

Plant Pathology Seminar Series

“New Tools for Safe-Guarding Berry Plant Health: From the Nursery to the Consumer”

Dr. Janet C. “Jenny” Broome

Senior Research Manager, Global Plant Health Department, and Scientist,
Driscoll’s Inc., Watsonville, CA

April 24, 2023, 4:10 pm Pacific Time

Dr. Janet C. “Jenny” Broome provides strategic planning, staff direction and development, and budgetary oversight for 7 scientists at Driscoll’s Inc. Dr. Broome coordinates research and extension in berry plant health across departments and geographies. Her team provides plant pathogen diagnostics and best management recommendations for independent growers of Driscoll’s genetics and assists the nurseries with testing and handling to ensure clean planting stock. They work with a team of dedicated pathologist colleagues and breeding teams to characterize the susceptibility of germplasm to important plant pathogens.



Driscoll’s Inc. is the leading producer of fresh berries (strawberry, raspberry, blackberry and blueberry) in markets across the globe, with nursery and fruit production operations in >20 countries. Dr. Broome and colleagues have been conducting research on pre-plant soil plant health treatments such as anaerobic soil disinfestation, organic amendments, soil solarization, mobile soil steam treatments, and crop rotations relevant to organic berry crop production, as well as chemical fumigant alternatives to methyl bromide. Dr. Broome has worked with biological, chemical, and integrated control of above-ground plant pathogens, including weather-driven infection risk models to time fungicide applications for *Botrytis* and powdery mildews. She has also helped develop novel technologies such as nighttime UVC applications for controlling powdery mildew and use of 2 step moist heat treatments of planting stock for controlling *Colletotrichum*, *Xanthomonas*, and *Phytophthora*.

Prior to joining Driscoll’s 11 years ago, Dr. Broome worked with the University of California Davis in research and extension positions for 13 years, including as Associate Director of the statewide UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, and as Area Plant Pathologist in the Sacramento Valley. Dr. Broome also had regulatory experience as a senior environmental research scientist with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. She has authored numerous publications, served on national and state scientific advisory committees, and administered granting programs. Dr. Broome received her PhD and MS degrees in plant pathology from UC Davis, and a BS degree in biology from Swarthmore College. She lives in Santa Cruz with her husband and two daughters.

4:10 pm | April 24, 2023 | Plant Pathology 515, Spring 2023

Zoom Link: <https://wsu.zoom.us/j/95501196325?pwd=aGdCeTZGM0pQaXZoY05qT3M0SFVHQQT09>

Meeting ID: 955 0119 6325 **Passcode:** 5498

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