AGENDA - STRAWBERRY FIELD DAY

Thursday, July 23, 2026, 7:30 AM - 12:00 PM

7:30 AM: Registration & networking • 8:20 AM: Welcome • 8:50 AM: Rotation through stations • 12:00 PM: Lunch

This program is approved by CDPR and CCA for 2.5 hours of continuing education units.

STOP 1

1. Sponsor showcase, product updates and refreshments

STOP 2

Topic	Speaker
2. Distinguishing between fruit rots caused by *Rhizopus* and *Mucor* spp.	Gabriela Torres (CP MS Student)
3. Evaluation of fungicides for control of Botrytis fruit rot and powdery mildew	Kyle Blauer (Field Research Manager, CPSC)
4. Cultivar resistance to strawberry powdery mildew	Shaelyn Spencer (CP PLSC Student)
5. Cal Poly strawberry disease diagnostic service activity - 2026	Shashika Hewavitharana (Plant Pathologist, CPSC)
6. Biodegradable mulch field demonstration	Lisa DeVetter (Professor, WSU)

STOP 3

Topic	Speaker
7. Effect of sanitizing agents on major soilborne pathogens and survey of sanitation practices in the Santa Maria district	Maria Alvarez Arredondo (CP MS Student) Elias Barriga-Hernandez (CP MS Student)
8. Interaction of root-knot nematode with Fusarium wilt and strawberry cultivar resistance	Elias Barriga-Hernandez (CP MS Student) Antoon Ploeg (Nematologist, UC Riverside)
9. Host plant resistance to Macrophomina root rot, Verticillium wilt and Fusarium wilt	Maria Alvarez Arredondo (CP MS Student) Marin Vargas (CP MS Student)
10. Autonomous Lygus vacuum and solar harvest aid	Juan Bravo (Founder, Agrobot)
11. Autonomous farming platforms	Linda McNair (VP of Marketing, Bonsai Robotics)

STOP 4

Topic	Speaker
12. Heated hole puncher	Tony Sandoval (Founder, Precision Ag)
13. Operator aid system	Aidan Fischer (Field Engineer, CSC) Rickey Ishida (Production Automation Manager, CSC) Brendan Holt (Agricultural Engineer, CSC)
14. Autonomous laser runner cutter	Brendan Holt (Agricultural Engineer, CSC)
15. Mechanical bareroot transplanter	Aidan Fischer (Field Engineer, CSC)
16. UV-C and Lygus vacuum services	Adam Stager (Founder, TRIC Robotics)

STOP 5

Topic	Speaker
17. Mite and insect spray efficacy trial data 2025	Mohammad Amir Aghaee (Entomologist, CPSC)
18. 2025 cultivar tolerances against *Tetranychus urticae*	Sophie Rodriguez (Cal Poly MS Student)
19. 2025 bug vacuum efficacy against *Lygus hesperus*	Emily Henry (Research Associate, CPSC)
20. Parabug drone demo	Taylor Hibino (Cal Poly MS Student)

Note: The presentation locations listed above are accessible to the public for purposes of participating in the meeting. Special accommodations will be made for physically handicapped, vision or hearing-impaired persons upon request (Please contact Strawberry Center Staff at 805.756.2150).

