Soil Moisture Monitoring for Vineyard Irrigation Management

March 12, 2014 – Broken Earth Winery – Paso Robles

8:00 Introductions
Fritz Westover, Technical Program Manager, Vineyard Team
Kendall Lambert, Water Program Coordinator, Community Alliance with Family Farmers

Indoor Presentation

8:10 A Primer on the Soil-Water Interface in the Irrigated Vineyard
Paul Anamosa, Viticulturist & Soil Scientist, Vineyard Soil Technologies

9:00 Measuring and Monitoring Salts in Soil and Water
Keith Backman, Senior Consultant, Dellavalle Laboratories

9:30 Using Soil Moisture Sensors to Assist Irrigation Scheduling
Mark Greenspan, Viticulturist, Advanced Viticulture

10:30 Break (15 min.) + Drive to Serena Vista Vineyards (1.8 miles, 15 min)
Serena Vista is one of three vineyard sites evaluated for the Vineyard Team Irrigation demonstration, funded by the USDA NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant and private cash and in kind donations.

Field Demonstrations

11:00 Best Placement of Soil Moisture Sensors
Methods to physically evaluate soil and select depths to place sensors
Fritz Westover, Viticulturist & Technical Program Manager, Vineyard Team
Paul Anamosa, Viticulturist & Soil Scientist, Vineyard Soil Technologies
Mark Greenspan, Viticulturist, Advanced Viticulture

11:30 Industry Roundtable on Soil Sensors – Brands and how they work
Flash talks by viticulture consultants on experience with multiple sensor brands
AcuaCheck - **Mark Greenspan**, Advanced Viticulture
Decagon - **Lowell Zelinski**, Precision Ag Consulting
Neutron Probes - **Dan Rodriguez**, Vina Quest
Watermark - **Alan Campbell**, SmartVineyards

12:00 Adjourn Meeting