

## BIO for Avocado Cafe

**Professor** in the Cal Poly BioResource and Agricultural Engineering Department

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- BS and MBA degrees from Cal Poly
- Doctorate from UC Davis in 2001
- Civil Engineer: registered in California and Nevada
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Stuart Styles has over 40 years of experience in irrigation system design and management. He has been involved with projects related to most aspects of agricultural irrigation projects. Dr. Styles' experience includes a wide of projects relating to irrigation system modernization, flow measurement, and SCADA system design. He is the author of the **Drip and Micro Irrigation Design and Management for Trees, Vines, and Field Crops** design manual. It is currently in the 5<sup>th</sup> edition and published in several languages. His latest research projects include a 5-year study evaluating new methods to irrigate and fertilize strawberries for the Central Coast and a detailed assessment of the use of magnetic flow meters for agriculture.

## Abstract

The talk will cover 3 general areas: Irrigation Performance Assessment, Preventative Maintenance for Drip Systems, and Water Quality/Salinity Issues. The purpose of the discussion is to cover some pragmatic items for the grower to self-evaluate for the avocado irrigation systems. Discussion points will be made on the use of pressure compensated products and the important minimum pressure required for good performance. Also, water quality topics specific to irrigation system plugging will be covered.