

UC Davis Soil Fertility Short Course

Most growers and ag consultants have already been beaten up with concerns over probable future regulations concerning fertilizer applications and irrigation. This new set of regulations has been named the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP). The main aim, of course, is to protect groundwater quality in regions like the San Joaquin Valley where most municipalities depend on groundwater for drinking. Final regulations and monitoring requirements are most likely to be in force by the 2014 growing season.

For growers, PCAs/CCAs and ag chemical warehouses who already understand the benefits of doing soil and tissue sampling for optimum production, there may not be a whole lot of new things they have to do. But for those of you who are uninterested or intimidated by lab data sheets I have three words to say, "Get over it!" The upcoming soil fertility short course at UC Davis is a great shot in the arm for those who want to improve their understanding of what's in your dirt and how to make it best for your crop.

EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT UC Soil Fertility Short Course February 2013

Mark your calendar!

If you missed the February and/or November 2012 courses, be sure to sign up for this one. The **UC Soil Fertility Short Course** will be repeated on **Tuesday, February 19, 2013** at the Buehler Alumni & Visitor Center, UC Davis. Register early before the course sells out . enrollment is limited to 70 participants.

Event: **[UC Soil Fertility Short Course 2013](#)**

Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013

Location: Buehler Alumni & Visitor Center, UC Davis

The UC Vegetable Research & Information Center (VRIC) will sponsor the **[UC Soil Fertility Short Course](#)** on **Tuesday, February 19, 2013** at the Buehler Alumni & Visitor Center, UC Davis. The short course will focus on the practical aspects of soil fertility management in an era of escalating fertilizer costs and increasing government regulation of

nutrient inputs for environmental water quality protection. The topics covered will include getting the maximum value from soil testing, interpretation of laboratory soil test results, comparing fertilizer sources, developing crop nutrient management plans, and fertilizer management and environmental protection. Although the focus will be on nutrient management in annual cropping systems, much of the material presented will be relevant to perennial crops as well. The course will not directly address organic fertility management issues, but organic growers may still benefit from attending; the majority of day will be spent covering basic soil fertility concepts, which are equally applicable to organic and conventional production. The content will be geared toward commercial scale production, and will assume a general knowledge of soil science; this course is not appropriate for home gardeners.

The program is intended for growers, certified crop advisers (CCA), pest control advisers, government agency personnel, and others involved in fertility management planning. Take advantage of the early-bird registration fee (\$150). The fee goes up on Jan. 31 to \$175. The registration fee includes lunch, refreshments and study materials.

Cooperative Extension specialists **Tim Hartz** (vegetable crops) and **Stu Pettygrove** (soils) are the instructors. The course is approved for California CCA continuing education credits.

For more information and registration, visit the UC **Vegetable** Research & Information Center (VRIC): http://vric.ucdavis.edu/events/2013_soil_fertility_sc/soil_fertility_info.htm

“ Phone: (530) 572-1748 “ Fax: (530) 752-4604 “ <http://vric.ucdavis.edu>

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