# **Field Evaluation of Almond Varieties**

Project No.:	HORT2.Lampinen
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## **Project Cooperators and Personnel:**

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## A. Summary

Selections and varieties from University and USDA breeding programs as well as releases from commercial nurseries are being evaluated in replicated trials in Butte, Stanislaus and Madera Counties. Yields in these trials are trending higher than at similar ages in the previous generation trials most likely due to higher density plantings and less pruning that was done compared to previous generation trials.

## B. Objectives (300 words max.)

1) The objective is to evaluate new almond varieties and selections in replicated field trials at three locations in the almond growing areas of California and document parameters including bloom and hullsplit timing, disease and insect susceptibility, tree canopy size, kernel quality and yield.

2) Results will be presented at the annual Almond Conference in Sacramento, at field days at the trial sites and at grower meetings as requested

# C. Annual Results and Discussion

#### **General comments**

<u>Butte</u>. Bloom conditions were wet and cold at the Butte RAVT in 2019. The February rainfall total at the nearby Durham CIMIS station was 11.3 inches, compared to the 4.4-inch historic average. Heavy rainfall in late February and early March prevented orchard access while many varieties were reaching full bloom and prevented bloom density ratings. At both the Butte and Stanislaus sites, bee hours were far fewer than the Madera site. Despite wet and cold bloom conditions, blast development on flowers and leaves at the Butte location was not severe. Minor blast type symptoms were observed on UCD 1-271, Bennett, and Booth. *Botrytis* gray mold was most commonly present in samples sent to Dr. Themis Michailides at the Kearney Ag Center, with a minor presence of *Pseudomonas* bacterial blast on the three sampled varieties. Blast symptoms were very minor at the Butte RVT in 2018 and 2019 compared to 2017 when severe blast was observed in several varieties.

<u>Stanislaus</u>. Bloom conditions were wet, cold and windy at the Stanislaus RAVT with low numbers of bee hours for most varieties in 2019. Some varieties at the Stanislaus RAVT were substantially affected. Bacterial blast and Ps leaf spot ratings were done on 4/2/19. Items with severe bacterial blast included Bennett, P16-013, UCD 1-271, Booth, and Capitola. Items with moderate blast included 8-27, Y116-161-99, 1-16, Eddie, Supareil, 3-40 and Aldrich. As cold

wet weather continued after leafout, some varieties were affected by *Pseudomonas syringae* leaf spot/leaf drop. Varieties severely affected included P16-013, 1-271, Supareil, UCD 8-27 and Booth. Items with moderate leaf spot included Bennett, Kester, Eddie, Y121-42-99 and Folsom. July sampled leaves indicate most varieties are deficient in zinc and nitrogen. Many are borderline deficient in potassium and/or exceed chloride threshold. There is no clear relationship between variety and leaf nutrients but would need more replications to show this definitively

<u>Madera</u>. In 2019, bloom in the Madera trial was hit by flower blast. Samples showed a combination of *Pseudomonas syringae* and *Botrytis cinerea*. Winters, Y117-86-03, UCD 18-20, Jenette, Folsom, Bennett, Capitola, Y121-42-99, Eddie and Nonpareil were affected, and UCD 1-271, Supareil, Durango, Aldrich, Wood Colony, UCD 7-159 were strongly affected. Hull rot was severe in many varieties and selections with UCD1-232, Eddie, Nonpareil, Sterling and Folsom most affected.

## Bloom, light interception, yield and quality

Bloom was fairly compact in 2018 (Fig. 1) and in 2019 (Fig. 2). Bloom overlap with Nonpareil was generally good for everything except UCD 3-40 which was quite early at all sites in both years and several of the non-self fertile items such as Durango, UCD 18-20, Jennette, Kester and Sweetheart which reached full bloom 6-9 days after Nonpareil at some sites in some years.

In 2019, PAR interception varied from 48 to 79 percent at the Butte trial, 40 to 66 percent at the Stanislaus trial, and 60 to 91% at the Madera trial (Table 1). The level of PAR interception at the Madera site is among the highest we have seen for an almond orchard this age. This is partly due to the high tree density (173 trees/acre) and vigorous Hansen peach/almond rootstock.

Hull split data is presented for 2018 (Fig. 3) and for 2019 (Fig 4). In 2019, completion of hull split ranged from July 16 to September 9 at the Butte trial. At the Stanislaus trial it ranged from July 13 to September 5. At the Madera trial it ranged from July 21 to September 27th.

Yield data for 2019 and cumulative yield data for 2016 to 2019 is shown in Table 1. In 2019, yields at the Butte site ranged from 870 to 2999 kernel pounds per acre and from 810 to 2630 kernel pounds per acre at the Stanislaus site (Table 1). Yields at the Madera site ranged from 462 to 3521 kernel pounds per acre. Both the highest and lowest cumulative yields were at the Madera site (Table 1).

Cumulative yield by site is presented on the left side of Table 1. The overall cumulative yield averaged over 4 years and all 3 sites is presented in Table 2.

Yield efficiency (expressed as yield per unit PAR intercepted) is presented on the right side of Table 1. This is a useful piece of data since it can show whether a new variety or selection is more efficient at producing yield per unit PAR intercepted or whether it is yielding more simply because it is growing faster.

Main quality defects in 2019 included kernel doubles, twins, chipped/broken, crease, shrivel, stain/discolor and mold. Naval orange worm damage only occurred at the Butte trial (Table 3).

# Tree architecture

Tree shape is quite varied in the early years (Fig. 6) but by the 5<sup>th</sup> year or so most trees look quite similar (Fig. 6). For further information on this see the 2019 report for Almond Board Project 19-Hort33-Lampinen (New Germplasm and Training Systems for High density Catch Frame Almond Systems).

# D. Outreach Activities

These results have been presented in oral and poster form at the annual Almond Conference in Sacramento, at a field day at the Butte trial in 2018, at the 2018 North San Joaquin Valley Almond Day, at the 2019 UC Almond Short Course and are available on line on the Almond Board of California website.

# E. Materials and Methods (500 word max.):

The next generation almond variety trials were planted in the winter of 2014 in Butte (Chico State University), Stanislaus (Salida School District Site), and Madera (Chowchilla grower site) counties. The varieties and selections planted are listed in Table 4. The first 30 items are common to all 3 sites and a few different items added at individual sites are listed at the bottom of Table 4. Trees were planted at a spacing of 18' x 22' at the Butte site (110 trees/acre), 16' x 21' at the Stanislaus site (130 trees/acre) and 12' x 21' at the Madera site (173 trees/acre). Tree densities are significantly higher than the previous generation RAVTs where planting densities for the Butte, San Joaquin and Kern trials were 64, 75 and 86 trees per acre respectively. Of the items planted in the main trials, fourteen are either partially or fully self-fertile indicated by boxes around the variety or selection name (Table 4). All indicated are fully self compatible except Winters and Sweetheart which are partially self compatible.

Bloom, hullsplit, canopy light interception and yield data collection were initiated in 2016. Bloom data were collected approximately three days per week and recorded as onset of bloom, full bloom, and the end of petalfall. Hullsplit was recorded from the beginning of the first non-blank splits to completion of hullsplit

# F. Publications that emerged from this work

Since these trials require fairly long term data to draw conclusions, no referred publications have been published to date.

#### 2018 Bloom February March 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 1 303112345678 24 25 26 27 28 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 UCD 3-40 Y 116-161-99 Capitola Eddie Lonestar r24 F F F Non pare F UCD 1-271 UCD 1-16 F Jenette UCD 8-160 Sterling UCD 7-159 Durango Supareil Winters Booth Aldrich F F Addrich Swreetheant Selffra P16.013 UCD 1-232 Wood Colony Y 121-42-99 r26 Beanett Wood Colony Y 117-91-03 UCD 18-201 UCD 18-201 UCD 8-201 Selffra P13.019 Y 117-86-03 Folsom Kes ter Kes ter Kes ter FF F F F F March February 13 14 15 16 10 UCD 3-40 UCD1-16 Bennett Capitola Sterling 8-160 Durango UCD8-27 Winters F F Winters Nonpa Supareil Eddie Eddie UCD 7-159 Y116-161-99 Aldrich UCD 18-20 Booth Booth Jennete UCD 1-232 UCD 1-271 Sw eetheart P16.013 Folsom Kester UCD 8-201 Y117-91-03 Y117-86-03 Kester / Hans Kester / Hanse P13.019 F Y121-42-99 February March 1 30 31 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 1 2 3 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 7 4 5 6 UCD3-40 UCD18-20 UCD1-16 UCD8-27 F F Wood Colony Booth UCD7-159 Eddie Sw eetheart Winters F F F

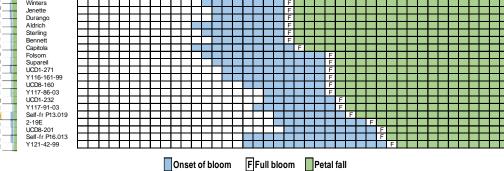


Fig. 1. Bloom data for 2018 by site and variety or selection.

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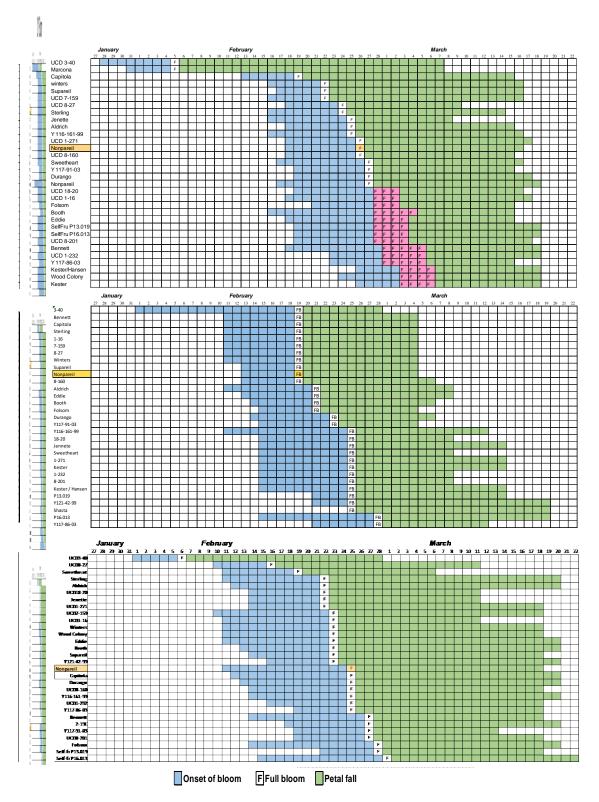


Fig. 2. Bloom data for 2019 by site and variety or selection. Pink area on 2019 bloom chart for Butte indicates time when orchard was inaccessible due to muddy conditions.

# 2018

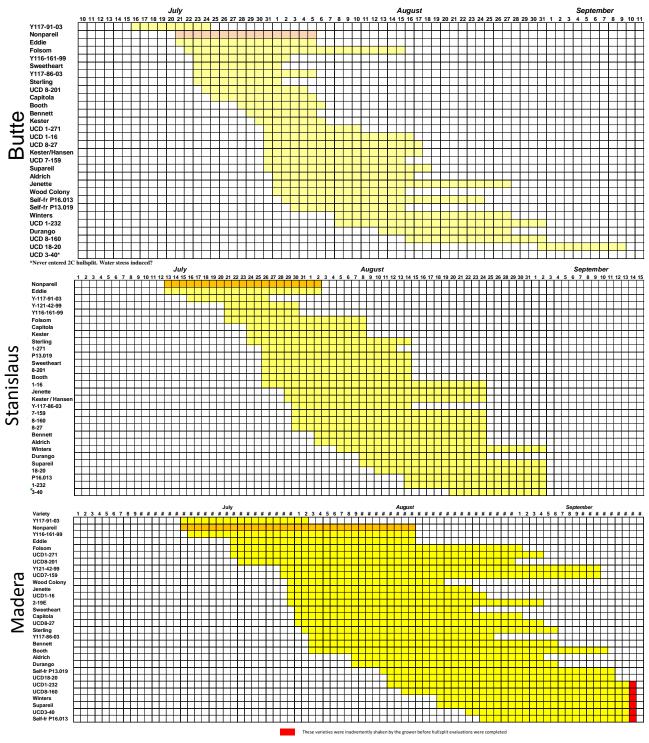


Fig. 3. Hullsplit by site, variety and selection for 2018.

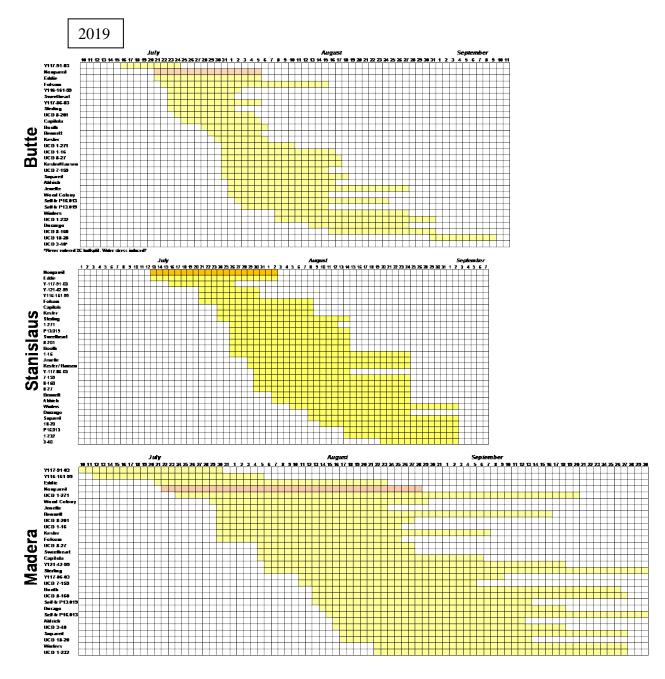


Fig. 4. Hullsplit by site, variety and selection for 2019.

Table 1. Cumulative yield (left), 2019 yield (center left), midday PAR interception (center right) and yield per unit PAR intercepted (right). Note that Wood Colony at the Madera site is one year younger. Common letters indicate differences are not significantly different at the 5% level of significance.

				PAR	Yield per
	Variety or selection	Cumulative kernel lbs/ac	2019 yield	interception	unit PAR
Butte	EastCool     Booth     UCD1020     UCD1020     V11721-03     Aldrich     Durango     UCD8-201     Monpareli     Y116-161-39     Folsom     Keaster     Capitola     Y117-86-03     Winters     Belf-fulful     WOCD8-27     UCD1-2159     UCD1-271	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Variety or selection kernel Ib&Ac     Nonparei   299 a     UCD3-40   2701 a   b     Booth   2711 a   b     Janette   2505 a   b   c     Janette   2505 a   b   c     Capitola   2481 a   b   c     UCD3-40   2813 a   b   c     Capitola   2481 a   b   c     UCD7-59   2114 a   b   c     UUCD7-59   2114 a   b   c     Durango   2066 b   c   d     Weod Colony   1998 b   c   d     Wood Colony   1988 b   c   d     UCD1-16   1877 b   c   d     Y11791-03   1876 c   d   d     VICD8-201   1878 d   d   d     UCD1-160   1808 d   d   d     Stering   1828 d   d   d     UCD8-27   1790 d   d   d     S	Variety or selection   P(s)     Capitola   78.8 a     Suparel   75.7 a b     Suparel   75.7 a b     Sweetheart   73.8 a b c     Y11741-03   73.5 a b c     Graphola   73.8 a b c     Y11741-03   73.5 a b c     Graphola   73.8 a b c     Y11741-03   73.5 a b c     Graphola   73.2 a b c     Graphola   73.2 a b c     Graphola   73.3 a b c     Winters   70.9 a b c     UC01-820   70.7 a b c     Graphola   67.9 b c     Bennett   67.9 b c     Graphola   cd     Restering   67.6 b c     Graphola   cd     Bennett   67.1 b c     Graphola   cd	
Stanislaus	Kester/Hansen UCD18-20 V117-91-03 UCD8-160 Self-P13-019 Kester Y116-161-99 Bennett UCD7-159 UCD7-159 UCD7-159 UCD7-159 UCD7-159 UCD7-159 UCD7-159 UCD7-159 UCD7-20 UCD7-20 Jenette Sweetheart UCD1-16 Self-P16-013 Se	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Kester/Fansen   2630 a     UCD18-20   211 b     UCD18-160   1992 b c     Suparel   1968 b c d     UCD7-159   1780 b c d e     Y117-91-03   1763 b c d e f     VLCD8-201   1660 c d e f g h     UCD8-201   1660 c d e f g h     UCD8-201   1660 c d e f g h     UCD8-201   1680 c d e f g h     SolfAufut10P13.019   1573 c d e f g h     SolfAufut10P13.019   1558 c d e f g h     SolfAufut10P13.019   1558 c d f g h i     Durango   1485 e f g h i     March   1480 e f g h i     V117.96-03   1485 e f g h i     V117.96-03   1485 e f g h i     UCD1-10   1285 g h i     UCD1-10   1280 h i     UCD1-10 <td< th=""><th>Kester/Hansen   65.6   a     Swerthaart   61.8   a     Suparell   60.2   a   b     Suparell   60.2   a   b     Booth   55.6   a   b   c     Booth   55.6   a   b   c     Capitola   54.7   a   b   c     UCD3-40   54.5   a   c   e     Staff-Initia   13.019   53.3   a   c   d   e   f     UCD3-40   54.5   b   c   d   e   f   g     Staff-Initia   13.019   53.3   a   c   d   e   f   g     UCD3-40   54.5   b   c   d   e   f   g     UCD3-40   54.5   b   c   d   e   f   g     UCD3-40   5.5   b   c   d   e   f   g     UCD1-271   4</th><th>Y116-161-09 470.0   UCDP-160 494.0   Nonpareli 486.6   486.6 a   Y121-42-90 441.1   b c   VI1791-03 421.1   b c   VI1791-03 421.1   b c   VID18-20 41.6   b c   UCD19-50 40.1   b c   UCD17-59 40.1   b c   UCD12-32 36.2 b   c d e   f g   VID1-322 36.2 b c   VID1-432 36.2 c d e   VID1-45 32.4 c d e f g   NuCD1-321 31.2 c d e f g h   UCD1-45 32.4 c d e f g h   Supareli 32.4 c d e f g h   2-1</th></td<>	Kester/Hansen   65.6   a     Swerthaart   61.8   a     Suparell   60.2   a   b     Suparell   60.2   a   b     Booth   55.6   a   b   c     Booth   55.6   a   b   c     Capitola   54.7   a   b   c     UCD3-40   54.5   a   c   e     Staff-Initia   13.019   53.3   a   c   d   e   f     UCD3-40   54.5   b   c   d   e   f   g     Staff-Initia   13.019   53.3   a   c   d   e   f   g     UCD3-40   54.5   b   c   d   e   f   g     UCD3-40   54.5   b   c   d   e   f   g     UCD3-40   5.5   b   c   d   e   f   g     UCD1-271   4	Y116-161-09 470.0   UCDP-160 494.0   Nonpareli 486.6   486.6 a   Y121-42-90 441.1   b c   VI1791-03 421.1   b c   VI1791-03 421.1   b c   VID18-20 41.6   b c   UCD19-50 40.1   b c   UCD17-59 40.1   b c   UCD12-32 36.2 b   c d e   f g   VID1-322 36.2 b c   VID1-432 36.2 c d e   VID1-45 32.4 c d e f g   NuCD1-321 31.2 c d e f g h   UCD1-45 32.4 c d e f g h   Supareli 32.4 c d e f g h   2-1
Madera	V-116-161-99     UCD-18-20     Y-117-86-03     Kester     Y-117-91-03     Monpareli     Jenette     Capitola     Y-121-42-99     Booth     Bennett     Sweetheart     UCD-416     Folsom     Self-r-P16-013     Aldrich     Sterling     Self-r-P16-013     UCD-4:60     UCD-1:62     Wood Colony     UCD-2:40	10278 a   9566 a   9100 a b   8447 a b c   8445 a b c   8445 a b c   8445 a b c   8457 b c d   8457 b c d   7368 b c d   7488 b c d   7488 b c d   7488 b c d   7488 b c d   6874 c d e   6874 c d e   6874 c d e   6072 d e f   6035 d e f   6035 d	Winters   521   a     Capibola   2225   a   b     Sweethaart   2233   a   b     UCD-1-16   2741   a   b   c     V10C-1-16   2741   a   b   c     Folsom   2668   a   b   c     Booth   2568   a   b   c     Suparell   2468   a   b   c     Monparell   5815   a   b   c   d     Wond Colony   2336   a   b   c   d     VLD-15:20   2434   a   b   c   d     Storing   2320   a   b   c   d     VLD-15:20   2306   a   b   c   d   e     Vulch-16:20   2306   a   b   c   d   e     Vulch-17:50   2300   b   c   d   e     Vulch-17:10   2124:29   b	$\begin{array}{c c} \hline Chaom & 91.2 \ a \\ Capitola & 89.2 \ a \\ Booth & 89.1 \ a \\ Supareli & 88.1 \ a \\ b \\ Supareli & 88.1 \ a \\ b \\ Capitol & 89.1 \ a \\ b \\ Supareli & 88.1 \ a \\ b \\ Capitol & 89.1 \ a \\ Cap$	Winters   50.234 a     UCD-1-16   40.657 a     VICD-3-160   40.657 a     b   Y116-161-90     VICD-3-160   39.184 a     b   C     Sweetheart   37.007 a     b   C     UCD-1620   36.5 a     Janette   3.337 a   b     Capitola   32.654 a   b   c     UCD-7-159   32.647 a   b   c   d     VUCD-7-30   32.591 a   b   c   d     Wood Colony   32.2591 a   b   c   d     V117-84-101   23.173 b   b   c   d     V117-84-101   23.173 b   b   c   d     Self-NP13.019   23.373 a   b   c   d     Supareili   28.010   b   c   d     V117-84-101   23.073 a   b   c   d     Supareili   28.012   b   c   d     V117-84-13.019   23.373 a

Variety or selection	average cumulative kernel lbs/ac	Variety or selection	average cumulative kernel lbs/ac
UCD18-20	7985	Self-fr-P13-019	5918
Y116-161-99	7240	Durango	5817
Y117-91-03	7174	Folsom	5723
Kester/Hansen	7000	Eddie	5703
Booth	6971	Kester	5637
Y121-42-99	6711	UCD1-16	5553
Y117-86-03	6643	Sterling	5519
UCD8-160	6536	UCD7-159	5328
Jenette	6419	Sweetheart	5291
Nonpareil	6379	Self-fr-P16-013	4857
Capitola	6221	UCD8-27	4821
Aldrich	6188	UCD1-232	4792
Bennett	6177	Supareil	4642
UCD8-201	6076	UCD1-271	3403
Winters	5986	UCD3-40	3305

Table 2. Average cumulative yield for 2016 to 2019 seasons for all 3 sites combined.

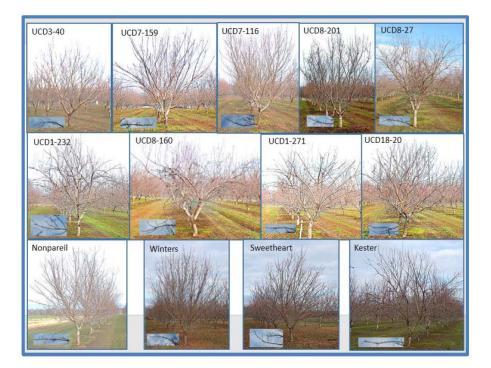


Fig. 5. Tree shapes from the Chico State University RAVT for material from the UCD breeding program. Inset photos show details of shoot growth patterns.



Fig. 6. Photos of Nonpareil trees (left side of left hand photos) and UCD8-160 (right hand side of right hand photo) in 2017, 2018 and 2019. In 2017, there was some droopiness on a number of items including Nonpareil and UCD8-160 but by 2019, the droopiness has largely gone away and tree structure among the varieties and selections are quite similar.

			Trial			
/arieties with defect	Butte	(%)	Stanislaus	(%)	Madera	(%)
% or more double kernels	UCD18-20	29	UCD 18-20	20	UCD 18-20	19
	UCD 8-201	18	UCD 1-16	13	UCD 8-27	15
	Wood Colony	18	UCD 8-201	13	UCD 8-201	13
	SF P16.013	15	UCD 8-27	12	Booth	10
	Durango	13	Capitola	6	P16.013	8
	Aldrich	9.7				
	UCD 8-27	9.7				
	Booth	9.3				
	UCD 1-16	8.7				
	UCD 8-160	8.3				
	UCD 3-40	8.3				
	SF P13.019	7				
% or more twin kernels	Nonpareil	15	UCD 3-40	14	UCD 3-40	17
	Folsom	15	Sweetheart	14	UCD 3-40 UCD 8-27	13
(two kernels within the same pellicle)	UCD 3-40					
		13	UCD 8-27	11	Jennette	7
	Sweetheart	12	Folsom	9	UCD 8-201	7
	UCD 8-27	12	UCD 1-232	7		
	Jenette	12	P16.013	7		
	UCD 7-159	9.7				
	UCD 8-201	6				
% or more chipped/broken	SF P16.013	16	P16.013	8	P16.013	8
	SF P13.019	11	P13.019	6		-
	UCD18-20	7.7	1 10.010	Ŭ		
	00010-20	1.1				
% or more crease	Y117-86-03	15	Sterling	8	UCD 8-160	15
	UCD 8-160	13	Jenette	6	Sterling	10
	Sterling	12	Durango	6	Sweetheart	8
	Capitola	11	-		Jennette	8
	Jenette	9.7			Capitola	7
	Folsom	8.7			UCD 1-232	6
	UCD1-232	7.7			Folsom	6
	Wood Colony	7.3				
	Durango	7				
	Eddie	6.3				
% or more shrivel	UCD 8-201	7.3			Folsom	8
	Capitola	7				
	Y117-86-03	6.3				
3% or more stain/discolor	Capitola	6.3	UCD 1-271	11	UCD 3-40	50
			Shasta	7	UCD 1-271	30
				-	UCD 1-232	24
					Eddie	21
					UCD 8-160	17
					Supareil	9
					P16.013	9
					Sweetheart	8
					Y116-161-99	
					UCD 18-20	7
					P13.019 UCD 8-201	7
					0008-201	0
% or more mold			UCD 1-271	8	Eddie	11
			Eddie	7	Nonpareil	9
				-	UCD 1-271	8

Table 3. Main quality defects by site for 2019. Items are listed if they had over 6% damage.

Table 4. Varieties and selections planted at the 2014 Regional Almond Variety Trials. Items 1-29 are planted at all 3 sites while additional material planted at individual sites is listed at the end. Trees at the Butte, Stanislaus and Madera sites were planted on Krymsk 86, Nemaguard and Hansen 536 rootstock respectively (exceptions are noted at the bottom of table.

	Variety or selec	tion	Source		
1	Eddie	Bright's			
2	Capitola	Burchell			
3	Supareil	Burchell			
4	Self-fruitful P16	.013	Burchell		
5	Self-fruitful P13	.019	Burchell		
6	Booth		Burchell		
7	Sterling		Burchel		
8	Bennett		Duarte		
9	Nonpareil		Fowler		
10	Durango		Fowler		
11	Jenette		Fowler		
12	Aldrich		Fowler		
13	Marcona		Spain		
14	Winters		UCD		
15	Sweetheart		UCD		
16	Kester (2-19e)*		UCD		
17	UCD3-40		UCD		
18	UCD18-20		UCD		
19	UCD1-16		UCD		
20	UCD8-160		UCD		
21	UCD8-27		UCD		
22	UCD1-271		UCD		
23	UCD1-232		UCD		
24	UCD7-159		UCD		
25	UCD8-201		UCD		
	Y121-42-99		USDA		
27	Y117-86-03		USDA		
28	Y116-161-99**		USDA		
29	Y117-91-03		USDA		
30	Folsom		Wilson		
31	Wood Colony o	n Krymsk 86 (Butte site			
	only)				
32	Wood Colony o	n Nemaguard (Madera			
	site only- planted one year later after				
	Lone Star was re				



\*Kester was planted at all three sites on the usual rootstock for the site. In addition at the Butte and Stanislaus sites it was also planted in the replicated trial on Hansen 536 rootstock

\*\*Y116-161-99 was planted only in two reps outside of the main trial at the Butte site