

Panel 7. Disease Management Panelist Biographies

Allan Dodds

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The detection of avocado sunblotch viroid is important for clean stock programs and modern methods using the PCR technique are well suited for this purpose and have been developed by Dr. Dodd's laboratory for use in the California industry. Avocado is one of the few major crops in which plant viruses have barely been reported or thought to be a problem for production. We are interested in the detection of avocado viruses, which probably do in fact exist.

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.

Peggy Mauk

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Peggy A. Mauk is a Cooperative Extension Advisor for Subtropical Horticulture at the University of California in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. She received a Ph.D. in plant pathology from the University of Arizona in 1988 a Ph.D. In 1990, she became an UCCE Farm Advisor for Plant Pathology and Field and Vegetable Crops in Sacramento County. In 1996, she transferred to Riverside County. Dr. Mauk's specialty is plant pathology. She is a Board member for the California Avocado Society and is actively involved in educational outreach for avocado growers. Additionally, she is co-operator with Dr. John Menge. They are involved rootstock evaluations for resistance to *Phytophthora cinnamomi* as well in evaluating the effect of mulching on growth and production of avocado. She is active in research on numerous aspects of citrus production. Additionally, she has been involved in conducting research to find new tools to control Bank's grass mite in dates.

John Menge

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