This one-day conference is organized in conjunction with the 50th Annual Meetings of the Society for Invertebrate Pathology (SIP) at UC San Diego, La Jolla. The objective of the 2nd Ag Innovations Conference: Microbial Control is to bring applied microbial control research concepts from around the world to growers, PCAs, and agriculture and ornamental industry partners in Southern California. This extension-focused event will also allow growers to learn more about the potential of microbial control and new products or techniques that can help address local issues. This event will also give researchers an opportunity to understand growers’ needs and develop their future projects based on these needs.

Since seating is limited at this venue, early registration is highly encouraged. Please register at http://ucanr.edu/AIC2017. Registration fee: $25.00. Lunch and refreshments will be provided.

A mini agricultural exposition will also be organized at this event where different industry partners will showcase their biopesticides products and microbial control technologies. Contact Surendra Dara at skdara@ucanr.edu or 805-720-1700 for additional information.

7:30 AM  Sign-in
8:00 AM  Welcome remarks  Surendra K. Dara
8:10 AM  California Department of Pesticide Regulations: Its mission and challenges with an emphasis on microbial control
          CDPR mission and challenges in maintaining environmental safety and agricultural sustainability.
          Brian Leahy
          Director, California Department of Pesticide Regulations, Sacramento, CA

8:30 AM  Biologicals for IPM programs
          Market status, overview of available products, best uses, and case studies.
          Pam Marrone
          CEO/Founder, Marrone Bio Innovations, Inc., Davis, CA

8:50 AM  Leap™: A new dual-action biorational pesticide for plant disease management and insect control
          With Btk and methyl salicylate active ingredients Leap™ has dual mode of action against pests and diseases and serves as an important tool in IPM programs.
          Russ Eldridge et al.
          Product Development Manager, Valent BioSciences, Libertyville, IL
Advantages and disadvantages of microbial control of pests in ornamental plant production
Ornamental plants are high valued specialty crops that can afford little pest damage to remain marketable. Current use of microbial control options and their merits and demerits.

James Bethke
CE Advisor and County Director, UC Cooperative Extension, San Diego, CA

Microbial control of endemic and invasive pest management
Entomopathogens as potential control options for managing endemic and invasive pests on multiple crops in California.

Surendra K. Dara
Strawberry and Vegetable Crops Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension, San Luis Obispo, CA

Entomopathogenic fungi as plant growth promoters and disease antagonizers
Entomopathogenic fungi play a bigger role than the pathogens of arthropod pests. They improve water absorption and plant growth, and antagonize plant pathogens.

Sumanth S. R. Dara and Suchitra S. Dara
Bakersfield, CA

Microbial control of weevil pests in turfgrass
Strategies for controlling weevils and billbugs with entomopathogenic fungi, nematodes, and bacteria-based products.

Albrecht Koppenhöfer
Professor/Extension Specialist, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Microbial control approaches for pests of fruit and nut trees
Case studies and approaches in managing aphids, borers, and weevils using entomopathogenic bacteria, fungi, and nematodes.

David Shapiro-Ilan
Research Entomologist, USDA-ARS, Byron, GA

The feasibility and benefits of mixed microbial pesticides
Combined applications of Bacillus thuringiensis and Beauveria bassiana for managing cabbage looper. Strategies for managing similar pests will also be discussed.

Robert Behle
Research Entomologist, USDA-ARS, Peoria, IL


**Update on new and improved microbiols and other biopesticides from Certis USA**

Several new active ingredients and improved formulations introduced in 2016 and 2017 for conventional and organic crop protection programs in multiple crops in California.

**Michael B. Dimock**

Vice President, Field Development and Technical Services, Certis USA, Maryland, MD

**NPVs for lepidopteran control in vegetable production**

Opportunities and challenges of including baculoviruses in insect control strategies. USA and worldwide experiences.

**Silvana Niedermann**

Area and Product Manager, Andermatt Biocontrol AG, Grossdietwill, Switzerland

**Expanding horizons for the versatile Beauveria bassiana strain GHA**

Increased potential of BotaniGard and Mycotrol through the development of new formulations and the identification of new targets, sites, and uses.

**Daniel Peck**

Product Development Manager, BioWorks, Inc., Victor, NY

**New microbial pesticides for managing insect pests and plant pathogens**

New products based on an entomopathogenic nematode and a biofungicide, their efficacy, and application strategies.

**Katherine Walker**

Technical Service Representative, BASF

**Purpureocillium lilacinum – an important fungal biologic for integrated control of plant parasitic nematodes**

Management of root knot and other plant parasitic nematodes in vegetable crops with a beneficial fungus.

**Kris Rasmussen**

Research Scientist, Bayer Biologics, West Sacramento, CA

**Multifaceted approaches to incorporating Entomopathogenic fungi in IPM**

Impact of soil application of Entomopathogenic fungi and other materials on pests and diseases in strawberry and microbial control of broad mite in blackberry.

**Jimmy Klick**

Research Scientist, Driscoll’s, Oxnard, CA
**Microbial control of arthropod pests and disease: perspective of independent private research**

Evaluation of microbial control tools for managing major pests and diseases in multiple crops.

**Frank Sances**  
National Director of Research, Pacific Ag Research, Salinas, CA

**BioCeres WP for organic insect control in multiple crops**

New formulation based on *Beauveria bassiana* and its target organisms, compatibility with chemical pesticides, application strategies, and intended cropping systems.

**Manuel Campos**  
Technical Agronomist, BioSafe Systems, College Station, TX

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5:00-5:30 PM  
Q&A and General Discussion

*Ag Innovations Conference* will be held at The Great Hall located at the International House (at the intersection of International Ln and Thurgood Marshall Ln close to Pangea Parking Structure).

6.0 DPR and CCA Continuing Education Units have been requested

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Thanks to the following meeting sponsors for their generous support:

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Parking recommended at Pangea. You can purchase a day permit online for $8 or pay $2/hour at the Kiosk.