

Managing FRCs

- The protocols have been reviewed, now what?

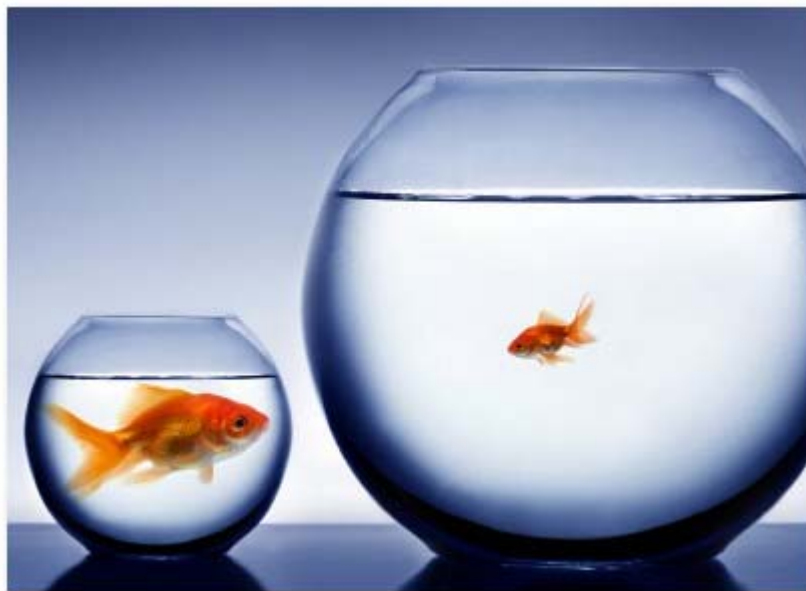


- Discussion today, share your experience
- Large Sites (40+ Trials) & Small (<5 Trials)
- Geography on call > Western Region



Big v. Small

- Challenges for large FRCs v. smaller FRCs



- Most FRCs are in-between



Common Issues

1. Farm Managers
2. Research Stations
3. Annuals vs. Perennials
4. Known Crop vs. The Twilight Zone
 - Chilis v. Corriander (NM)
 - Hops v. Wasabi (PNW)
 - Avocados v. Dragon Fruit (UCR/HI)
 - Cantaloupes v. Oyster Mushrooms (Kearney)
 - Crops v. Oysters (WSU)



Common Issues

- Farm Managers
 - Cooperative & knowledgeable (A+)
 - Vindictive & pretty ignorant (D- & below)



Common Issues

- Research Stations
 - Supportive & make things happen
 - Heel draggers = drives work off station
 - Bulldozing your orchard = work off station



Common Issues

- Annuals vs. Perennials
 - Risk of direct seeding/annual establishment
 - Perennial upkeep & commitment



Common Issues

- Known vs. Unknown
 - Research what you don't know
 - Use outside cooperators as needed
 - Experiment, adjust, tinker...





Tricks to Get it Done I

- Prep cooperator/manager with data forms
- Buy them “root” beer, make ‘em cookies i.e. good doobie behavior
- Be willing to work alongside crews
- Field Checking, re-checking, re-checking
- Research New Crops, ask questions





Tricks to Get it Done II

- Establish routines (predictable layouts)
- Know FM/Crew strengths/weaknesses
- Use cooperators with Uber Odd Crops
- Move offsite if it doesn't work onsite

