

braving the California Coast

The 2005 California Pack Trials are sure to provide new, unique and must-have varieties for your future green goods mix.

By Carrie Burns

It is here again — the California Pack Trials. If you've gone before, you know how beneficial it is. If you haven't gone, oh, let me tell you...this trip is one you won't forget, for a few reasons: 1) It is a nice road trip if you are able to travel with someone you like. 2) You get a head's up on what will be hot in the next few years, while also seeing some varieties that may have been around for a while but are new to you. 3) You make your own schedule; you don't have anyone telling you when to go where, etc.

This year, the trials span April 2-14, with each company devising its own schedule. Right now, as I write this, I am trying to schedule more than 20 important stops into five days — it's not easy! But, to make it a little easier for you, here is a list of the locations to visit and the contact information for each location. Make sure to contact the companies ahead of time to make appointments for your visit.

And, I've gotten a few calls and E-mails warning of the excessive rains and bad weather California has endured over the last few months. So, it may be wise to check into road closings and construction. Be safe, and have fun.

AMERICAN TAKII

Trial Dates: April 3-11
Contact: Julia Paul
T: (970) 663-6042
F: (831) 443-3976
E-mail: jpaul@takii.com
Trial Location: 301 Natividad Rd., Salinas

BENARY

Trial Dates: April 2-8
Contact: Duane Sinning
T: (260) 982-0758
F: (260) 982-1139
E-mail: infousa@benary.com
Trial Location: 1200 Via Regina, Santa Barbara

BODGER SEEDS/BODGER BOTANICALS

Trial Dates: April 4-13, closed April 9 and 10
Contact: Sylvia Orza
T: (626) 442-6161
F: (626) 442-5063
E-mail: sorza@bodger.com
Trial Location: 1851 W. Olive Avenue, Lompoc

DANZIGER "DAN" PLANT FARM

Exhibiting with Oro Farms
Trial Dates: April 4-12
Contact: Reese Kiikka
T: (440) 357-6280
F: (440) 357-6287
Email: brplants-n-seeds@msn.com
Trial Location: 4860 Monterey Rd., Gilroy

ECKE RANCH

Exhibiting with Goldsmith Seeds, Fischer USA and Yoder Brothers Inc.
Trial Dates: April 2-9
Contact: Tina McElroy
T: (800) 549-0158
F: (408) 848-5429
E-mail: springtrials2005@goldsmithseeds.com
Trial Location: 2280 Hecker Pass Hwy., Gilroy

FIDES NORTH AMERICA

Exhibiting with Twyford
Trial Dates: April 4-10
Contact: Adalberto Rodriguez

T: 011 506 442 1849
F: 011 506 442 0556
E-mail: ar@fidesnorthamerica.com
Trial Location: 15245 Telegraph Rd., Santa Paula

FISCHER USA

Exhibiting with Ecke Ranch, Goldsmith Seeds and Yoder Brothers Inc.
Trial Dates: April 2-9
Contact: Tina McElroy
T: (800) 549-0158
F: (408) 848-5429
E-mail: springtrials2005@goldsmithseeds.com
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FLORANOVA

Exhibiting with Oglevee
Trial Dates: April 4-13
Contact: Bill Wilson
T: (574) 674-4200
F: (574) 674-5300
E-mail: bwilson@floranova.us
pconstant@floranova.co.uk
Trial Location: 222 North A St., Lompoc

JACKSON & PERKINS WHOLESALE, INC.

Suntory Collection
Trial Dates: April 4-13, closed April 10
Contact: Lou Aguirre
T: (800) 877-6737 x6
F: (541) 864-2819
E-mail: laguirre@bco.com
Trial Location: 6500 Donlon Rd., Somis

GOLDEN STATE BULB GROWERS

Callifornia Calla Pot Demonstration Trials
Trial Dates: April 4-13, Saturdays appointment only
Contact: Tom Lukens, June Roque or Sandra Cortez
T: (831) 728-0500
F: (831) 761-1282
E-mail: gsbg@cruzio.com
Trial Location: 1260 Hwy. 1, Watsonville

KIEFT SEEDS HOLLAND

Trial Dates: April 3-10
Contact: Jeff McGrew
T: (360) 445-2031
F: (360) 445-2031
E-mail: jmcgrew@sos.net
Trial Location: 270 Rucker Avenue, Gilroy

OGLEVEE LTD.

Exhibiting with Floranova
Trial Dates: April 4-8
Contact: Joe O'Donovan
T: (724) 628-8360
F: (724) 628-7270
E-mail: jodonoan@worldnet.att.net
Trial Location: 222 N. A St., Lompoc

GOLDSMITH SEEDS

Exhibiting with Ecker Ranch, Fischer USA and Yoder Brothers Inc.
Trial Dates: April 2-9
Contact: Tina McElroy
T: (800) 549-0158
F: (408) 848-5429
E-mail: springtrials2005@goldsmithseeds.com
Trial Location: 2280 Hecker Pass Hwy., Gilroy

ORO FARMS

Exhibiting with Danziger
Trial Dates: April 2-8
Contact: Tammy Ozuna
T: (315) 635-2531
F: (419) 730-7129
E-mail: tammy@orofarms.com
Trial Location: 4860 Monterey Rd., Gilroy

GROLINK

Trial Dates: April 2-10
Contact: Sarah Kellerman
T: (800) 451-6319
F: (805) 984-7248
E-mail: info@grolink.com
Trial Location: 4107 W. Gonzales, Oxnard

PACIFIC PLUG & LINER

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Trial Dates: April 2-8
Contact: Liz Dunlop
T: (831) 722-5396
F: (360) 647-1468
E-mail: david_edenfield@northwestgrown.com
Trial Location: 750 Casserly Rd., Watsonville

HF MICHELL'S

Exhibiting with Speedling
Trial Dates: April 2-10
T: (800) 422-4678 x5615
E-mail: pactrials@michells.com
Trial Location: 2640 San Juan Hwy., San Juan Bautista

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MANAGEMENT



Locations marked on the map include: Sacramento, Gilroy, Watsonville, Salinas, Lompoc, Santa Barbara, Oxnard, Santa Paula, Spmis, Los Angeles, Vista, Bonsall, Encinitas, and San Diego.

PANAMERICAN SEED

Trial Dates: April 2-10
 Contact: Mary Long
 T: (630) 588-3187
 F: (630) 231-3609
 E-mail: mlong@panamseed.com
 Trial Location: 335 S. Briggs Rd., Santa Paula

E-mail: nnaragon@sakata.com
 Trial Location: 105 Boronda Rd., Salinas

SELECTA FIRST CLASS, INC.

Trial Dates: April 2-11
 Contact: Gilda Walters
 T: (800) 955-5644
 F: (760) 634-4342
 E-mail: g.walters@firstclassplants.com
 Trial Location: 1150 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas

PLUG CONNECTION

Trial Dates: April 2-11
 Contact: Lisa Finnegan
 T: (760) 631-0992, x118
 F: (760) 940-1555
 E-mail: lisa@plugconnection.com
 Trial Location: 2627 Ramona Dr., Vista

SPEEDLING

Exhibiting with HF Michell's
 Trial Dates: April 2-10
 T: (800) 422-4678 x5615
 E-mail: packtrials@michells.com.
 Trial Location: 2640 San Juan Hwy., San Juan Bautista

PROVEN WINNERS

Trial Dates: April 2-14
 Contact: Kerry Strope
 T: (573) 635-2877
 F: (573) 638-0630
 E-mail: kerry@provenwinners.com
 Trial Location: 32149 Aqueduct Rd., Bonsall

TWYFORD INTERNATIONAL

Exhibiting with Fides North America
 Trial Dates: April 4-10
 Contact: Diana Dickenson
 T: (800) 327-9988
 F: (805) 525-3412
 E Mail: ddickenson@twyford.com
 Trial Location: 15245 S. Telegraph Rd., Santa Paula

S&G FLOWERS

Trial Dates: April 3-9
 Contact: Sharon Leeth
 T: (800) 454-8159 x408
 E-mail: sharon.leeth@syngenta.com.
 Trial Location: 7240 Holsclaw Rd., Gilroy

YODER BROTHERS INC.

Exhibiting with Ecke Ranch, Fischer USA and Goldsmith Seeds
 Trial Dates: April 2-9
 Contact: Tina McElroy
 T: (800) 549-0158
 F: (408) 848-5429
 E-mail: springtrials2005@goldsmithseeds.com
 Trial Location: 2280 Hecker Pass Hwy., Gilroy

SAKATA SEED AMERICA INC.

Trial Dates: April 4-12
 Contact: Nicole Naragon
 T: (260) 672-3820
 F: (260) 672-9065

LearnMore!

For more information related to this article, go to www.lgrrmag.com/lm.cfm/lg030507