



Olive News



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Olive Mechanical Harvest Demonstration Meeting

When: Friday, Nov. 5, 2010, 9:00 a.m.

Where: Nickels Estate in Arbuckle (map on back)

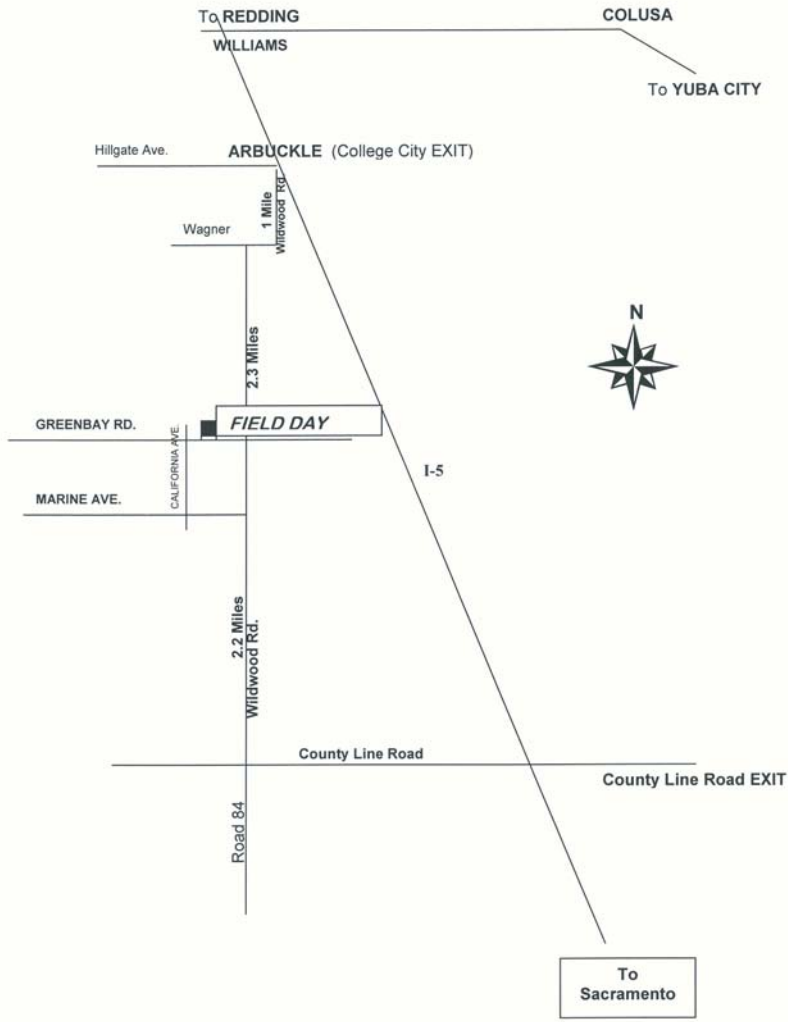
What: Come and see a high density hedgerow Manzanillo olive planting that has been developed for mechanical harvest. We will have machines that are being evaluated for mechanical harvest of table olives onsite for demonstration.

What Can I Do To Size My Fruit - The Million Dollar Question?

With a heavy fruit set on Manzanillo olives (the ones that were not heavily damaged by freeze and subsequent olive knot infection), understandable reluctance to chemically thin and, in some cases, a less than ideal response to chemical thinning, this is question I have been getting a lot lately. Unfortunately, there is not much that can be done now other than wait for the olives to size and make sure they are adequately supplied with water. Field experience and research has shown that olives can increase in weight and size by as much as 10% per week during this time of year. Heavily cropped trees will generally not turn color as fast as lighter cropped trees.

Don't Get Stung

For reasons not completely understood, Olive Fly trap catches this year have been extremely low. To date, we have only caught 11 flies in 18 traps at 10 sites in Glenn and Tehama Counties (<http://ceglenn.ucdavis.edu/files/53781.pdf>). However, we have begun to catch a few flies in our traps and I am hearing similar results from local PCAs and growers. Our experience is that once fruit size and the fall OLF population starts to increase, the damage will only intensify until harvest. With a late extended harvest, there is potential for damage coming in late.



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