

nut processors; produce sheds; and wineries. Agriculture-related industries, wholesale trade, and transportation also play a major role. This food processing, marketing, and related service industry provides an economic multiplier effect estimated to be four to eleven times the raw product value, depending on the commodity. This results in an economic activity that is estimated at over \$4 billion annually. Almost one-third of the jobs in Stanislaus County are generated by the agriculture and food processing sector.

There are approximately 4500 farms in the county, the 5th largest number in the nation. This is not an area where large corporate farming is the norm. In fact, only about 100 are larger than 500 acres in size and over 2300 are smaller than 50 acres. Small local family farms are still a viable practice throughout the county, due to the high value crops grown on these farms.

Questions/Answers: General Session I

Robert Driver: What effect, if any, does juvenility have on the expression of noninfectious bud failure?

Dale Kester: Noninfectious bud failure is something that gradually develops in almond. The symptoms suggest that juvenility is involved, but it is not. In fact it may be the opposite since it results in the deterioration of the clone over time and it happens in relation to propagation. We have a report that will be coming out that will be more detailed.

Comments from Don Hartman (Western I.P.P.S. Charter Member and its first President): I am particularly pleased to see all the people here from different countries. I've already met one person here from England and I understand there are more here from around the world. This, of course, was the purpose of trying to develop an international plant propagators society. Thank you very much!