



United States Department of Agriculture  
Research, Education and Economics  
Agricultural Research Service

University of Florida  
Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences  
Citrus Research and Education Center

April 12, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

This letter is the **FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT** for the upcoming in-person **2023 EPG Online Workshop** and associated **2024 International Electropenetrography (EPG) Conference**.

**2023 EPG Online Workshop:** For the first time, the online instructional EPG Workshop (edited for clarity and organization from the original in 2020) will be offered in conjunction with the EPG Conference. The Workshop was designed and recorded by Dr. Elaine A. Backus of the USDA Agricultural Research Service. The Workshop offers instructional videos to learn how to do all aspects of AC-DC EPG (with applicability to DC EPG), plus lectures on the history, principles, types of instruments, and waveforms of major insect groups. There is also a guest lecture on histological correlations by Dr. Holly Shugart of Pennsylvania State University.

Cost for the EPG workshop is \$100 USD. Only one Certificate of Completion will be issued per official Workshop registrant. However, if desired, multiple people can watch the videos for one registration without earning a Certificate. Register through the UF IFAS Extension online education link here: [EPG Workshop](#)

**2024 EPG Conference:** The Conference will be held at the University of Florida's Citrus Research and Education Center in Lake Alfred, FL (near Orlando) during the week of **January 29-February 2, 2024**, hosted by Dr. Lauren Diepenbrock. The International EPG Conference is an interdisciplinary meeting of researchers from all areas of entomology, plant pathology, veterinary, and medical sciences who use (or are interested in using) EPG for their research on piecing-sucking plant- or blood-feeding arthropods. Monday and Friday of the week will offer optional, hands-on refreshers in insect wiring (Monday) and statistical analysis (Friday), with the bulk of the meeting on Tuesday through Thursday. Information regarding registration cost, abstract submission, and hotels will be provided at the website below no later than July 1, 2023. Attendees who have already registered for the EPG workshop will be provided a single-use code to receive a \$100 discount on their conference registration cost.

Website: <https://crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/epg>

Conference registration and abstract submission opens: July 1, 2023

More dates, themes, and presentation guidelines will be announced later.

We look forward to seeing you in Lake Alfred, FL in January 2024!

*Elaine A. Backus*

Elaine A. Backus, Research Entomologist  
USDA Agricultural Research Service  
San Joaquin Valley Agricultural Sciences Center  
9611 So. Riverbend Ave.  
Parlier, CA 93648  
Tel: 1- 559-596-2925 (off.), 1-559-392-3956 (cell)  
E-mail: [elaine.backus@usda.gov](mailto:elaine.backus@usda.gov)

*Lauren M. Diepenbrock*

Lauren Diepenbrock, Assistant Professor  
University of Florida  
Citrus Research and Education Center  
700 Experiment Station Rd.  
Lake Alfred, FL 33884  
Tel: 1-863-956-8801  
E-mail: [ldiepenbrock@ufl.edu](mailto:ldiepenbrock@ufl.edu)