

# UC Agriculture & Natural Resources

## Proceedings of the Vertebrate Pest Conference

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Opening remarks - Twelfth Vertebrate Pest Conference

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## **OPENING REMARKS—TWELFTH VERTEBRATE PEST CONFERENCE**

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On behalf of the Vertebrate Pest Council, welcome to the 12th Vertebrate Pest Conference.

Every other year since 1962, the Vertebrate Pest Council has sponsored the conference with the primary objective of bringing individuals interested in vertebrate pest control together to discuss problems and solutions of mutual concern. The main objectives of the conference are:

1. To exchange information on vertebrate pest management and related matters.
2. To advance environmentally safe vertebrate pest management methodologies.
3. To build cooperation with public and private agencies in solving vertebrate pest problems.
4. To consider and promote discussion and interaction among agencies and others about problems of mutual concern in the field of vertebrate pest management.
5. To foster educational work in vertebrate pest management.
6. To encourage research by both public and private agencies on vertebrate pest problems and their solutions.
7. To promote uniformity and coordination of activities among agencies and individuals concerned with the regulatory aspects of vertebrate pest management.

As you can see from our program, we are accomplishing these objectives. During the next 3 days, we anticipate well over 400 attendees from around the world. At the meeting and through private discussions, we encourage you to share your experiences and learn about those of others.

The Conference has changed over the last 24 years, but the objectives still remain the same. After the 11th Conference, we mailed a survey to those who attended, asking them for their thoughts about the Conference and the kinds of things they would like to see at the 12th. This year's program reflects many of the ideas transmitted to the Council through this survey. The major change is adding concurrent sessions. We recognize the conflicts these present but feel that the expanded scope of the Conference allows you greater opportunities for exchanging vertebrate pest control information. For those who miss papers, we will be publishing the Conference proceedings within 6 months, allowing you access to all the information presented at the Conference.

We hope you enjoy the Conference. We welcome you to San Diego and encourage you to communicate your ideas and thoughts about the Conference to members of the Vertebrate Pest Council.

With that I begin the 12th Vertebrate Pest Conference.