

# Advances in Irrigation Tools and Technologies Workshop

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

**February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

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

**Registration link:** [LINK](#)

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## Program (8:00 – 14:40)

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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** – Andrew 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, Engineer/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 **Maximizing Imperial Valley Crop Production While Conserving Water and Resources with Drip Irrigation** - Mike Bloomfield, U.S. Commercial Lead - Netafim USA

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## Break (10:08 - 10:30)

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10:30 **Advances in Automated Surface Irrigation Technology**- John Lind, Account Manager – Southwest US, Rubicon Water

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 Luis Herrera, District Conservationist; 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.

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

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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**

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For additional information on the workshop, please contact  
Ali Montazar, [amontazar@ucanr.edu](mailto:amontazar@ucanr.edu) or call us at (442) 265-7700.  
APPROVED CEU CREDIT: Certified Crop Advisors (#CA 62561 - 5 hrs.)