Join the Less than 1% (Damage) Club
Panelists: Lane Parker, Zach Raven, Tracy Miller, Bob Curtis
Highlights – Lane Parker, almond grower

- Complete your field clean up by March 15 every year and do it well.

- Three most important NOW management tools:
  - winter sanitation
  - winter sanitation
  - winter sanitation
Highlights – Zach Raven, Keenan Farms

- Winter sanitation in pistachios is also key.

- Keenan Farms went from 6% damage to 0-2% damage after implementing winter sanitation.

- Orchard clean up should be completed in January. After that, a big improvement at Keenan Farms has been the use of mating disruption, which works better if your neighbors use it.
  - Keenan Farms uses Semios’ mating disruption product (found at [Semios.com/IPM](http://Semios.com/IPM)) but other versions work well, too.
Highlights – Tracy Miller, MidValley Ag

• If Miller catches >10 moths in a week, he recommends treatment since this level of insect pressure will impact yield.

• Miller stressed using the right product at the right dosage rate, going the correct speed and being precise about the timing of application.

• Degree days and Peterson trap data (likes these better than the egg traps) are tools to gage spray timing.
  – For additional information: http://cebutte.ucanr.edu/files/152897.pdf

• Another IPM tool to control aflatoxin is the use of Aspergillus flavus, or AF36. This fungal strain does not produce aflatoxin and is introduced to the orchard to outcompete the toxin-producing strain.
  – For additional information about how the method works and how to apply AF36: http://kare.ucanr.edu/programs/Plant_Pathology/Biocontrol_of_Aflatoxins_in_Pistachio_and_Almond_Crops/
Highlights – Bob Curtis, Almond Board of California

- Cutis recounted how reject levels dropped from a high of more than 8% in the early 1980s to an industry-accepted standard of between 0-2% percent today, thanks in large part to almond growers' adoption of integrated pest management (IPM) to reduce navel orangeworm pressure.

- The important IPM steps are:
  - Winter Sanitation
  - Monitoring
  - Spray (+ mating disruption)
  - Timely harvest