

# 2026 CWSS Annual Conference Agenda

Santa Barbara, California January 28-30, 2026

## "Back to Basics"

*DPR Requested Hours Law, Other*

*CCA AZ, ID, OR, WA, CCA, GCSAA, ISA, MT, NV hours pending.*

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026

3:30pm-6:30pm	CONFERENCE REGISTRATION Maryana Schmidt, PAPA
5:00pm-9:00pm	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 Rafel/ 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 Important Considerations to Optimize Herbicide Performance
8:30	Brad Hanson, UC Davis Weather and Climate Factors that Can Affect Herbicide Performance
9:00	James Schaeffer, Helena Agri-Enterprise, LLC The Importance of Sprayer Calibration and Weed Control
9:30	Jorge Angeles, UC ANR Biological Factors Influencing Herbicide Performance
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 Investigating Herbicide Resistance in Shepherd's Purse Populations in CA's Central Valley
11:00	Tong Zhen, UC Davis Evaluation of Branched Broomrape Seed Responses to Nitrogen Fertilizers and Flooding
11:30	Consuelo B. Baez-Vega, Chico State University Herbicide Screening for CA Wild Rice – Weed Efficacy and Crop Phytotoxicity
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) Herbicide Use and Choices on Utility Rights-of-Way Across Ecotypes
2:00	Bob Brenton, PCA CA RoW Risk Management, with a Focus on Controlling Invasive Grasses
2:30	Jens Beets, USDA Invasive Species Management in Complex Aquatic Systems: Past, Present, and Future
3:00	Kassim Al-Khatib, UC Davis Herbicide Efficacy and Drift from Uncrewed Aerial Vehicle Application in Rice Cropping System
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**

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

**MORNING CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

	<b>San Miguel/ Santa Rosa Room</b>		<b>Santa Ynez Room</b>
<b>8:00-10:00</b>	<b>SESSION E: AQUATICS</b>	<b>8:00-10:00</b>	<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, <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, <b>Managing Herbicide Carryover in Orchards &amp; Vineyards</b>
<b>10:00-10:15</b>	<b>MORNING BREAK</b>	<b>10:00-10:15</b>	<b>MORNING BREAK</b>
<b>10:15-12:15</b>	<b>SESSION G: MINOR CROPS</b>	<b>10:15-12:15</b>	<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>TBD</b>	11:45	Jerome Otto, Corteva Agriscience <b>Fire Risk Management in Roadside Operations</b>
<b>12:15pm-1:30pm CWSS BUSINESS &amp; AWARDS LUNCHEON - San Rafael/ Sierra Madre Room</b>			

### AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS

	San Miguel/ Santa Rosa Room		Santa Ynez Room
<b>1:30-3:00</b>	<b>SESSION I: TURF AND ORNAMENTAL</b>	<b>1:00-3:00</b>	<b>SESSION J: AGRONOMY</b>
<b>1:30</b>	Paul Marquardt, Corteva Agriscience <b>Controlling Crabgrass vs. Goosegrass in California Turf</b>	<b>1:30</b>	Whitney Brim-DeForest, UCCE <b>Watergrass in California Rice Systems: Identification and Control</b>
<b>2:00</b>	Milt McGiffen, UC Riverside <b>You Can Manage Nutsedge</b>	<b>2:00</b>	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	Guilano Carneiro Galdi, UC ANR <b>Weed Management in Alfalfa</b>
<b>3:30-3:45</b>	<b>AFTERNOON BREAK</b>	<b>3:30-3:45</b>	<b>AFTERNOON BREAK</b>
<b>3:45-5:45</b>	<b>SESSION K: FORESTRY, RANGE AND NATURAL AREAS</b>	<b>3:45-5:45</b>	<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 Daugovich, 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	Jose Chang, 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>