

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

8th North American Strawberry Symposium and North American Strawberry Growers Association (NASGA) 2015 Berry Conference

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Ventura, CA *February 3-6, 2015*

We invite you to the 8th North American Strawberry Symposium to be held Feb. 3-6, 2015 in Ventura, California, USA. This meeting of strawberry scientists and producers from around the globe promises to be remarkable. California, where nearly 90% of U.S. strawberries are grown, features a unique coastal environment with its western ocean exposure, moderate temperatures, warm sunny days, and cool foggy nights – perfect for growing strawberries year-round.

Subject areas for presentations will include: Global and North American Overviews, Breeding, Genetics, Molecular Biology, Disease & Pest Management, Propagation & Nursery Management, Cultural Practices, Plant Nutrition and Water Management, Plant Physiology, Economics of Production Practices, Post-Harvest, and Food Safety. **Workshop topics** will include Water-Use Efficiency and Nutritional Management, Production Physiology, Pesticide-Resistance Management, and Expansion of Variety Adaptation through Cooperative Breeding and Testing. To help us plan the program, **please submit presentation titles** *as soon as possible and before 29 September 2014*, indicating whether your presentation will be **oral or a poster**, to Kim.Lewers@ars.usda.gov.

Please reserve the dates of **February 3-6, 2015** for the **8th North American Strawberry Symposium** (**NASS**) – two and a half days of workshops, research presentations, poster sessions, a banquet, and other special events. The Symposium will be followed by a post-conference tour on February 6, which will encompass strawberry production in the region and opportunities to visit other horticultural operations. The Program Committee is committed to **making this a world-class research symposium for growers and scientists**, and we eagerly look forward to seeing you in Ventura.

Look for a mail-in registration form and more program details (abstract deadlines, keynote speakers, etc.) and opportunities for industry, organization and agency sponsorship on the NASGA website: http://www.nasga.org/ in July 2014. On-line registration will become available in September.

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