California Olive Committee

RESEARCH SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

AUGUST 4, 2026
9:00 a.m.

San Joaquin County Agricultural Center
2101 E. Earhart Ave.
Stockton, CA 95206

Zoom/Conference Call
http://US02web.zoom.us/j/81880432234

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dennis Burreson called the meeting of the Research Subcommittee to order at 9:00 a.m. The following Research Committee members were present:

a. Roll Call

Members	**Affiliation:**
Michael Silveira	Producer
Carolina Burreson	Producer
Kevin Neeley	Producer
Andy Weinrich	Producer
Michael Stokes	Producer
Vito DeLeonardis	Producer
Giulio Zavolta	Producer
Pat Ricchiuti	Producer
Dennis Burreson	Handler
John Pieretti	Handler
Tomas Masanes Autard	Handler
Julia Tinsley	Handler
Phil Quigley	Handler

STAFF	
Todd Sanders	California Olive Committee
Michelle Borges	California Olive Committee
Mary McDonnell	California Olive Committee
Ethan Cranmer	California Olive Committee
Janette Ramos	California Olive Committee

Guests	
Jeffery Rymer	USDA
Jacob Peters	Handler

Establish Quorum

With the appropriate number of members from producers and handlers in, a quorum was established.

b. Chairman's Comments

Chairman Dennis Burreson thanked everyone who attended in person for their participation, and for the members online as well.

c. Approval of Previous Minutes – ACTION

The minutes of the November 20, 2025, meeting was presented to the Board for approval.

- **MOVED by TINSLEY, duly seconded by RICCHIUTI, and carried THAT the minutes for November 20, 2025, be approved as presented. (MOTION 8-4-26 #1)**

Vacancies on the Committee

Chairman Dennis Burreson discussed adding two new additional members to fill these vacancies. Jacob Peters and David Ormonde were introduced as the new two members to the Research Subcommittee.

II. REVIEW OF 2025 RESEARCH FINAL REPORTS

Projects in red had No Cost Extensions and are now complete.

2025 Research Projects

	Researcher	Project	Amount	No Cost Extension
1	Dr. Jim Adaskaveg*	Epidemiology and Management of Olive Knot Caused by Pseudomonas Savastanoi pv. Savastanoi	$15,490	
2	Dr. Carol Lovatt and Elizabeth Fichtner	Integrating Alternate Bearing Mitigation Strategies in a Commercial Table Olive Orchard	$34,984	6/30/2026
3	Georgia Drakakaki, Becky Wheeler-Dykes, and Leslie J Nickels Trust**	Evaluation of Effects of Accede (ACC) at Two Different Application Rates on Enhancing Horticultural Maturity and Abscission Zone Development and Commercial Trunk Shaking Efficiency in Table Olives	$115,129	6/30/2026
4	Rodrigo Almeida and Franklin Lewis	Survey of Xylella Fastidiosa diversity within California Olive Trees	$31,151	
5	Jim Stewart	Southern San Joaquin Valley Olive Fruit Fly Monitoring	$12,000	
6	Ernie Simpson	Sacramento Valley Olive Fruit Monitoring Project	$12,500	
7	Elizabeth Fichtner	Designing a Web App for Predicting Risk of Olive Fruit Fly – a Tool for California Olive Growers and Pest Control Advisors	$19,860	6/30/2026
8	Nicholas Manoukis**	New Prospects for the Control of Black Scale in California Olive Groves	$73,000	12/1/26
			$314,114	

III. GRANT APPLICATION

The COC will be applying for research related grants in the upcoming grant cycle. Applications are due in September. Staff is seeking feedback on grant topics. If there is a specific research

topic/ project that the Committee has shown interest in, staff will approach the researcher to partner on a grant.

IV. PRODUCT REGISTRATION UPDATE

Product	Active Ingredient	Registrant	Status
Kasugamycin	Kasumin 21	United Phosphorous, Inc.	Submission is currently in progress with the EPA. Given the current administration/MAHA Initiative, approval is expected to be challenging. Staff met with UPL in June and was advised to pursue broader industry support through a coalition. In July, staff also met with the EPA to discuss the submission and next steps. The current priority is to build an industry coalition and strengthen the letter of support by incorporating additional data and statistics that demonstrate the need for Kasumin. Staff is working closely with Dr. Jim Adaskaveg and UPL to develop the supporting language and ensure the submission effectively communicates the importance of this registration.
Syllit	Dodine	United Phosphorous, Inc.	Sill at CDPR
Ph-D	Poloyxin	United Phosphorous, Inc.	Registered for Peacock Spot

V. DISCUSSION OF 2027 RESEARCH PRIORITIES

Each year the Research Subcommittee sets priorities of research they would like for the following year. Once the priorities are set, they are provided to the University of California liaisons to request proposals from researchers. Additionally, priorities are distributed to land grant universities across the nation and to private research facilities. Proposals will be reviewed for funding in November by the subcommittee.

2026 RESEARCH PROJECTS FOR THE CALIFORNIA OLIVE COMMITTEE

	Researcher	Project	Amount
1	Dr. Carol Lovatt and Elizabeth Fichtner	Integrating Alternate Bearing Mitigation Strategies in a Commercial Table Olive Orchard (Year4/4)	$36,922
2	Elizabeth Fichtner	Designing a Web App for Predicting Risk of Olive Fruit Fly – a Tool for California Olive Growers and Pest Control Advisors (Year 2/2)	$20,432
3	Georgia Drakakaki and Becky Wheeler-Dykes	Evaluation of Effects of Accede (ACC) at Two Different Application Rates on Enhancing Horticultural Maturity and Abscission Zone Development and Trunk Shaking Efficiency in Table Olives	$97,799
4	Georgia Drakakaki and Minmin Wang	DNA Evaluation to Authenticate Manzanilla and Hojiblanca Table Olive Cultivars	$22,625
5	Olivier Ceberio	Collaborative Nutrient Calibration with California Olive Growers Using Nutriscope	$48,840
6	Rodrigo Almeida	Ecology of Olive Associated Xylella fastidiosa Strains in California	$46,618
7	Christopher Simpson	Sacramento Valley Olive Fruit Fly Monitoring Project	$13,500
8	Bert Quezada and Jim Stewart	Southern San Joaquin Valley Olive Fruit Fly Monitoring Project	$12,000
			$298,736

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

None

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Dennis Burreson adjourned the Research Subcommittee meeting at 9:50 a.m.



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Todd W. Sanders
Executive Director
California Olive Committee

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS FOR AUGUST 4, 2026

Motion 8-4-26 #1 **APPROVED**

MOVED by TINSLEY, duly seconded by RICCHIUTI, and carried THAT the minutes for November 20, 2025, be approved as presented.