



## 2005 Oliver Atkins Award of Excellence

### **BEN FABER**

Ventura, California

*Award presented by Carl Stucky*

It is my pleasure to announce that this year the Oliver Atkins Award of Excellence is presented to Ben Faber.

We are really fortunate to have Dr. Ben Faber as a farm advisor for the University of California Extension Service in Ventura County. We have someone here who has real technical ability and

the educational background to understand the science of growing avocados. He is a soil scientist by background.

We do not hold it against him that he was born in the San Joaquin Valley. He found his way to the coast, to our great benefit.

In addition to his technical expertise, he possesses the rare qualities of one that is so responsive to grower needs. He returns phone calls, he is out in the field whenever needed, and he is invariably helpful and informative.

A quick Google search on the Internet, for Dr. Ben Faber, turns up nearly 500 listings. Some may be duplicates, but those 500 listings refer to papers that he has either written or contributed to while at the University of California. His name is all over research that is related to practically every facet of avocado farming. Included are such topics as irrigation, fertility, insect pest management, and on and on.

We are very fortunate to have a gentleman such as Ben Faber involved in our industry.

Please give him a round of applause.

*(Comments of Dr. Faber:)*

I consider myself to be a farmer's farmer, and I really enjoy working with the people of this industry. I hold it up as the premier farming group in California, if not the world. And I really admire the California Avocado Society. This is a bootstrap organization that does a great job. I thank you very much for this honor. I am pleased to be following in the foots steps of George Goodall, Art Schroeder, Reuben Hofshi and all the other great people that have contributed to the avocado industry.