

**September 2022*****In this Issue:******Transitioning to a New Era at UC Cooperative Extension
Clebson G. Gonçalves, Ph.D; Diversified Agriculture Advisor
Update on Local UCCE Programs******TRANSITIONING TO A NEW ERA AT UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION****Rachel Elkins, UCCE Pomology Farm Advisor, Emeritus, Lake and Mendocino Counties*

I am pleased to inform you all that we have welcomed a new colleague to the Lake and Mendocino UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE) family. Dr. Clebson Gonçalves joined us July 1 as the Diversified Agriculture Advisor, and has been busy becoming acquainted with UCCE colleagues and local agriculture. He has been meeting local growers and looks forward to meeting many more of you in the near future.

Clebson will assume applied research and extension responsibilities for pomological crops, but importantly, will focus on the breadth of specialty crops grown in Lake and Mendocino Counties. This will ensure that all farm types and sizes can thrive and contribute to a strong local agricultural base. Local agriculture has greatly changed since I arrived in fall 1987; this newly-created position is an exciting opportunity to expand local UCCE programs to meet changing cropping patterns.

As for me, many of you are aware that I officially retired from UCCE as Pomology Advisor and Lake County Director/Master Gardener Advisor on July 1, 2020, during the COVID era of limited in-person contact and Zoom programming. I returned almost immediately as Recall Non-Faculty Academic Appointee for pear and walnut to continue local research and extension programming (and statewide needs for pear), serve as UC ANR European Pear Commodity Liaison, and maintain collaborative multistate relationships and activities. This is the third year of the recall appointment and I plan to transition to full emeritus status next spring. This appointment would not have been possible without the support of the pear and walnut industries and I am very grateful. As Emeritus I plan to complete long-delayed writing and other projects to ensure research findings during my tenure are available to those who need it, you.

In the meantime, I will assist Clebson with whatever he needs to ensure this transition goes smoothly and successfully, and once pear harvest is done, will help arrange further meeting opportunities. I look forward to working with him as a colleague, and to continue supporting UCCE as it moves into this new era. There are no words to describe how much I have enjoyed and benefitted from the nearly 35 years working with California and multistate colleagues and all of you on more issues and projects than I can possibly recount. I thank you for all your support and look forward to continue being part of the agricultural life of Lake and Mendocino Counties in the future.

Clebson G. Gonçalves, Ph.D.

Diversified Agriculture Advisor



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My name is **Clebson Gonçalves**, I am the new UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Diversified Agriculture Advisor for Lake and Mendocino Counties. My educational background consists of studies focused on Plant Production, Crop Protection, and Weed Sciences. My past research focused on conventional and organic pest management in diversified agricultural systems.

In my role, I will focus on 1) maintaining and enhancing the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of diversified agriculture; and 2) meeting the growing demands and contributing to the success of farms in the region.

My research, interests, and crop responsibilities in Lake and Mendocino Counties will center around important pomological crops, i.e., pears, apples, walnuts, and olives, as well as other niche crops such as vegetables, edible grains, seeds, nursery starts, cosmetic ingredients, and others on importance to clientele. I will also explore integrated pest management practices including conventional and organic strategies and improved application technologies such as drone use for data collection/pesticide application and weed sciences.

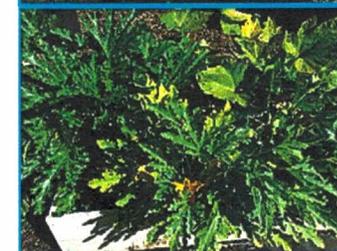
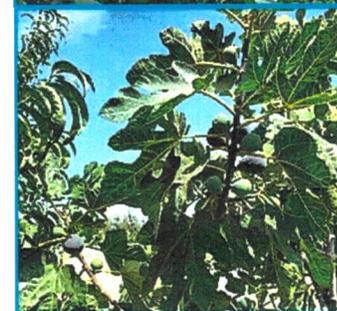
I look forward to working with local and statewide UC ANR colleagues and welcome the opportunity to meet with you, understand more about your challenges and needs, and discuss how we can work together most effectively.

Please get in touch with me to arrange a meeting. I look forward to working with you.

This survey was designed to get to know the stakeholders, industry organizations, and other potential collaborators within my territory. Please take a few minutes to let me know what your needs are and what topics you would like information about.

UCCE Needs Assessment Survey:

<https://surveys.ucanr.edu/survey.cfm?surveynumber=37850>



UCCE continues to be grateful for the strong continuing support from the Counties of Lake and Mendocino, including for 4-H, Master Gardener, agricultural program assistance.

All of us at UCCE are here to serve you with assistance from other County and campus-based colleagues. Our current advisors and program staff (with home office) serving Lake and Mendocino Counties include:

Advisors

- John Harper, County Director and Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor (Mendocino)
- Dr. Christopher Cody Lee Chen, Integrated Vineyard Systems Advisor (HREC Hopland Research Extension Center)
- Rachel Elkins, Pomology Farm Advisor, Emeritus/Non-Faculty Recall Appointee (Lake)
- Dr. Clebson Gonçalves, Diversified Agriculture Advisor (Lake)
- Dr. Mike Jones, Forestry Advisor (Mendocino)
- Dr. Cindy Kron, North Coast Area IPM Advisor (Sonoma)
- Breanna Martinico, Human-Wildlife Interactions Advisor (Napa)

Program Staff

- Jessica Farfan, 4-H Youth Development Program (Mendocino)
- Julie Frazell, 4-H Youth Development Program (Lake)
- Louise Pagone, Lake County Master Gardener Program (Lake)

Field Staff

- Lynn Fraser, Lab Assistant (Lake)
- Taylor Delbar, Ag Technician (Mendocino)
- Carolyn Shaffer, Lab Assistant (Lake)

Administrative Staff

- Nicole Gentry, 4-H Secretary (Lake)
- Shauna La Brash, Office Manager (Lake)
- Michelle Stout, Office Manager /Mendocino Master Gardener Program (Mendocino)

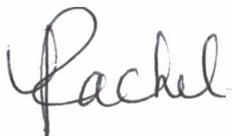
Please contact our UCCE offices with any questions Monday-Friday 8am-5pm;

Lake County 707-263-6838

Mendocino County 707-263-4495

THANK YOU *ALL* FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Sincerely,



Rachel Elkins
Pomology Farm Advisor, Emeritus
Recall Non-Faculty Academic Appointee-Pear and Walnut



Clebson Gonçalves
Diversified Agriculture Advisor