

## Elvenia J. Slosson Endowment Fund

### 2005 Progress Report

**Project Title:** *FRUIT, NUT, AND GRAPE VARIETIES FOR HOME ORCHARDS: SAN MATEO AND SAN FRANCISCO COUNTIES*

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Over the past year, considerable progress has been made on this project. The publication (ANR Leaflet #21338) has been revised extensively and now contains the following sections: Introductory information on climate zones and chill hours, a selection chart for crops and varieties, a web resources section for additional information, and a list of references.

We expect that work on this publication will be completed by spring 2006. As recommended by the Slosson Committee, it will be published as an ANR 8000 series web publication.

Following are brief descriptions of each of the five sections of the publication.

#### **Introduction**

Updated information on climate zones and chill hours is provided. Although the climate zones identified for San Mateo and San Francisco Counties have not changed substantially, a more substantial discussion of site variability and microclimates has been included. Since it is not possible to draw strict boundaries around specific areas and designate them as having uniform or common conditions, we have provided readers guidelines for judging the climatic suitability of their location for crop performance.

#### **Variety Selection Chart**

Starting with a list of 30 crops, varieties that may be suitable for each of 3 climate zones are listed. For each temperate zone crop, a range of chill hours is given, and specific notes regarding particular varieties is provided. In addition, notes regarding the frost sensitivity of subtropical crops (such as avocado) and harvest dates for all crops are included.

#### **Variety Notes**

Although the Variety Selection Chart provides a great deal of information, space is not sufficient to include additional notes regarding specific crops and varieties. This section gives the reader information on pollination requirements, cultural requirements, and notable pest problems (such as olive fruit fly).

## Resources

For readers who are interested in learning more about this topic, they are directed following web-based resources:

1. University of California Research and Information Centers (<http://rics.ucdavis.edu>) provide researched-based information via the internet for researchers, industry, government agencies and the general public.
2. The *Fruit and Nut Information Center* (<http://fruitsandnuts.ucdavis.edu>) which provides information on 45 fruits, nuts and berries.
3. A part of the Fruit and Nut Information Center is *The California Backyard Orchard* (<http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu>), which is devoted to growing fruits, nuts and berries at home. It provides information on such topics as plant selection, planting, irrigation, pruning, pests and diseases and fertilization. Detailed information is provided on almond, apple, apricot, avocado, berries, cherry, chestnut, citrus, fig, filbert, grape(table), kiwi, loquat, nectarine, olive, peach, pear, pecan, persimmon, pistachio, plum and prune, pomegranate, quince and walnut.
4. The University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) catalog web site (<http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu>) which lists many free downloadable publications.

## References

Brenzel, K. N. ed.2001. Sunset Western Garden Book, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Menlo Park, CA: Sunset Books.

California Rare Fruit Growers. Fruit Facts, Vol I and II. <http://wwwcfrg.org>

Pittenger, D. ed.2002. California Master Gardener Handbook. Oakland: University of California division of Agriculture and Natural Resources Publication 3382.

Vossen, P.M. and D. Silver. 2000. Growing Temperate Tree Fruit and Nut Crops in the Home Garden. University of California Research and Information Center, The California Backyard Orchard (<http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu>)

Walheim, L. 1996. Citrus: The complete guide to Selecting and Growing More than 100 varieties for California, Arizona, Texas and the Gulf Coast. Tucson, AZ: Ironwood Press.