

California Department of Food and Agriculture  
2017 Specialty Crop Multi-State Program  
Project Abstracts

## FOOD SAFETY

*Supporting Food Safety and Honey Bee Health Through  
Veterinary Education*

\$483,278

- **The Regents of the University of California, Davis Western Institute for Food Safety and Security; and**
- **Oregon State University**

The Regents of the University of California, Davis Western Institute for Food Safety & Security will partner with Oregon State University to study the role of honey bees in specialty crop production, specifically related to high colony losses. The project will train veterinarians and apiculture educators to support beekeeper understanding of Veterinary Feed Directive complexity in order to maintain strong, healthy colonies for specialty crop pollination and safe honey production. Training will be provided through a comprehensive online bee biology course and train-the-trainer programs.

## PEST AND PLANT HEALTH

*Optimizing Phasmarhabditis Nematodes for Mitigating Invasive  
Gastropods in Western U.S.*

\$770,356

- **The Regents of the University of California, Riverside;**
- **Oregon State University; and**
- **The Regents of the University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources**

The Regents of the University of California, Riverside will partner with Oregon State University and The Regents of the University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources to develop and optimize a nematode biological control agent to mitigate invasive specialty crop gastropods in California, Oregon and Washington. Project staff will develop treatments for quarantine and nuisance or contaminant gastropods; educate stakeholders; and provide training on finding, recognizing and mitigating invasive slugs and snails in nurseries and home gardens.

*Understanding and Managing Esca Trunk Disease in Multiple  
Grape Production Systems*

\$410,985

- **United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Services;**
- **Washington State University; and**
- **The Regents of the University of California, Davis**

The United States Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service will partner with Washington State University and The Regents of the University of California, Davis to identify the cause of Esca (Black Measles) in California table grapes, and its impact on the State of Washington's wine and juice grape production systems. Project staff will also evaluate pruning-wound protectants and develop extension tools for Esca prevention. A comprehensive outreach program is also planned, combining mixed-media approaches, in-person presentations, and pre- and post-project stakeholder group surveys to determine the current knowledge of target growers.