Department Seminar Series

4:10 PM, Wednesday Oct 20, 2021
FST290 students meet in person in Room 1207 RMI-South
Others may attend remotely by Zoom:
https://ucdavis.zoom.us/j/92208083430

Better food and food systems through analytical chemistry research and extension
Selina Wang, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Cooperative Extension
Food Science and Technology
UC Davis

Dr. Wang received Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from University of California Davis. She has been the Research Director of UC Davis Olive Center since 2012 and became a Professor of Cooperative Extension in small scale fruit and vegetable processing in the Department of Food Science and Technology in 2018.

SUMMARY: The S. Wang Lab works together with the Food and Agriculture sector to provide practical solutions and to support sustainable growth. This presentation will provide an overview of the three major areas we focus on -- how we develop and apply analytical chemistry tools for mission-driven research and use the findings from our laboratory for educational and technical extension efforts with growers, processors, consumers, and representatives from regulatory and government agencies.

Microbiological safety of tree nuts and low moisture foods
Linda J. Harris, Ph.D.
Professor of Cooperative Extension
Food Science and Technology
UC Davis

Dr. Linda J. Harris received her Ph.D. in Microbiology from North Carolina State University. Her research and extension program focuses on fruits, vegetables and tree nuts. She has spent the past quarter century studying the ecology of foodborne pathogens in the California food production system from fields and orchards through final preparation.

SUMMARY: Almonds, pistachios, and walnuts rank 2, 4, and 10 in top grossing agricultural products in California. Although considered low risk, tree nuts are not “no risk” for foodborne illness. Outbreaks and recalls linking Salmonella and consumption of tree nuts have led to a body of research focused on understanding sources, prevalence, persistence, and mechanisms of control of this organism in these systems. An overview of past and current UC Davis research and extension in tree nut food safety will be covered.