

OLIVE OIL COMMISSION OF CALIFORNIA

RESEARCH COMMITTEE

FRIDAY
JANUARY 10, 2025
2:00 p.m.

OOCC
2565 Alluvial Avenue, Suite 152
Clovis, CA 93611

Zoom Information
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86919445017>

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Matt Lohse called the meeting of the Research Committee to order at 2:00 p.m.
The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Matt LOHSE	-	Big W Ranch
Adam ENGLEHARDT	-	Englehardt Ag Services
Paul BUSALACCHI	-	Corto Olive Co.
Lizandro MAGANA	-	California Olive Ranch
Mary MORI	-	California Olive Ranch
Vincent RICCHIUTI	-	ENZO Olive Oil
Natalia RUIZ	-	Modern Olives Laboratory Services
Frank OLAGARAY	-	Blossom Vineyards
Larry MABEN	-	Maben Family, LLC
Richard MARCHINI	-	Marchini Ag.
Selina WANG	-	UC Davis

STAFF:

Todd SANDERS	-	Olive Oil Commission of California
Mary McDONNELL	-	Olive Oil Commission of California
Ethan CRANMER	-	Olive Oil Commission of California
Janette RAMOS	-	Olive Oil Commission of California

GUESTS:

- Jackie KENNEDY - Kennedy Ranch
- Brittany FAGUNDES - California Olive Ranch
- Alexandria KICENIK - CalAthena
- Samantha DORSEY = McEvoy Ranch
- Vijay PAI - Suterra
- Emily SYMMES - Suterra
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Having received a sufficient number of Directors a quorum was established.

- **MOVED by MABEN, duly seconded by MARCHINI, and unanimously carried THAT the minutes of August 27, 2024, be approved as presented. (MOTION 1-10-25 #1)**

II. CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS

Chairman Matt Lohse stated that we have a lot to talk about regarding the Research that’s going to be presented and also Olive Oil Day.

III. GUEST PRESENTATION - SUTERRA

Suterra presented their product BioMagnet Oro, an Attract and Kill Trap for the Olive Fruit Fly. Please see below link to their website! This product is not yet commercially available, but Suterra would like to know more about current industry practices related to the Olive Fruit Fly.

They are seeking to learn more about the industry and current needs:

- What are the current control methods for OFF?
- Are growers seeing a resistance to current controls?
- What is the severity of the fly and how difficult is it to control?
- Inputs in 2022 were cut in half. Was this due to weather?
- What is the economic damage to the grower?

IV. 2025-2026 FY RESEARCH

- i. 2025 FY Approved Research Projects

The California Olive Committee recently met and approved 2025 research projects. In an effort to better align with the COC, please see below. Projects below in red the COC thought the OOC would be interested in co-funding.

2025 Research Projects

#	Researcher	Project	Amount
1	Dr. Jim Adaskaveg	Epidemiology and Management of Olive Knot Caused by Pseudomonas Savastanoi pv. Savastanoi (year1)	\$15,490

2	Rodrigo Almeida Franklin Lewis	Survey of <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i> genetic diversity within California olive trees (year 2)	\$31,,151
3	Georgia Drakakaki and Becky Wheeler-Dykes	Evaluation of effects of Accede® (ACC) at two different application rates on enhancing horticultural maturity and abscission zone development and commercial trunk shaking efficiency in table olives (year 3)	\$115,129.20
4	Dr. Carol Lovatt and Elizabeth Fichtner	Integrating Alternate Bearing Mitigation Strategies in a Commercial Table Olive Orchard (year 3)	\$34,984
5	Elizabeth Fichtner	Designing a web app for predicting risk of olive fruit fly—a tool for California olive growers and pest control advisory	\$19,860
6	Nicholas Manoukis	New prospects for the control of black scale in California olive groves	\$73,000
7	Ernie Simpson	Sacramento Valley Olive Fruit Fly Monitoring Project	\$12,500
8	Jim Stewart	Southern San Joaquin Valley Olive Fruit Fly Monitoring project	\$12,000
		Contingency Fund	\$0
		Total without No-Cost Extensions	\$314,114.20

ii. Approval of 2025-2026 Research Priorities - **ACTION**

Each year, the Research Committee sets priorities of research they would like executed on their behalf for the following year. These efforts are to fund more specific and calculated research to enhance the benefits to the industry. Once the priorities are set, they are provided to the University of California liaisons to request proposals from researchers.

Additionally, priorities are distributed to land grant universities across the nation and to private research facilities. Proposals will be reviewed for funding in May by the Committee.

2024-2025 RESEARCH PROJECTS FOR THE OLIVE OIL COMMISSION

Researcher	Project	Amount
Dr. Jim Adaskaveg*	Management of Foliar Diseases-A. Olive Knot and B. Evaluation of New Fungicides For Control of Olive Leaf Spot	\$6,500
Dr. Jim Adaskaveg*	Epidemiology and Management of Olive Knot Caused by <i>Pseudomonas Savastanoi</i> pv. <i>Savastanoi</i>	\$10,000
Selina Wang	Analysis of 2024 harvest quality oil	\$20,000
Kimberly Houlding/AOOA	Study on Olive Oil Quality PPP and DAGs	\$5,000
Paul Long	Olive Oil Cost of Production Study	\$30,000
Integrative Economics/ Kyle Birchard	Industry Benchmarking Research and Analysis	GRANT
Giulia Marino	Water Management Strategies for Hedgerow Olive Orchards in California	GRANT
	Special Projects	\$4,500
	Total	\$76,000

*Projects are co-funded by the California Olive Committee.

California Olive Committee Research Priorities for 2025

- Figuring out how to grab carbon money for olives
 - Understanding SAP analysis
 - Diving deeper into the residual chemical presence of bifencher in depth
 - New canopy management trial
 - Loosening agents
 - Nitrogen analysis
 - Tissues vs yields
 - Foliar sprays and their effectiveness (focusing on yield and accuracy)
 - Help hold bloom on plants
 - Bloom volume compared to actual set
 - Neofabraea: fungus affecting mechanically harvested olives and the next years production
- **MOVED by MABEN, duly seconded by RICCHIUTI, and unanimously carried THAT staff will discuss with Paul Long, regarding reducing his cost and coming back to Chairman Matt Lohse for the overall approval. (MOTION 1-10-25 #2)**

V. OLIVE OIL DAY - ACTION

i. Speaker Recommendations

OOCC Standards Topics:

- Standards and Compliance related to Form A, aimed at educating all attendees
- Oil Chemistry and Fruit Impact, explaining these properties at a basic level:
David GarciAguirre

OCCC Research Topics:

- Nursey Panel: Agromillora and Todolivo
 - Grower Panel: Adam Englehardt, Alexandra Kicenik, Frank Olagaray
 - Harvesting Panel
 - Pruning
 - Irrigation: Giulia Marino
 - Compost, Cover Crops Increase Carbon in Soil: Virtual Presentation
- **MOVED by MABEN, duly seconded by RICCHIUTI, and unanimously carried THAT the Research Committee provide speaker recommendations to the Olive Oil Conference Working Group, and delegate the authority to the working group to make changes to speaker recommendations. (MOTION 1-10-25 #3)**

ii. Olive Oil Conference Sponsorship Packet

The Olive Oil Conference Sponsorship Packet offers a unique opportunity for people to demonstrate their commitment to the growth and success of the olive oil industry. By becoming a sponsor, organizations can showcase their support for the industry's advancement, while also gaining valuable visibility and recognition within the olive oil community.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

- Sanders announced staff member Elise Oliver will be leaving her employment at the end of January. Sanders, then formally introduced two new employees, Mary McDonnell, Program Supervisor, and Ethan Cranmer, Program Coordinator, for the Olive Oil Commission of California.
- Sanders discussed that our next Research Committee meeting will be held in Woodland, CA, in May.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Matt Lohse adjourned the meeting of the Research Committee at 3:29 p.m.



Todd W. Sanders
Executive Director
Olive Oil Commission of California

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS FOR JANUARY 10, 2025

MOTION 1-10-25 #1

APPROVED

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