Dear Pacific Branch and All ESA Members:

This is your official invitation to the 92nd Annual Meeting of the Pacific Branch of the Entomological Society of America, which will be held March 30-April 2, 2008, at the Embassy Suites Napa Valley in Napa, CA, the California wine country – www.napavalley.embassysuites.com

This year’s theme, “Entomology – Intertwines Us”, acknowledges the key industry and commodity in the Napa Valley and California Wine Country which of course is wine. The intertwining, tangled grape vines represent the unifying entity that brings us all together as entomologists, that being the fascination with insects and related arthropods. No matter what our subdiscipline is within the field of entomology, those “jointed foot” organisms keep the work interesting and exciting. I welcome you to this conference to hear the results of these studies and to continue our fascination with Entomology. The relaxed “air” of the Napa area should set the tone for excellent discussions both in the conference rooms and “hallways”. Napa is an excellent location for such a meeting as it has the amenities of a large city, i.e., excellent facilities, restaurants, museums, etc., while still having the “atmosphere of a small, country community. Please take advantage of the opportunity to sample world-class wines and culinary treats and to visit outstanding wineries while still experiencing the natural settings offered by the hills, parks, and ecological reserves. Opportunities abound for hiking and bicycling adventures. Please stay an extra day or two to enjoy what the California Wine Country and the surrounding area have to offer.

The 2008 Pacific Branch Meeting will offer submitted papers, posters, student paper and poster competitions, a graduate student symposium, and presentations by the prestigious Pacific Branch C. W. Woodworth and the John Henry Comstock graduate student awardees. In addition to the scientific program we will offer Mixers, Linnaean Games, Photo Salon, and an Awards Luncheon. To appeal to the broad interests of the Pacific Branch membership the featured Symposia cover a range of subjects from basic to applied entomology:

1. Exotic Insects - Those that make it - Those that don't (Organizers: Lerry Lacey and Tom Unruh, USDA-ARS, Yakima Ag Research Lab)

2. Challenges of Ant Control in Agricultural Settings (Organizers: Mike Rust and John Klotz, University of California-Riverside)

4. Colony Collapse Disorder (Organizers: Larry Godfrey and Eric Mussen, University of California-Davis)

5. Insect Conservation Biology (Organizer: George Roderick, University of California-Berkeley)

6. Grape Arthropod Pest Management (Organizer: Nick Toscano, University of California-Riverside)


8. Plant Compensation for Insect Herbivory (Organizer: Jay Rosenheim, University of California-Davis)

9. Graduate Student Symposium – “The Broad Impacts of Graduate Student Research within Biology and Other Areas of Science” (Organizers: Melissa Scherr, Oregon State University and Dominic Reisig, University of California-Davis)

For more information please contact me at ldgodfrey@ucdavis.edu or check the 2008 ESA Pacific Branch meeting PB-ESA2008 website at http://groups.ucanr.org/pbesa. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

Larry Godfrey
University of California-Davis
2008 ESA Pacific Branch President
FORMAL NOTICE
March 30-April 2, 2008
PACIFIC BRANCH, ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

2008 MEETING SITE

Embassy Suites Napa Valley
1075 California Blvd,
Napa, California, 94559
Tel: 1-707-253-9540
www.napavalley.embassysuites.com

Meeting Theme:

“Entomology – Intertwines Us”

The 92nd annual meeting of the Pacific Branch of the Entomological Society of America will begin with on-site registration on Sunday, March 30th and end on Wednesday, April 2nd, 2008. The scientific program will feature symposia, submitted papers and posters, a graduate student symposium, and student paper and poster competitions. Enjoy a Monday evening mixer followed by the Linnaean Games. An Awards Luncheon will be held on Tuesday at noon. Outstanding insect photography will be shown during the Photo Salon on Tuesday evening.

The paper/poster submission, abstract submission, and registration for the 2008 Pacific Branch Entomological Society of America meeting will all be web-based. The availability of registration via the web will allow the use of credit cards to pay registration fees. I encourage attendees to take advantage of this system and to register by January 31, 2008 to take advantage of the reduced rates. The option to pay using a check and sending in a hard copy of the registration form is still available to those desiring this method. On-site registration will be with check or cash only, no credit cards, please.

SUBMITTED PAPERS AND POSTERS: The Program Committee solicits papers and posters from any area of entomology or related science. To submit a paper or poster, complete the Paper and Poster Submission Form and attach an abstract. Please contact me or one of the members of the Program Committee if there are questions on paper/poster submission.

ABSTRACTS: Abstracts are required for all submitted papers, poster displays, and symposia presentations. Please follow the attached Instructions for Preparation of Abstracts and submit your abstract via the web-based submission process. Abstracts will be available after February 15th, 2008 at http://groups.ucanr.org/pbesa. Feel free to download and print abstracts at your convenience because paper copies will not be available at the meeting.

GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER/POSTER COMPETITIONS: Competitions include oral paper presentations and poster displays. Senior authors must be student members of the Pacific Branch and be registered for the meeting. First and second place prizes will be awarded at the Awards
Luncheon for the best 10-minute oral presentation and poster for the M.S. category and for the Ph.D. student category. Judging will be based on scientific merit, organization, clarity, and format. To enter the student paper/poster contest, complete the Submitted Paper and Poster Submission Form, clicking the appropriate button and prepare an abstract according to the attached instructions. Please contact Jim Barbour, University of Idaho, SW Idaho Research and Extension Center; 208-722-6701; jbarbour@uidaho.edu for questions about this contest.

GRADUATE STUDENT SYMPOSIUM: Each academic unit in the Pacific Branch is invited to nominate one top student in the Ph.D. or Masters program to participate in the Graduate Student Symposium: “The Broad Impacts of Graduate Student Research within the Fields of Biology and Other Areas of Science”. Please contact Dominic Reisig, University of California-Davis at (530) 752-0488; ddreisig@ucdavis.edu or Melissa Scherr, Oregon State University at (541) 752-4947; scherrm@onid.orst.edu for further information on submissions.

NOMINATIONS FOR PACIFIC BRANCH REGIONAL AWARDS AND NATIONAL AWARDS:

Nominations are sought for the prestigious C. W. Woodworth Award and John Henry Comstock Graduate Student Award, and ESA National Recognition Awards. Please contact Carolyn Pickel at cxpickel@ucdavis.edu for information about the awards and nomination process and visit the website at http://groups.ucanr.org/pbesa for nomination instructions.

AUDIO/VISUAL: The presentation format will be PowerPoint files using laptop computers and projectors. Laptop computers with Microsoft Windows XP and projection equipment will be available on site. Please use your last name and first initial as file name for your presentation, i.e. HavilandD.ppt. If you have more than one presentation, number them in sequence, i.e. HavilandD1.ppt; HavilandD2.ppt. Mac users please make sure your presentation file has a .ppt file extension. PowerPoint files may be emailed to: David Haviland (dhaviland@ucdavis.edu); Univ. of California Cooperative Extension Kern County; 661-868-6215; by 5:00 p.m. (PST), Wednesday, March 26, 2008. PowerPoint files may be brought to the meeting on a CD or flash drive (memory stick). Speakers should bring PowerPoint files to the Computer Presentation room by 6 p.m. the evening before their scheduled session. The meeting Operations Committee will assist with transferring files. Please contact David Haviland; 661-868-6215; dhaviland@ucdavis.edu for questions about meeting A/V operations.

LINNAEAN GAMES: Following an exciting Linnaean Games competition at the 2007 Portland meeting, the Linnaean Games will again be held. I’d encourage schools to put together a team to see if they can knock UC-Riverside and UC-Davis off their lofty championship and runner-up perches. Games will be held at the 2008 meeting to select a Pacific Branch team to compete at the 2008 ESA Annual Meeting in Reno, Nevada. A student-only mixer will follow the games. Please contact Linnaean Games Chair, Michael Costello; Cal Poly State University; 805-756-6732; mcostell@calpoly.edu if you have a team that is planning to compete.

PHOTO SALON: Are you an “ace” photographer or even if not would you like to share your photography exploits with others at the meeting. The Photo Salon at the 2008 meeting would be an excellent opportunity to do this. Pacific Branch members are invited to submit digital photos to be
presented during a special showing on Tuesday evening and again at other times during the meeting. For details please see the announcement about the Photo Salon on the 2008 Pacific Branch meeting website http://groups.ucanr.org/pbesa and click on ‘Photo Salon’. For any questions concerning the Photo Salon and submission of photographs please contact the Photo Salon Chair, Marshall Johnson, Univ. of California Kearney Agricultural Center; 559-646-6519; mjohnson@uckac.edu

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Prospective employers please send your job announcements and future employees please send your curriculum vitae to David Cox at david.cox@syngenta.com for display in the employment opportunities room. Stay tuned for some new and different activities in this area at the 2008 meeting.

PROGRAMS: Printed programs will be available at the meeting and electronically at after February 15, 2008; click on the link ‘Program’. Programs will not be mailed to members in order to save on postage charges.

REGISTRATION: Registration can be done one of two ways. The registration form is on the web site http://groups.ucanr.org/pbesa click on ‘Registration’. Complete this form and send it with fee payment by January 31, 2008 to:

Eric Mussen, Pacific Branch ESA Registration Committee Chair, Dept. of Entomology, One Shields Ave., University of California, Davis, CA 95616.

OR

submit the form electronically and follow the links to pay using your credit card. A receipt can be printed following payment or can be e-mailed to you. This is via a secure commercial site which does this as their primary business.

For questions regarding registration please contact Eric Mussen by email ecmussen@ucdavis.edu or by phone at 530-752-0472.

MIXER AND AWARDS LUNCHEON: A Pacific Branch Mixer and President’s Reception is planned for Monday evening with light fare and cash bar. Entry to the mixer is included in the registration fee -just wear your nametag. There is a nominal fee of $20.00 for the mixer for non-registered guests with tickets available at the registration desk. The Awards Luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday noon and a ticket is included in the registration fee for those who register by noon on Monday. Access to the Awards Luncheon is by ticket only. Non-registered guest lunch tickets will be available on a limited basis for $30.00 if purchased at the registration desk before noon on Monday.

LODGING (Hotel Reservations): The meeting will be held at Embassy Suites Napa Valley 1075 California Blvd, Napa, California. This is a beautiful hotel and grounds with considerable open space for mingling and interacting. Guests of the Embassy Suites Napa Valley hotel stay in spacious two-room suites and receive a complimentary cooked-to-order breakfast and a nightly manager's reception. The cities of San Francisco, Oakland and Sacramento are all just a short drive
away, as well as international airports at those cities. Napa, while having all the amenities of a first-class city (restaurants, shopping, spas, etc.) is small enough to allow guests to quickly escape to the country and to enjoy the open space, fresh air, and abundant wineries. Room reservations should be made by 22 February 2008 and can be made in one of three ways.

1.) following the link on the PB-ESA meeting web page; this should access the hotel directly and bring up the correct room rate,
2.) contact the hotel directly to make your reservation; reservations may be made by phone at: 1-800-EMBASSY; be sure to mention that you are with the Pacific Branch ESA conference and give them the group code: ENT,
3) make the reservation on the Embassy Suites web site (www.napavalley.embassysuites.com); be sure to mention that you are with the Pacific Branch ESA conference and give them the group code: ENT.

Our room rate is $134 USD/night + taxes. Rooms at that rate are available on a first come first served basis. If you have questions about meeting or lodging arrangements, please contact the Local Arrangements Chair Lucia Varela, Cooperative Extension Sonoma County; 707-565-2621; lgvarela@ucdavis.edu.

AIRPORTS AND GROUND TRANSPORTATION:

The Embassy Suites Napa Valley is 50 miles from Metropolitan Oakland Intl Airport, 60 miles from San Francisco Intl Airport, and 70 miles from Sacramento Intl Airport. A wide range of airlines serve one or more of these airports. Directions from these airports and shuttle information from the airports can be found in the FAQ (frequently asked questions) section of the PB-ESA web site.

Parking: Outdoor complimentary self-parking is available at the hotel.

WEATHER: Spring in the Napa Valley is very pleasant. Lows average in the mid-40’s°F with daily highs approaching 70°F. Rain is possible but not likely (the entire month of April averages slightly more than 1 inch precipitation).

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS: Napa, California is in the heart of the California wine country with over 400 wineries within 25 miles of the city. The Napa Valley itself is also small – about 30 miles long and a few miles wide. Fourteen subappellations (geographically-based regions believed to show unique characteristics of soil, climate and more) exist within the Napa Valley. The wineries range from the major vintages that everyone has heard of to small boutique wineries. Many of the “rich and famous” have recently gotten into the wine business so that clientele is also present in the wine country of the Napa and Sonoma valleys. Many of these wineries have tours, tasting rooms, spacious grounds, etc. for visitation. The city of Napa is quite small (~75,000) and the hotel is located on the outskirts of the city. The valley and surrounding hills offer real opportunities for hiking, bicycling, and for getting out of the city.

The cities of Yountville, Rutherford, St. Helena, and Calistoga along with Napa are filled with interesting shops and restaurants. The City of Napa has what might be called an "embarrassment of riches" when it comes to restaurants. The Downtown area alone boasts more than 40 dining
establishments, with 17 of these Zagat rated. There are several more fine restaurants outside the Downtown area that are equally popular. The Downtown area is about eight blocks from the Embassy Suites. In addition there is a trolley with stops across the street from the Embassy Suites to the Downtown area (although the trolley does have limited evening hours). The Sonoma Valley and city of Sonoma (west about 20 miles of Napa) also has an ample numbers of wineries and attractions. For those wanting to venture even farther away, San Francisco, Oakland, ocean attractions of Bodega Bay, Point Reyes, and Muir Beach, and UC-Berkeley and UC-Davis are about an hour away. Before or after the meeting, please stay an extra day or two to enjoy what Napa and the surrounding area have to offer.

If you have questions or need help please contact Larry Godfrey, 2008 ESA Pacific Branch President at ldgodfrey@ucdavis.edu; 530-752-0473 or visit the Pacific Branch website at http://groups.ucanr.org/pbesa. A list of all volunteer Pacific Branch Officers and Committee Members with contact information is also available on the website.