



Seminar

Wednesday
February 10, 2016

Plant Pathology & Microbiology
PLP**PM**
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Peterson 113
4:00 PM—5:00 PM



Dr. Kendra Baumgartner

USDA-ARS Research Plant Pathologist

UC Davis

***The grapevine trunk disease complex:
From the evolutionary genomics of
fungal wood colonization to the economic
benefits of disease prevention***

Dr. Kendra Baumgartner has been a Research Plant Pathologist for the USDA-Agricultural Research Service in Davis, CA since 2000. Her University training is in forestry (College of Environmental Science and Forestry, State University of NY, Syracuse) and agriculture (Department of Plant Pathology, University of California, Davis). Her graduate work on *Armillaria* root disease continues to this day, with research on identifying resistant rootstocks for very susceptible crops (almond and walnut) and on identifying the genetic origins of homothallism in *Armillaria mellea*.

For the past three years, she has led a team of eight labs working together on wood-canker diseases (*aka* trunk diseases) of grape, pistachio, and almond, funded by a grant from the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (USDA-NIFA). This is a transdisciplinary project, with topics including the following: genomics of wood colonization, development of new detection tools for vineyards and nurseries, modelling the economic benefits of preventing trunk diseases in young vineyards, and determining how grower perceptions of the management practices affect practice adoption and proper usage.

With travel grants from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, Kendra has had the opportunity to learn new fungal genetic techniques in Bristol, England (2007) and Bordeaux, France (2012-2013). She has served as associate and senior editor for the journal *Plant Disease* from 2008 to 2012. Since 2012, she has served on the scientific council for the Institut des Sciences de la Vigne et du Vin (ISVV), Universite de Bordeaux, France.

Hosted by Dr. David Appel



Coffee & Cookies

3:45 - 4:00 Room 121