



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

CALIFORNIA FRUIT
TREE, NUT TREE,
AND GRAPEVINE
IMPROVEMENT
ADVISORY BOARD
(IAB)

Date:

To: Persons Interested in Conducting Research on California Fruit/Olive
Trees, Nut Trees and Grapevines

Subject: Research Proposals for Fiscal Year 2026-27

Kristi Harrer
Casa Cristal

Richard Bostock, PhD
UC Davis Professor

Jeremy Bahne
Burchell Nursery

Nicholas Podsakoff
Sunridge Nurseries

Jay Jensen
Vice Chair
Novavine

Eckhard Kaesekamp
*Knights Grapevine
Nursery*

Dan Martinez
Martinez Orchards, Inc.

Cliff Beumel
*Agromillora
California*

Denise Moore
Fowler Nurseries, Inc.

Reid Robinson
Chair
Sierra Gold Nurseries

Issac Duarte
Duarte Nursery, Inc.

The California Fruit Tree, Nut Tree, and Grapevine Improvement Advisory Board (IAB) invites research proposal(s) to fund during the 2026-27 fiscal year. The IAB funds research to improve varieties of fruit tree, olive tree, nut tree, and grapevine; to detect and/or control diseases; and other research that allows the nursery industry to produce cleaner, more viable, and healthier stock. The intended research should address important/prevaling disease and pest problems or other cultural aspects of fruit tree, nut tree, and grapevine nursery stock production.

To submit a research proposal and request funding from the IAB please follow the attached instructions or the link below. We must receive your proposal along with your previous year's progress or final report (if applicable) by **TBD, at 5:00 pm PST.**

Request for Research Proposals:

https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/pe/nsc/docs/iab/RFP_instructions_FY23-24.pdf

The proposals will be reviewed by peer and industry review groups (a sample copy of the evaluation form is included in the instructions for your information) and discussed at the Spring IAB meeting tentatively scheduled for May 9, 2026. Researchers should be prepared to present and discuss their proposed research and provide any relevant information at that time.

Please submit your proposal(s) electronically to me at IAB@cdfa.ca.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 654-0435 or via email.

Sincerely,
Kelley Paugh
IAB Manager

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