence of Fall Dormancy on Alfalfa Quality**
Steve Norberg, Washington State University | Pasco, WA

4:10 pm **Combination of Alfalfa & Almond Hulls for Improved Forage Quality**
Katie Swanson, University of California | Davis, CA

4:30 pm **Steaming Impacts on Alfalfa Yield Loss and Forage Quality**
Earl Creech, Utah State University | Logan, UT

4:50 pm **Discussion**

5:00—7:00 pm **Reception**
Hors D'oeuvres and Cocktails, Exhibits, Posters, and CA Alfalfa & Forage Research Auction

Thursday, December 14 | Main Session

7:00 —10:30 am Registration Open

7:00—8:00 am Continental Breakfast

7:00—10:30 am Exhibits Open/Posters on Display

Session V Soil Health and Fertility, Forage Systems, and Environment

8:00—10:00 am Moderator: *Hayes Goosey, Montana State University*

8:00 am **Impacts of Soil Wetting Agents and Biologicals on Forage Production**
Matt Yost, Utah State University | Logan, UT

8:20 am **Interseeding Cover Crop into Silage Corn Grown on Wide Row Spacings**
Steven Hines, University of Idaho | Jerome, ID

8:40 am **Determining Temporal Changes in Soil Salinity in Forage Fields under Long Term Irrigation with Saline Drainage Water**
Sharon Benes, California State University, Fresno | Fresno, CA

9:00 am **Yield, Water Productivity & Nutritional Values Response of Alfalfa to Irrigation frequency & Cutting Schedules in California's Central Valley**
Sultan Begna, USDA-ARS | Parlier, CA

9:20 am **Alfalfa Forage Systems in Pakistan**
Qamar Shakil, Ayub Agricultural Research Institute, Faisalabad | Punjab, Pakistan

9:40 am **Discussion**

10:00 am **Break**

Session VI Agronomic Practices

10:30—12:00 pm Moderator: *Juan Solomon, University of Nevada, Reno*

10:30 am **Planting Configurations and Irrigation Regimes Affect Yield, Quality, and Economic Returns of Alfalfa-grass Mixtures**
Anowar Islam, University of Wyoming | Laramie, WY

11:00 am **Alternative Forage Options**
Mark Marsalis, New Mexico State University | Los Lunas, NM

11:30 am **Panel: Optimizing Alfalfa Production on My Farm**
Growers from Western States Discuss their Keys to Success and Ongoing Challenges.

11:50 am **Discussion**

12:00 pm **Adjourn Symposium**

Stay up to Date with the Program at calhaysymposium.org.