

Panel 6. Insect Pest Management Panelist Biographies

Jim Davis

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Jim Davis has been a Pest Control Advisor for 15 years and has worked in avocados for the last 7 years. As owner of American Insectaries, Inc., his focus has been on developing and implementing biological control agents as well as integrating chemical control programs within the overall biological control program for avocados. His research has focused on streamlining production methods for mass rearing beneficial insects and evaluating field release efficacy.

Ben Faber

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Ben is one tough guy. He can sling a bag around his neck and pick with the best of them. He has worked on avocado thrips and perseia mite biology and control, root and crown rots, iron chlorosis, and irrigation and salinity management. He covers avocado and other subtropical crops in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties.

Joseph Morse

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My program covers both applied and fundamental research dealing with the management of pests of subtropical crops, particularly pests of citrus such as citrus thrips, California red scale, Fuller rose beetle, and various soft scales. More recently, I have begun working on avocados with avocado thrips, an invasive pest species, which appeared in California in July, 1996. I have a general interest in integrated pest management, biological control, parasitoid behavior, insectary rearing of natural enemies, the acute and sublethal impact of pesticides on both target pests and nontarget organisms, modeling and computer simulation, and pesticide resistance.

Jorge Peña

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Management of avocado pests in Florida. Sampling and biological control of avocado pests. Effect of mite and insects on avocado yield.

Philippa Stevens

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Philippa Stevens is an applied entomologist based in Auckland New Zealand. She has worked on avocado pests since the early 1990's. The overall research goal is to develop an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) package for the New Zealand avocado growers, and research covers pest population biology, pest monitoring and spray thresholds, biological control, insecticide development and organic pest control methods. Most of the research has focused around leafrollers and thrips.

Manes Wysoki

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