

**2026 CWSS Annual Conference Agenda**

Santa Barbara, California January 28-30, 2026

**"Back to Basics"***DPR Approved Hours 4 Law, 15 Other**CCA, ISA, GCSAA, MVCAC/Vector, ID, MT, NV, OR, WA Approved.***TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2026**

3:00pm-5:30pm	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION Maryana Schmidt, PAPA
3:00pm-5:30pm	CONFERENCE EXHIBIT/POSTER SETUP

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026**

7:00am-5:00pm	REGISTRATION AND CEU SIGN-IN/OUT Maryana Schmidt, PAPA
7:00am-5:00pm	EXHIBITS - San Rafael/ Sierra Madre Room & STUDENT POSTERS - Santa Barbara Foyer
7:00am-7:50am	STUDENT POSTER JUDGING – Santa Barbara Foyer
	ALL Wednesday SESSIONS will be held in Santa Ynez Room
7:55-8:00	WELCOME TO THE CONFERENCE
8:00-10:00	SESSION A: WEED SCHOOL: Common Factors Affecting Herbicide Performance
8:00	Mandeep Singh, UC ANR <b>Important Considerations to Optimize Herbicide Performance</b>
8:30	Brad Hanson, UC Davis <b>Weather and Climate Factors that Can Affect Herbicide Performance</b>
9:00	James Schaeffer, Helena Agri-Enterprise, LLC <b>The Importance of Sprayer Calibration and Weed Control</b>
9:30	Jorge Angeles, UC ANR <b>Biological Factors Influencing Herbicide Performance</b>
10:00-10:30am	MORNING BREAK
10:00-10:30am	STUDENT POSTER JUDGING – Santa Barbara Foyer
10:30-12:00pm	SESSION B: STUDENT RESEARCH UPDATES
10:30	Manasvi Singh, Fresno State University <b>Investigating Herbicide Resistance in Shepherd's Purse Populations in CA's Central Valley</b>
11:00	Tong Zhen, UC Davis <b>Evaluation of Branched Broomrape Seed Responses to Nitrogen Fertilizers and Flooding</b>
11:30	Consuelo B. Baez-Vega, Chico State University <b>Herbicide Screening for CA Wild Rice – Weed Efficacy and Crop Phytotoxicity</b>
12:00	STUDENT POSTER JUDGING – Santa Barbara Foyer
12:00-1:30pm	LUNCH (on your own)
12:00-1:30pm	STUDENT LUNCHEON (by invitation) – San Miguel/ Santa Rosa Room
1:30-3:30pm	SESSION C: GENERAL SESSION:
1:30	Rick Miller, Corteva (retired) <b>CA RoW Risk Management, with a Focus on Controlling Invasive Grasses</b>
2:00	Bob Brenton, PCA <b>Herbicide Use and Choices on Utility Rights-of-Way Across Ecotypes</b>
2:30	Jens Beets, USDA <b>Invasive Species Management in Complex Aquatic Systems: Past, Present, and Future</b>
3:00	Kassim Al-Khatib, UC Davis <b>Herbicide Efficacy and Drift from Uncrewed Aerial Vehicle Application in Rice Cropping System</b>
3:30-4pm	Afternoon Break - Vendor Displays & Poster Viewing
4-4:15pm	STUDENT AWARDS
4:15-5:15pm	SESSION D: WHAT'S NEW IN WEED CONTROL
5:15-6:45pm	CWSS MEMBER RECEPTION – San Rafael/ Sierra Madre Room

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2026**

7:00am-5:00pm	REGISTRATION AND CEU SIGN-IN/OUT – Maryana Schmidt, PAPA
7:00am-5:00pm	EXHIBITS San Rafael/ Sierra Madre Room & STUDENT POSTERS - Santa Barbara Foyer
7:00am-7:30am	COFFEE & PASTRY SERVICES – Santa Barbara Foyer

**MORNING CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

	San Miguel/ Santa Rosa Room		Santa Ynez Room
8:00-10:00	<b>SESSION E: AQUATICS</b>	8:00-10:00	<b>SESSION F: TREE AND VINE</b>
8:00	Rene Sandoval, American Lady Vet Services <b>Sustained HAB Control at Lake Elsinore: One-Year Results from Shock N' Lock Method</b>	8:00	Tong Zhen & Brad Hanson, UCCE <b>Evaluation of Electrical Weed Control in California Organic Almonds.</b>
8:30	Whitney Brim-DeForest, UCCE <b>Winged Water Primrose in California: Survey and Control in Aquatics</b>	8:30	Ryan J Hill, UC ANR <b>Management of Summer-Active Perennial Weeds Benefits from Utilization of Residual Herbicides</b>
9:00	Tom Moorhouse, Clean Lakes Inc. <b>Treatment of Invasive Mussels</b>	9:00	Rohith Vulchi & Brad Hanson, UC Davis <b>Glyphosate &amp; Glufosinate: Fate in CA Almond Orchards</b>
9:30	Stephen Burkholder, Bowman Consulting Group, Ltd. <b>An Overview of the New Pest Control Permit</b>	9:30	Alexandre T Rosa, Bayer Crop Science <b>Managing Herbicide Carryover in Orchards &amp; Vineyards</b>
10:00-10:15	<b>MORNING BREAK</b>	10:00-10:15	<b>MORNING BREAK</b>
10:15-12:15	<b>SESSION G: MINOR CROPS</b>	10:15-12:15	<b>SESSION H: ROADSIDES, UTILITIES, AND INDUSTRIAL SITES</b>
10:15	Matthew Fatino, UCCE <b>Herbicide Performance Screenings in CA Agave</b>	10:15	Chris McDonald, UCANR <b>Using WeedCUT to Help Improve IPM on Roadsides</b>
10:45	Ben Faber, UCCE <b>Whacking Weeds in Coastal Subtropical Trees</b>	10:45	Bob Brenton, Brenton VMS <b>Fire Risk Management in Utility Operations</b>
11:15	Steve Fennimore, Emeritus UC Davis <b>A Role for Steam in Specific Crops</b>	11:15	Scott Oneto, UC Extension <b>Fuel Break Management Trial Results</b>
11:45	Milt McGiffen, UC Riverside <b>You Can Manage Nutsedge</b>	11:45	Jerome Otto, Corteva Agriscience <b>Fire Risk Management in Roadside Operations</b>
12:15pm-1:30pm <b>CWSS BUSINESS &amp; AWARDS LUNCHEON - San Rafael/ Sierra Madre Room</b>			

### AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS

	San Miguel/ Santa Rosa Room		Santa Ynez Room
1:30-3:00	<b>SESSION I: TURF AND ORNAMENTAL</b>	1:00-3:00	<b>SESSION J: AGRONOMY</b>
1:30	Paul Marquardt, Corteva Agriscience <b>Controlling Crabgrass vs. Goosegrass in California Turf</b>	1:30	Whitney Brim-DeForest, UCCE <b>Watergrass in California Rice Systems: Identification and Control</b>
2:00	Erick Valle, Norman's Nursery <b>Counting the Cost of Weeds</b>	2:00	Anil Shrestha & Katherine Waselkov, CSU Fresno <b>Herbicide-Resistant Weeds or Herbicide-Resistant Seeds, the Management Problem</b>

2:30	Don Frantz, Wilbur-Ellis <b>Improving Our Spraying Efficacy in Pesticide Applications</b>	2:30	Nick Clark, UCCE <b>New Herbicide Mode of Action for Preplant Use in Safflower</b>
3:00	Jen Browning, BASF <b>Insects in Managed Turf &amp; Ornamentals</b>	3:00	Giulano Carneiro Galdi, UC ANR <b>Weed Management in Alfalfa</b>
3:30-3:45	<b>AFTERNOON BREAK</b>	3:30-3:45	<b>AFTERNOON BREAK</b>
3:45-5:45	<b>SESSION K: FORESTRY, RANGE AND NATURAL AREAS</b>	3:45-5:45	<b>SESSION L: VEGETABLE CROPS</b>
3:45	Chris Berry, Center for Biodiversity & Ecological Restoration <b>Integrating Prescribed Fire &amp; Grass Specific Herbicides.</b>	3:45	Oleg Daugovish, UC ANR <b>Weed Control in Cilantro and Onion with S-Metolachlor</b>
4:15	Chris McDonald, UC Agriculture & Natural Resources <b>A Tale of Two Invasives, Black Mustard &amp; Stinknet.</b>	4:15	Abigail Brondos, UC ANR <b>Weeds in Ditches as Habitat for Insect Pests and Natural Enemies of Key Importance to Vegetable Production</b>
4:45	Robert Freese, Irvine Ranch Conservancy <b>Use of Pre-Emergent Herbicides for Site Preparation</b>	4:45	Aaron Becerra-Alvarez, Oregon State University <b>Exploring Electric Weed Control as a Cover Crop Termination Tool for No-Till Organic Systems</b>
5:15	Brian Allen, UC Agriculture & Natural Resources <b>Using Virtual Fence Technology &amp; Grazing for Weed Control</b>	5:15	Clebson G. Goncalves, UC ANR <b>Response of Organic Herbicide Using Traditional Broadcast and Pinpoint Spray Technology and Influence of Adjuvants to Reduce Splashing</b>

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2026**

<b>7:00am-11:15am</b>	<b>REGISTRATION &amp; CEU SIGN-IN/OUT</b> Maryana Schmidt, PAPA
<b>7:00am-7:30am</b>	<b>COFFEE &amp; PASTRY SERVICE – Santa Barbara Foyer</b>
	<b>ALL Friday day SESSIONS Will be held in Santa Ynez Room</b>
<b>7:30-12:00</b>	<b>SESSION M: LAWS &amp; REGULATIONS</b>
7:30	John Mikesell, Ventura County Ag Inspector <b>The Non-Negotiables: Work Requirements, Handler Safety, and Avoiding Off-Target Contamination</b>
8:30	Harvard Fong, CA Dept. Of Pesticide Regulation <b>Respiratory Protection</b>
9:30-9:45	<b>MORNING BREAK</b>
9:45	Noah Beyeler, Santa Barbara Ag Commissioner <b>Regulatory Updates &amp; Common Violations</b>
10:45	Karey Windbiel Rojas, UC IPM <b>Pesticide Jeopardy</b>
<b>11:45am-12:00pm</b>	<b>ADJOURN &amp; TURN IN CEU SCANTRONS</b>