47th Annual SWEETPOTATO MEETING

Tuesday, February 21, 2012
8:30 am - noon
UCCE Classroom
2145 Wardrobe Ave., Merced

8:00 am  Signing in, coffee, and muffins

8:30  Scott Stoddard.  Update on production research:  irrigation trial, Dual Magnum herbicide trial, methyl bromide fumigation alternatives, variety trials, and Belay insecticide trial.

9:15  Mike Davis, UC Davis Pathology Specialist.  Fusarium and scurf control and project update.

9:45  Mike Smith, Consultant, Cal OSHA.  Heat prevention and tractor safety requirements:  a refresher on the regulations.


10:30  Break

10:45  Sean Runyan, Deputy Merced County Agriculture Commissioner.  Fumigation laws and regs update.

11:15  Laura Westerfield, USDA FSA.  Noninsured Crop Assistance Program (NAP), Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE)

11:35  Aaron Silva, Sweet Potato Council of California.  Annual convention summary and slideshow.

Noon  Lunch (Ribs, sweetpotatoes, and King’s Cake for Fat Tuesday)

1:00 pm  Sweet Potato Council business meeting.

Hope to see you there.
Scott Stoddard

IN THIS ISSUE:

✓ February 21, 2012 meeting agenda
✓ Fat Tuesday lunch provided!
✓ CE units approved:  1.0 hours L&R and 1.0 “other”

Special Note:  This is the last year you can use methyl bromide.

Hotbeds begin soon.  If you did not use methyl bromide for this year, improve weed management by using Devrinol herbicide at a rate of 12 oz per 1000 ft of bed in 5 - 6 gallons of water (sprayer calibrated at 30 gpa).  Apply before the first irrigation and prior to the emergence of weeds.  Incorporate with a brief irrigation — about 10 minutes will do.  This gives about 80 - 90% suppression of most weeds and is safe on your plants.