

# A Biologically Integrated Production System for Prunes

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# Integrated Prune Farming Practices

# IPFP Goals

- **Reduce** high environmental risk pesticide use
- **Optimize** fertilizer and irrigation management strategies



# Demonstration Orchards

- Economic Soft Pesticides
- Economic Thresholds
- Tissue  
Analysis/Fertilization
- Tree Water  
Status/Irrigation  
Scheduling



# Help Position Prune Industry Respond to

- Loss of Pesticides
- FQPA, Regulatory, Environmental
- Food Safety
- Water Quality
- Air Quality





# Water Steward Research Demonstration (WSRD) Program

# Support

- CDPB
- EPA Reg. 9
- DPR
- UC/SAREP
- CALFED Watershed Prog.
- CDWR 319h
- USDA CREES & NRCS





# Results



- 16 Protocols
- No dormant treatment 61%/01 & 57%/02
- Monitoring substituted for many in-season sprays
- Irrigation water significantly reduced
- Nutrients reduced in many locations
- No difference – Conventional & Reduced Risk in most cases

# Results

- IPM Pest Guidelines
- Dormant treatment 03 Aphids
- Risk too great not to apply dormant tmt.
- In season use of Diazinon unacceptable
- Fall applications
- Reduced Rates



# Additional Work

- Pesticide Runoff
- Cover Crops Demonstrations



# Lessons Learned

- It takes several years to make a significant change in an agricultural industry
- It takes a lot of effort and support
- The effort has to change over time
  1. Research
  2. Validation
  3. Implementation
  4. Industry adoption

# Lessons Learned

- Farm Advisors
  1. Strength of Program
  2. Difficult to do this type of Program
  3. Hard to keep involved over multiple years