

Brian Mori, Claraco Chavez, David Olander, Mike Coldani

## Notes from the Field: Crop Management and Milling

Brian Mori, California Olive Ranch, Inc.  
 Ciriaco Chavez, Boundary Bend Olives  
 David Olander, Seka Hills  
 Mike Coldani, Calvirgin-Coldani Olive Ranch



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## Overview

- 2015 Harvest Review
- Impact on 2016 Harvest
  - Field/weather conditions
- 2016 Fruit Quality Challenges
  - New fruit issues
- Lessons Learned

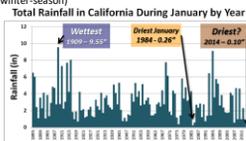


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## 2015 Harvest Review

- 2015 represented historic crop in California
  - Record high tonnage > 6/ton per acre
  - High number of fruit per tree
- Preceded by lowest rainfall total on record
  - High stress on tree
  - Prolonged deficit irrigation (winter-season)
  - No hard freeze events



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## Conditions Prior to 2016 Bloom



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## Effect on 2016 Crop

- Climate
  - Low rainfall totals in major grower regions in CA
  - Late rains in the northern CA areas during bloom
  - Average bloom date (first week of May)
- Tree health
  - Lower number of inflorescent during bloom
  - Lower % of "perfect" flowers
  - Greater vegetative growth
  - Lower crop potential
- Fruit Set
  - Higher fruit per inflorescent but less distribution overall
  - Below average total tons/acre
  - Varietals with average/below average in 2015 best overall set



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### Harvest Field Conditions

Record rainfall in major growing areas in CA in October-November  
 Glenn 4.07 inches  
 Tehama 5.58 inches  
 Butte 7.88 inches  
 Yolo 3.45

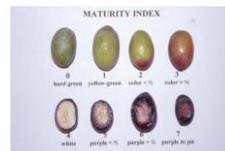


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### Impact on Maturity Index

- Lower tonnage impacts the progression of maturity index
- Rapid progression from varisolan
- Increased quality considerations
  - Heat
  - Transportation times
  - MOO and Mummy ratio



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### New 'Zombies'

Have appeared recently due to fruit sizing maturity – fruit being 'squeezed' of water and nutrients become 'zombies'



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### 'Zombies'

Impacted by 2016 early storms with heavy winds and rainfall



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### Orchard Sanitation

- Follow a heavy crop year growers should consider a second mechanical shake in the spring
- Dry period in spring to alleviate olive knot pressure
- Adjust harvester
  - Limit damage
  - Increase ground speed
- Hand removal of mummies very costly and ineffective



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### Field Lessons

- Proactive pruning for olive knot
  - 2017 wet season will be critical in control of disease
- Deficit irrigation reduced during drought years and key development periods
- Growers need to engage equipment manufacturers for in field sorting solutions
  - Exists in multiple crops
- Intervals from field to processing plant are crucial in quality impacted years



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