

Advances in Irrigation Tools and Technologies Workshop

(A Guide to Smart Farming Choices in the Low Desert Region)

February 27th, 2025

Location: Barbara Worth Country Club, 2050 Country Club Dr., Holtville, CA 92250

Registration link: [LINK](#)

Program (8:00 – 14:40)

7:30 Registration

8:00 **Overview and Introduction**– *Ali Montazar, Irrigation and Water Management Advisor, UCCE Imperial County*

8:10 **Understanding the Value of Alfalfa Water Use and Flexibility in a Water Challenged Future** -
Daniel Putnam - Professor of Extension, Agronomist and Forage Specialist, UC Davis

8:40 **Adoption and Impacts of Irrigation Technologies and Water Conservation Practices in the Imperial Valley**- *Ali Montazar, Irrigation and Water Management Advisor, UCCE Imperial County*

9:00 **Grower Perspectives on the Feasibility of Irrigation Systems in the Imperial Valley** - *Ronald Leimgruber, Leimgruber Farms*

9:17 **Reservoir and Hydrology Update for the Lower Colorado River** - *John Shields, Agricultural Engineer, Boulder Canyon Operations Office, US Bureau of Reclamation; Meghan Thiemann, Project Management, Boulder Canyon Operations Office. US Bureau of Reclamation*

9:34 **Harnessing Valley Irrigation Technology: Advancing Mechanized Irrigation Solutions for the Imperial Valley** - *Steven Koralewski, Southwest Territory Manager, Valley – A Valmont Company*

9:51 **Advances in Automated Surface Irrigation Technology**- *John Lind, Account Manager – Southwest US, Rubicon Water*

Break (10:08 - 10:30)

10:30 **Maximizing Imperial Valley Crop Production While Conserving Water and Resources with Drip Irrigation** - *Mike Bloomfield, U.S. Commercial Lead - Netafim USA*

10:47 **Update on CDFAs Climate Smart Agriculture Incentive Program: State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program**- *Scott Weeks, SWEEP Senior Environmental Scientist, CDFA*

11:04 **Updates on the IID Water Conservation Program**- *Benjamin Brock, Senior Program Manager, IID On-Farm Efficiency Conservation Program*

11:21 **Irrigation Management Practices and Assistance Programs through NRCS**- *Jose Herrera, Odile Lomas, and Rachel Noriega, NRCS, Imperial Office*

11:38 **Maximizing Water Use: Desert Control Amendments in Action**- *Shaddy Alshraah, Soil Scientist/Agronomist, Desert Control*

11:55 **Transforming Center Pivot Irrigation through Drip Technology**- *Monty Teeter, Dragon-line LLC.*

Lunch (12:12 – 12:45) (Courtesy of the Industry Sponsors)

12:45 **Leveraging Intelligent Kc Values to Optimise Water Usage** - *Kevin Reeder, Ceres AI*

13:02 **Irrigation System Monitoring and Flexibility** - *Cory Broad, AVIDWATER Agronomic Sales Manager*

13:19 **Drip Irrigation and Automation Systems**- *Jesse Escoto, RDO Regional Sales Manager*

13:36 **Optimizing Irrigation for Production and Profitability: Smart Solutions with SWAN Systems** - *Alejandra Alvarez, SWAN Systems*

13:53 **Aqua Spy Soil Monitoring for Irrigation Management and Water and Energy Use Efficiency** -
Steven Medeiros, Aqua Spy

14:10 **Hortau - Measure What Matters Most** - *Jeremy Otto, Hortau*

14:27 **Bio fertilizer to enhance soil-water and nutrition uptake on alfalfa and other crops** - *Victor Lopez, Rockwood Ag Services*

14:40 **Adjourn**

For additional information on the workshop, please contact
Ali Montazar, amontazar@ucanr.edu or call us at (442) 265-7700.

PENDING CEU CREDIT: CCA (5.5 hrs.)