DESCRIPTION OF NCPN TOUR – MAY 13, 2010

The field trip on Thursday, May 13, will give participants an opportunity to visit some of the industry stakeholders who use the plant material made available by the National Clean Plant Network. Please be prepared to leave promptly at 8:00 a.m. with an estimated return time to Davis of between 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

In the morning, we will be visiting Duarte Nursery, Inc., a family owned and operated nursery located near Modesto in the Central Valley of California. Duarte Nursery describes itself as the largest permanent crops nursery in the United States, with a history of aggressively marketing innovative products. Their products include grapevines, almond trees, walnut rootstock, pistachio rootstock, stone fruit trees, citrus trees, cherry trees, pomegranate trees, blueberries, blackberries, olive trees, and poinsettias during the holiday season. They also have new ventures including figs, and kiwis. The tour there will allow our group to see nursery products for several NCPN crops or potential crops – i.e. grapes, fruit trees, berries, citrus, and olive.

In the afternoon, we will be hosted by Dr. Nick Dokoozlian, Vice-President for Research at E&J Gallo Winery and former UC Davis faculty member, who has served as Chair of the Foundation Plant Services Grape Advisory Committee for many years. We will have a picnic lunch at one of the vineyards of E&J Gallo Winery near Modesto, California. After lunch, we will visit an example of a cultivar evaluation experimental block. The search for new grape varieties with unique flavor characteristics is a major focus for the California wine industry. The group will tour the planting, as well as discuss commercial perspectives on the exploration, importation and evaluation of new wine grape varieties.