

# Tuesday Conference Agenda

DECEMBER 6

**Registration Hours:** 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.  
**Almond Conference Expo:** 3:30–5:00 p.m.  
**Sessions:** 10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.  
**Food Truck Village:** 11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

**Almond Quality & Safety  
Research Hot Topics**  
10:30–11:45 a.m.  
Ballroom B-2

**International Horticultural  
and Global Tree Nut  
Production Insights**  
10:30–11:45 a.m.  
Ballroom B-5

**What's New in Almond Pollination?**  
10:30–11:45 a.m.  
Ballroom B-6

 **Food Truck Village**  
11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.  
West Lobby Plaza  
*Sponsored by*  
*Farm Credit*



**Almond Food Quality  
& Safety Resources**  
12:30–1:45 p.m.  
Ballroom B-2

**Creative Approaches to  
Managing Limited Water**  
12:30–1:45 p.m.  
Ballroom B-5



**State of the Industry**  
2:00–3:30 p.m.  
Ballroom A

 **Dedicated Expo Hours  
and Opening Reception**  
3:30–5:00 p.m.  
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**Snacks**  
*Sponsored by Wilbur-Ellis*



# Session Descriptions



**Almond Quality & Safety  
Research Hot Topics**  
10:30–11:45 a.m.

**Ballroom B-2**

**Moderator:** Brian Dunning  
(ShoEi Foods)

**Speakers:** Alyson Mitchell (UC Davis),  
Zhongli Pan (UC Davis), Vivian Wu  
(USDA Albany)

This session will cover research updates on the tools and techniques developed to differentiate almond varieties, and to assist in stockpile and warehouse storage monitoring and food safety management.

**International Horticultural  
and Global Tree Nut  
Production Insights**

10:30–11:45 a.m.

**Ballroom B-5**

**Moderator:** Sebastian Saa (ABC)

**Speakers:** David Doll (Rota Unica),  
Richard Waycott (ABC), Damien  
Houlahan (ofi), Brian Ezell (Wonderful)

Australia, Spain and Portugal are key international players in almond production. In this session we will gain insights on the way they grow almonds in these regions and then move to a discussion about current and future global production. Join this session to learn how growers are tackling challenges specific to these regions, as well as to what the future may look like for the global industry.

**What's New in Almond  
Pollination?**

10:30–11:45 a.m.

**Ballroom B-6**

**Moderator:** Josette Lewis (ABC)

**Speakers:** Brandon Hopkins  
(Washington State University), Elina  
Niño (UC Davis), Rory Crowley  
(Project Apis m.), Miles Dakin  
(Pollinator Partnership), Wynter  
Vaughan (Monarch Joint Venture)

Growers should attend this session to hear the latest research aimed at keeping the cost & supply of bees stable and what you can do to get the most out of this critical input to lay the groundwork for a good harvest.

 **Food Truck Village**  
11:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.  
**West Lobby Plaza**  
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**Almond Food Quality  
& Safety Resources**

12:30–1:45 p.m.

**Ballroom B-2**

**Moderator:** Miranda Thomas (ABC)

**Speakers:** Tim Birmingham (ABC),  
Guangwei Huang (ABC)

Want a better understanding of the food safety and quality resources available to help you navigate complexities across the supply chain? This session will highlight new and existing resources and showcase where to access them, including a preview of the new "Almond University."

**Creative Approaches to  
Managing Limited Water**

12:30–1:45 p.m.

**Ballroom B-5**

**Moderator:** Jesse Roseman (ABC)

**Speakers:** David Guy (Northern  
California Water Association),  
Stephanie Anagnoson (Madera  
County), Mark Hutson (Farmer), Daniel  
Mountjoy (Sustainable Conservation),  
Stuart Woolf (Woolf Farming)

The western U.S. is in another multi-year drought, alongside water regulations limiting supply, requiring new creative


approaches to secure reliable agricultural water supplies and address business risks. In this session, hear from leaders who are developing ground-breaking approaches to managing water shortages while maintaining economic productivity. Methods include forging difficult agreements, developing regional strategies and incentivizing groundwater recharge.

**State of the Industry**  
2:00–3:30 p.m.

**Ballroom A**

**Speakers:** Alexi Rodriguez  
(Campos Brothers Farms),  
Richard Waycott (ABC)

With the ongoing multi-year drought, global logistical challenges and increasing production from other growing regions, the California almond industry is facing unprecedented challenges. During the annual State of the Industry address, Almond Board Chair Alexi Rodriguez and CEO Richard Waycott will address ways the Almond Board of California is working to drive global demand, ensure a favorable trade and regulatory environment and maximize industry efficiency.

 **Dedicated Expo Hours  
and Opening Reception**  
3:30–5:00 p.m.

**Almond Conference Expo**  
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**Snacks**  
*Sponsored by Wilbur-Ellis*

