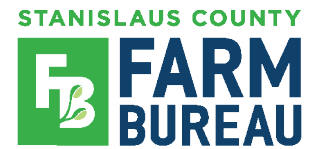


The Stanislaus Farm News

The *voice* of Stanislaus County Agriculture



For the **good** of your **food**.



Official Publication of Stanislaus
County Farm Bureau
Vol.75 No.3 February 16, 2024

Photo by Vicky Boyd
(from left) Ag advisor Briana Pritchard with FFA members Jacob Lewis, Logan Gracia, Kamilla Gonzalez, Arely Reynoso, Oscar "Chino" Tovar, Natalya Gonzalez, Jessica Abrica and ag advisor Zachary Smith stand in front of the FFA logo at Orestimba High School in Newman.
See article on page 6

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FRIDAY REVIEW

LEGISLATIVE AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Animal Health and Welfare

The Farm Bureau is currently meeting with key legislative members and budget staff to ensure that we have continued resources to implement the wolf compensation fund that was put in place in 2021. The fund has run out of money and with wolf populations continuing to grow, we cannot afford to lose a program that ranchers can use to meet the challenges of these predators and

their impacts on livestock in California. While we understand this is a tough budget year, we are working to ensure we continue the program without interruption. Staff: Chris Reardon; creardon@cfbf.com

Energy

A slew of new energy related legislation has been introduced and more will be introduced up to the deadline on Friday, but a few noteworthy bills include:

AB 2205 (Patterson, Joe and Gallagher, James) would direct the Public Utilities Commission to cut electricity rates by 30%. Farm Bureau is supportive of this initiative, but the bill will likely face significant opposition.

AB 2619 Damon Connolly (D San Rafael) would repeal Net Energy Metering (NEM) 3.0 and require the Public Utilities Commission to create a new version by January 1, 2027. The bill would require an annual rate of installation, including in disadvantaged communities, which presumably would maintain many of the benefits of NEM 2.0 that were removed in NEM 3.0. The bill

will likely be very contentious, and Farm Bureau will likely engage to ensure any repeal of NEM 3.0 would clearly restore the Net Energy Metering Aggregation (NEMA) subtariff as well.

SB 1165 Steve Padilla (D San Diego) is identical to SB 619 from last year which was ultimately vetoed by Governor Newsom. The bill would allow an electrical corporation that files an electrical transmission project application with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to simultaneously file an application with the Energy Commission. As the Governor noted in his veto, "[D]ecentralizing permitting between two agencies creates new coordination challenges, requires duplicative staffing, disrupts the sequencing of permitting workstreams and impedes the ability of either agency to consider the full scope of an electric transmission project. Ensuring that a single agency can account for and mitigate both significant costs to electric ratepayers and environmental impacts can lead to better results for Californians."

SB 1006 Steve Padilla (D San Diego) another transmission bill brought by Sen. Padilla would require the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to annually submit a report to the Legislature on the progress toward achieving its transmission capacity goals in relation to renewable and zero-carbon resources. In addition, the PUC would be required to conduct a study on the cost savings and efficiencies from grid enhancing technologies such as reconductoring that have recently gained traction as viable

See "REVIEW" on page 4

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From "REVIEW" on page 3

alternatives to costly new transmission projects. Farm Bureau will likely support this bill.

SB 938 Dave Min (D Irvine) would prohibit an electrical or gas corporation from recording various expenses associated with political influence activities or with advertising to accounts that contain expenses that the electrical or gas corporation recovers from rate-payers. The bill would also require the electrical or gas corporation to annually file a publicly available report with the Public Utilities Commission on those activities.

Bills seeking to increase hydrogen production are another hot topic that Farm Bureau will monitor to ensure ratepayers will not be impacted. For example, AB 1550 Steve Bennett (D Ventura) was amended and reintroduced which among other things would have seen biomethane become ineligible to produce renewable hydrogen and create additional targets and goals which were premature and costly. Farm Bureau joined a coalition floor letter opposing the bill and ultimately it died on the third reading file. Staff contact: Kevin Johnston, kjohnston@cbbf.com

Insurance

AB 2616 authored by Assemblymember Damon Connolly (D San Rafael) has been introduced. As it relates to wildfire risk, existing regulations of the Department of Insurance require an insurer's rating plan to consider certain wildfire mitigation efforts, including specified building hardening measures and clearing of vegetation. AB 2416 is a spot bill that related to insurers to provide discounted insurance rates to homeowners who use or install in their homes building materials that are demonstrated to harden homes and reduce wildfire risk. The Department of Insurance currently requires insurers to offer home hardening discounts, so it is unclear how 2416 will impact existing regulations. Staff: Peter Ansel; pansel@cbbc.com

Land Use

AB 2528 authored by Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula (D Fresno) has

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been introduced. The bill appears to be a spot bill (substantive language will be amended into the bill at a future date) related to Williamson Act contract cancellations. Staff: Peter Ansel; pansel@cbbf.com

Pesticides

AB 2113 introduced by Eduardo Garcia (D Coachella). Department of Pesticide Regulation: Sustainable Pest Management Workgroup.

Existing law, added by the Governor's Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1991, creates the Department of Pesticide Regulation and authorizes the Director of Pesticide Regulation, among other things, to adopt regulations for the issuance and renewal of licenses and certificates for pest control operations. This bill would require the department, by July 1, 2024, to establish a Sustainable Pest Management Workgroup that would identify pathways to minimize the use of toxic pesticides and expand the use of integrated pest management practices, among other things. The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2026. Staff: Chris Reardon; creardon@cbbf.com
AB 2509 introduced by Ash Kalra (D San Jose). Integrated pest management: invasive species: definitions.

Existing law, the Food and Agricultural Code, defines the term "integrated pest management" for purposes of the Healthy Schools Act of 2000, which requires the Department of Pesticide Regulation to promote and facilitate the adoption of voluntary integrated pest management programs for school sites, as provided. Existing law, the Food and Agricultural Code, uses the term "invasive species" in a variety of contexts, including, among others, by establishing in state government the Invasive Species Council of California to help coordinate a comprehensive effort to prevent the introduction of invasive species in the state, as provided.

This bill would define "integrated pest management" for purposes of the Food and Agricultural Code, excluding the Healthy Schools Act of 2000, to mean,

among other things, a sustainable approach to managing pests by combining biological, cultural, physical, and chemical tools in a way that minimizes economic, health, and environmental risks. The bill would define "invasive species" for purposes of the entire Food and Agricultural Code to mean nonnative organisms that cause, or are likely to cause, economic or environmental harm, excluding humans, domestic livestock, specified domestic or domesticated species, and nonharmful nonnative organisms. Existing law establishes the Invasive

Species Council of California to help coordinate a comprehensive effort to prevent the introduction of invasive species in the state and to advise state agencies how to facilitate coordinated, complementary, and cost-effective control or eradication of invasive species that have entered or are already established in the state, as specified. Staff: Chris Reardon; creardon@cbbf.com

AB 2552 introduced by Laura Friedman (D Glendale). Current law prohibits the use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticide and diphacinone, as defined, in a wildlife habitat area. Existing law prohibits the use of a second-generation anticoagulant rodenticide in the state until the director certifies to the Secretary of State that, among other things, the Department of Pesticide Regulation, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, has adopted any additional restrictions necessary to ensure significant reductions to the detectable levels of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides or any of their metabolites, as provided. Current law also prohibits the use of diphacinone in the state until the director certifies to the Secretary of State that the Department of Pesticide Regulation has completed any pending reevaluation of diphacinone and, in consultation with, and with the concurrence of, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, has adopted any additional restrictions that are necessary to ensure significant reductions to the detectable levels of diphacinone or any of its metabo-

lites, as provided. Current law exempts the use of a second-generation anticoagulant rodenticide or diphacinone from these prohibitions under certain circumstances, including for agricultural activities. Current law requires the director, and each county agricultural commissioner under the direction and supervision of the director, to enforce the provisions regulating the use of pesticides. This bill would expand the definition of a wildlife habitat area to include an open-space land, as defined. The bill would additionally prohibit the use of a second-generation anticoagulant rodenticide within 5,000 feet of a wildlife habitat area, and prohibit the use of first-generation anticoagulant rodenticide, defined as a pesticide product containing the active ingredients diphacinone, chlorophacinone, or warfarin, in a wildlife habitat area or within 5,000 feet of a wildlife habitat area, as specified. Staff: Chris Reardon; creardon@cbbf.com

Water

SGMA HEARING BY ASSEMBLY WATER, PARKS & WILDLIFE COMMITTEE
At 9 a.m. on February 21, the Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee and Budget Subcommittee 4 will hold an oversight hearing on implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. While the speakers have not yet been announced, Farm Bureau understands that speakers will be from the California Department of Water Resources, the State Water Board, Legislative Analyst's Office, and potentially representatives from groundwater agencies, and there will also be an opportunity for public comment. As in 2023, Farm Bureau expects to fight many bills in the legislature that attempt to change or undermine SGMA, and this hearing will bolster that effort. As of now, there is no plan for remote participation for public comment, so Farm Bureau is encouraging members, water agencies, and groundwater agencies to attend in person. The hearing will be held in the State Capitol, Room 444. If remote participation op-

Newman FFA

By Vicky Boyd

The Newman FFA program at Orestimba High School has gained a reputation ... but for all the right reasons.

"I was really confused when they talked at events about how FFA can help you develop speaking skills and gain leadership skills," said Jessica Abrica, a sophomore and two-year FFA member. "It led me to try it. I had no idea what FFA was about, but once you get into it, I feel you won't want to leave because they offer you so much." Jacob Lewis, a senior and four-year FFA member, agreed and pointed to the quality of the staff and the overall program.

"We all help each other out," he said. "All of the advisors are very good and inspire

students to go to meetings. Our officers are very welcoming and very inspiring."

And Logan Garcia, a senior and four-year FFA member, said the group feels like one big comfortable family.

"We can always talk to our advisors," he said.

The program is led by five ag instructors: Stacey Costilla, Kevin McGuire, Briana Pritchard, Zachary Smith and McKayla Ritts. All of them were involved in FFA in high school and saw becoming ag teachers as a way to pay it forward.

Smith, for example, spent his youth helping in his grandfather's Modesto welding shop, which he ran for 55 years.

"I grew up building farm equipment with

my grandfather," said Smith, who teaches welding and fabrication. "I got involved with FFA and found a passion for it."

FFA program grows

Since the COVID pandemic subsided, enrollment has grown at Orestimba High and is currently approaching 1,200 students. Along with it, FFA membership has climbed to nearly 600, with many coming from non-agricultural backgrounds.

"I think things were rough when we first came back from COVID, but I think we're rebuilding," Costella said, adding she believed the trend will continue.

She credited the advisors' focus on recruiting for part of that growth. Each year, area eighth-graders attend a recruiting event that showcases different curricula offered at

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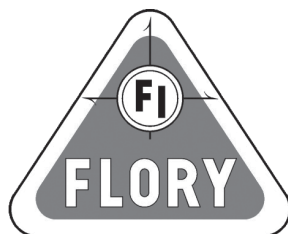
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nearby high schools.

Orestimba High's ag portion is led by FFA students, who demonstrate programs like welding, talk about the different activities and answer questions.

Word of mouth by current FFA members also plays a large part in recruiting, the advisors said. If students talk to enthusiastic FFA members who encourage them to sign up, they're more inclined to do so.

"I think environment plays a huge part," Costilla said. "Once we have a group of students who find it interesting, they bring their friends around."

In this digital age, the advisors also are enlisting social media to advertise the various FFA and ag programs.

From an academic standpoint, Costella said they've made sure all of their agricultural classes meet state requirements for college entrance. So ag biology, for example, is interchangeable with general biology.

While some students just take FFA to check the appropriate boxes on their college applications, Costella said a large number of students actively participate.

Building speaking and leadership skills

Having spent much of his life on his grandparent's farm near Patterson, Oscar "Chino" Tovar said FFA presentations during eight-grade recruitment piqued his interests. During his high school years, he's been involved with ag mechanics and said he

definitely benefited from the communications skills he's honed.

While he said he didn't have a problem speaking in front of large crowds, it was the smaller groups or one-on-one

conversations that were his weakness. Then Tovar competed at a regional FFA speaking event.

"I feel more comfortable in public speaking now that I've faced my fears in front of a smaller audience, thanks to that competition," he said.

Tovar is one student who won't follow in agriculture after high school graduation — he plans to go into construction management. But he said the speaking skills he's developed through FFA transcend situations and will no doubt come in handy during college interviews and on construction sites.

Garcia, who also runs his own custom detailing business, said FFA opened his eyes to his leadership potential. From being elected chapter treasurer, he's worked his way up to president. He's also section treasurer.

"Before I joined FFA, I was pretty quiet," Garcia said. "It's definitely built up my self-confidence a lot and I learned a lot of leadership skills. At one point, I didn't want anything to do with it. Now I want to be in all of the activities."

Admittedly shy and anxious when speaking before a group, eleventh-grader Kamilla Gonzalez said the public speaking skills she's learned have helped her overcome those fears.

As a freshman, she placed second in the Creed Speaking Leadership Development Event, which involves presenting from memory the FFA creed and answering three questions about it. As a sophomore, Gonzalez competed in a public speaking event, where she was given the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act as the topic 30 minutes beforehand. And just recently, she took top honors in the Spanish creed category.

"I learned how to speak to people, and be-



*Photo courtesy Newman FFA
(from left): Luis Chavarin, Raymundo Alfaro, Jessica Abrica, Kyleigh Brace, Rebecca Mendoza, Madison Beach, Natalya Gonzalez and Oscar "Oscar" Tovar attended the 2023 National FFA Convention in Indianapolis.*

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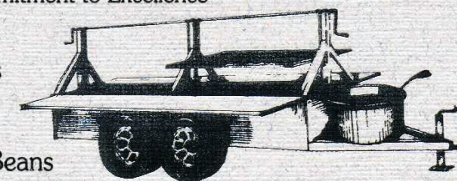
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From "FFA" on page 7

ing able to talk to all of the (FFA) members, you really do grow friendships," Gonzalez said.

She also serves as chapter treasurer and previously as chapter sentinel, offices she said she never would have pursued had it not been for the insistence of Costella. "I never thought I'd be one, but Mrs. C inspired me," Gonzalez said.

Eleventh-grader Arely Reynoso, who currently serves as chapter reporter, also pointed to her advisor for encouraging her to pursue an office.

"If it weren't for Mrs. Ritts, I don't think I'd be an officer right now," she said.

Animals teach responsibility

A highlight for many FFA students is raising animals beginning in February and showing and selling them at the Stanislaus County Fair in July.

Costella said not only does caring for animals teach responsibility, but it also emphasizes the importance of time management.

Garcia, who has shown pigs for two years and sheep for a year, can speak from experience. His pig got sick last year when he was out of town, so he had to call around for a veterinarian. Garcia credited fellow FFA members for helping to get the vet out to the school farm to treat the animal.

"It's like having a kid," he said. "Obviously, I've never had a kid, but taking care of something else that isn't yourself is a great responsibility. I think it really brings another level of responsibility."

Kamilla Gonzalez agreed, saying animals also teach time management since students are allotted a specific window for feeding each day.

"You need to be there on time to feed — you can't be rushed," she said. "It's a big commitment and big responsibility." Natalya Gonzalez, a senior and chapter vice president, has shown two goats, and they've taught her to be more patient. "They definitely teach you a lot of life lessons and just how to care for animals in general," she said.

During her four years in FFA, Natalya Gonzalez said her passion for animal agriculture has grown and she wants to study animal science or pre-veterinary medicine in college. Admittedly a bit squeamish, she said her backup plan is to become an ag teacher, so she can pass on the lessons she's learned from her instructors.

"I see the way they've helped me grow and the way they've basically taken me in, they're kind of like my second parents," Gonzalez said.



Photo courtesy Newman FFA
Her first time in the showing, Madison Beach took reserve champion fullblood junior buck and reserve supreme champion buck for her goat at the 2023 Stanislaus County Fair.



Photo courtesy Newman FFA
Several Newman FFA members attended the Camp Sylvester Leadership Weekend Trip. (top row from left) Luis Chavarin, Bryce Graham, Jessica Abrica, Angelina Cruz, Madison Durbala, Madison Beach, Rhyan Marroquin, Charlize Lemus, Arely Reynoso, Logan Garcia and Oscar "Chino" Tovar.
Bottom Row: Kamilla Gonzalez, Mia Castaneda, Kyleigh Brace, Natalya Gonzalez and Miranda Garcia

Lessons Learned in FFA

By Vicky Boyd

Mark Avilla, who manages his family's walnut orchards near Modesto and runs his own public relations firm, considers lessons he learned in FFA as the gifts that keep on giving.

"I think the benefit of being in FFA was it taught me to be confident in myself," he said. "Even if you're unsure of what you're talking about, being confident in who you are goes a long way."

At the December California Farm Bureau annual meeting, Avilla put some of those learnings to use during Young Farmers & Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award interviews. In addition to a lengthy questionnaire that included essay questions, the judging process included a 25-minute presentation.

Avilla won first place and traveled to Utah to represent California at the January

American Farm Bureau annual meeting. Although he didn't make it into the Top 10, he referred to another lesson from FFA — how to lose gracefully.

"You could really sulk in it or refocus your energy elsewhere," Avilla said. "I treat everything as a learning opportunity, and I find the bad experiences are better (to learn from) than the good ones."


For students or parents of students considering

FFA, Avilla provided these thoughts.

"My advice to students in FFA — or considering it — would be to get out of your comfort zone and get involved. I'm a firm




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believer that we grow when we step out of our comfort zones, and FFA is a wonderful way to do that. Whether that's running for office, participating in speaking or judging events, community service work or attending conferences, there are lots of opportunities in FFA to grow. So try a little of everything to see what you like.

"I started my agricultural leadership journey as a 14 year old in FFA, and I credit my experiences in that organization for my continued involvement in servant leadership and interest in ag policy today."

Avilla attended Modesto High School (pictured left, standing far left) and saw FFA as a natural extension of 4-H, which he was involved in during middle and elementary school. He took advantage of several public speaking contests, including parliamentary procedure, extemporaneous speaking, and closing and opening remarks. Avilla also showed beef and swine.

Originally, he had considered becoming an ag teacher. But he changed his mind after attending Modesto Junior College and ended up obtaining a bachelor's degree in ag communications and journalism from Kansas State University. Along the way, Avilla interned at the Stanislaus Farm Bureau and a major public relations firm as well as spending three months in an ag exchange program in the United Kingdom. After graduating and working for a year at a major public relations agency in Los Angeles, Avilla returned to the family farm in 2015. A fourth-generation farmer, he said he believed it was important to advocate on behalf of the industry whenever possible. In fact, his Grafted Tree Leadership agency focuses on helping young people realize their ag leadership potential and providing media training.

Avilla became active in YF&R, moving up through the ranks to committee chairman from 2019-2021. He also was the YF&R district 13 representative for Stanislaus and Tuolumne counties.

In addition, Avilla is a graduate of Leadership Farm Bureau and participated in the county leaders trip to Washington, D.C., late last year.

His efforts on behalf of agriculture have not gone unnoticed. At the CFBF Annual Meeting, Avilla received the Star Member Award — which recognizes an outstanding YF&R member who is active within their local YF&R committee, county Farm Bureau and agricultural community.

"I didn't expect it," he said. "I was very surprised and at the time, I felt it was like a lifetime achievement award type of thing. I can't think of a better way to end my YF&R career than winning the Star Award and Excellence in Ag in the same year."

Avilla has since aged out of YF&R, a program for those 18 to 35 years old. But he said he continues to look for other ways to remain active in agricultural leadership and tell the industry's story.



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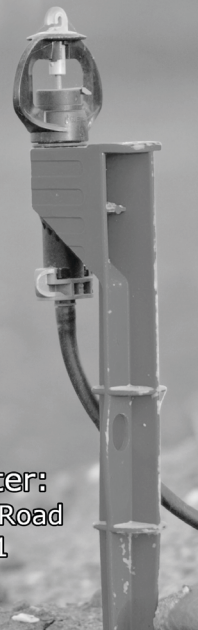


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What: 2024 North San Joaquin Valley Almond Day
When: April 4, 2024
Where: Modesto Centre Plaza
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Modesto, CA 95354



What: 2024 Tree & Vine IPM Breakfast Meetings
When: Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday from March through June
Where: Old Mill Café
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Ceres	Monday, Feb. 12 at 6 pm
Empire	Saturday, Feb. 3 at 2 pm
Modesto	Monday, Feb. 26 at 5:30 pm
Oakdale	Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 6 pm
Patterson	Thursday, Feb. 8 at 1 pm
Riverbank	Saturday, Feb. 10 at 2 pm
Salida	Tuesday, Feb. 6 at 6 pm
Turlock	Wednesday, Feb. 21 at 6 pm
Waterford	Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 2 pm

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SCAN ME

Census of Agriculture Re- veals Rich Data

By Roger Cryan

This week a window opens on agriculture that is revealed just once every five years.

The United States Census of Agriculture may be the world's most detailed picture of a nation's farm sector, providing almost incredible detail on farming and farmers at the national, state and county level, but still assuring confidentiality to the participating farmers.

USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service collects and reports this information just twice a decade, and the rich

data collected is pored over, analyzed and put to heavy use for the next five years. Our news release on the survey results highlights several key data points.

This detail is invaluable for farmers, for the businesses they supply and the businesses that supply them, for those who study farming, for those who make farm policy and, ultimately, for all of us who depend on farm production for our food, fiber and renewable fuel.

Detail on acres devoted to a wide variety of crops, down to the county level, is priceless for those seeking supplies of farm products and seeking to supply farmers, as well to the analysis of market supply and food policy. Addressing hunger, after all, begins on the farm.

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and the coming decades' climate – on farm production and rural prosperity. Along with detail on land use practices, this identifies where existing conservation practice is working and where new practices can help sustain land-healthy production for the years to come. And new data on the use of precision agriculture provides insight into how technology and conservation work together on our farms and ranches.

Detail on operators' age and demographics is critical for policy makers planning for the future of local agriculture, working on rural development issues, or working on farm policy that supports farmers' productive capacity, such as the farm bill currently being debated.

Detail on farm labor and hiring practices for farms identified by their primary commodity supports our understanding of labor needs and can better define future

policy, if it is to support the wide range of farm goods that this country can supply.

Similar commodity-specific detail on farm costs, including custom work, supplies, and equipment, helps us understand the upstream needs of farmers; while the detail on marketing practices can show us their downstream needs and opportunities.

And if this detail seems, perhaps, a little too detailed, know that confidentiality is an article of faith to the men and women of NASS. The missing data, marked by the letter "d" for "disclosure," in many county and state tables are our reassurance that your individual data will not be revealed among the otherwise rich detail contained in the Ag Census. Just ask your state agricultural statistics office, and they will tell you – from memory – about the statutes protecting your data when you offer it for any and all of NASS' statistical collections.

veys. It provides them with a clear picture of where the farms are and how they can build survey samples that are more truly representative of agriculture in each state and across the country.

The Farm Bureau team, along with farmers and analysts and advocates across the nation and the world, will be using this latest Ag Census for the next five years to inform our relationships and our decisions.

The world's need for what farmers do and grow isn't shrinking. In fact, the world keeps finding new and bigger needs for farmers to supply food, feed, fuel, industrial inputs and, lately, environmental services.

And yet, every Ag Census finds less farmland (20 million acres less in 2022 than in 2017) and fewer farmers (142,000 fewer) in the United States.

The work done for the Ag Census is also the foundation for all other NASS sur-

So let's use the same rich Ag Census data to do something about these losses, and to promote and support vibrant, diverse, productive and sustainable farming and ranching in every state.

In a nutshell, the Ag Census provides enormous value for understanding who is farming and how we can help meet their needs as they meet so many of ours.

Roger Cryan is chief economist at the American Farm Bureau Federation.

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www.oakdalechamber.org/events/ag-scholarship-dinner/



2024 TRAININGS



Register here:

<https://stanfarmbureau.org/events/>

March 5, 2024 Pesticide Handler & Fit Testing

8:00-12:00pm - Spanish

1:00-5:00pm - English

This is an annual training required by the Department of Pesticide Regulation.

Pricing: Member \$60/Nonmember \$75

July 25, 2024 Tractor Safety

9:00-10:00am - Spanish

10:00-11:00am - English

CalOSHA requires that employees who operate equipment be trained annually.

Pricing: Member \$40/Nonmember \$50

May 23, 2024 Heat Illness Prevention

9:00-10:00am - Spanish

10:00-11:00am - English

CalOSHA requires this training annually for outdoor employees.

Pricing: Member \$40/Nonmember \$50

October 24, 2024 Hazardous Ag Materials (HAM)

8:00-9:30am - English

10:00-11:30am - Spanish

Everyone operating a class C vehicle carrying hazardous material must be trained.

Pricing: Member \$40/Nonmember \$50

June 27, 2024 CPR & First Aid

8:00-12:00pm - Spanish

1:00-5:00pm - English

CalOSHA requires that at least 1 employee for every 20 employees be trained.

Pricing: Member \$100/Nonmember \$125

November 22, 2024 Spray Safe - Save the Date

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Northeast Regional Meeting

Monday, March 11, 2024
Dying Breed Brewing
Guest Speaker- Sheriff Jeff Dirkse
6:00PM

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guest speaker and to elect
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Members.



STANISLAUS COUNTY
FARM BUREAU

Eastside Regional Meeting

Tuesday, February 27, 2024
The Fruit Yard Restaurant
Guest Speaker- Vito Chiesa
6:00PM

Join us for a great dinner,
guest speaker and to elect
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Members.



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STANISLAUS COUNTY
FARM BUREAU

Southern Regional Meeting

Friday, February 23, 2024
Dust Bowl Brewing
11:30AM

Join us for a great lunch, guest
speaker and to elect your
Southern Board Members.



STANISLAUS COUNTY
FARM BUREAU

Westside Regional Meeting

February 22, 2024
Almond Wood, Banquet Room
Guest Speaker- Sheriff Jeff Dirkse
6:00PM

Join us for a great dinner,
guest speaker and to
elect your Westside Board
Members.



TUOLUMNE COUNTY FARM NEWS

Sonora, CA – The public will have one last chance to give feedback on Tuolumne County’s updated Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) to ensure an effective response to emergencies.

The last time the EOP was updated was in 2012, according to county Office of Emergency Services (OES) officials. It outlines the roles and responsibilities of government agencies, jurisdictional and federal partners, private-sector partners, community groups, and the public during emergencies. It is designed to be flexible and adaptable, reflecting changes in regulatory requirements, hazards, risks, resources, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery capabilities, noted county OES officials.

After three public meetings regarding the plan’s development, the final draft is now available for public review,

<https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/1685/Emergency-Operations-Plan>.

The public is encouraged to comment before it is presented to the Board of Supervisors for final adoption on March 5.

County officials provided this list of key plan developers:

Tuolumne County OES, Sheriff, Fire, and EMS - First Responder Agencies - City of Sonora - Tribes - Key Stakeholders

Written by Tracey Petersen, mymotherlode.com/

What is an Emergency Operations Plan?

An EOP outlines the overarching roles

and responsibilities and coordination between various Tuolumne County government agencies (especially first responder agencies), jurisdictional and federal partners, private-sector partners, community groups, and the public, before, during, and after an emergency or disaster situation.

While emergency response and recovery activities are contingent upon the type and extent of the disaster, the EOP should be flexible and adaptable enough to be used in all scenarios.

County EOP Update

Tuolumne County OES is updating the Tuolumne County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP).



What is an EOP?

An EOP outlines the overarching roles and responsibilities and coordination between various Tuolumne County government agencies (especially first responder agencies), jurisdictional and federal partners, private-sector partners, community groups, and the public, before, during, and after an emergency or disaster situation.

While emergency response and recovery activities are contingent upon the type and extent of the disaster, the EOP should be flexible and adaptable enough to be used in all scenarios.

Why do an update?

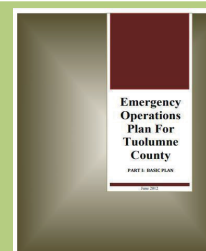
The EOP should be updated regularly to ensure it remains relevant and effective in responding to new and evolving hazards. Lessons learned from past events should be integrated into the plan, and it should reflect changes in regulatory requirements, hazards/risks, resources, and preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery capabilities of the County.

When will it be completed?

- The EOP Final Draft is now available.
- The EOP Final Draft will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for final adoption on March 5, 2024.

How was the public involved?

Per SB 160, a total of three Public Information Meetings were held to provide the public an opportunity to participate in EOP development. The first two meetings were held prior to draft development to allow for public input before plan writing began. The third meeting provided the public with the opportunity to review and comment on the second draft of the plan, prior to the final draft.

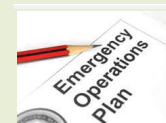


The EOP consists of the Base Plan and the following Annexes:

1. Extreme Weather
2. Flood/Dam Failure
3. Geological Event (earthquake, volcano)
4. Hazardous Materials
5. Terrorism/Civil Disturbance
6. Transportation Accident/Multi-Casualty Incident
7. Wildland Fire
8. Debris Management

Key Plan Developers:

1. Tuolumne County OES, Sheriff, Fire, EMS
2. First Responder Agencies
3. City of Sonora
4. Tribes
5. Key Stakeholders



Learn more about the update process and view the 2012 Plan at <https://bit.ly/eopwebpage> or scan the QR Code.



To take the Public Comment Survey visit, <https://forms.office.com/g/AP4nCmTuhG> or scan the following QR Code

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EPA Updates Efforts to Address Endangered Species Act Parameters

Source: Brian German, Ag News Director / AgNet West

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has disclosed its roadmap for protecting endangered species from pesticide exposure. Assistant Administrator Michal Freedhoff outlined the EPA's strategies during a speech to the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture.

Freedhoff emphasized the EPA's commitment to harmonizing endangered species protection with agricultural needs, stating, "Protecting endangered species and ensuring we have a safe and abundant food supply can go hand in hand." She highlighted the importance of balancing agricultural flexibility with ecological

conservation.

Historically, the EPA has faced challenges in aligning pesticide registration under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act with the mandates of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This discrepancy has led to legal disputes, uncertainties for farmers, and delays in species protection.

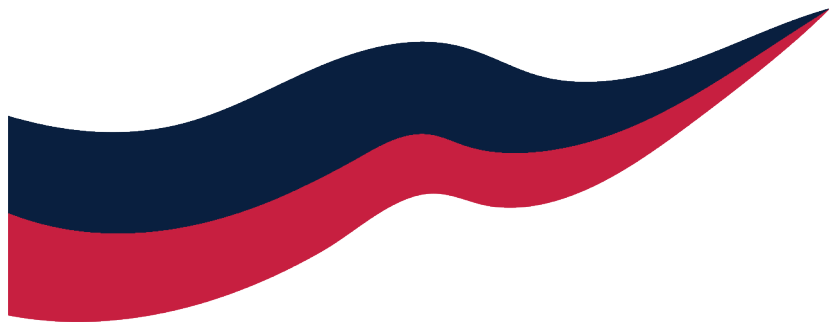
To address these concerns, the EPA introduced its ESA Workplan in April 2022, outlining strategies to integrate species protections into pesticide regulations while maintaining accessibility for pesticide users. Initiatives such as the Vulnerable Species Pilot project were proposed, aiming to shield species particularly vulnerable to pesticides.

However, stakeholders raised apprehensions regarding the feasibility of these strategies. In response, the EPA has an-

nounced plans to refine its approaches, expand collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and enhance stakeholder engagement. The EPA will enhance species mapping accuracy to better pinpoint areas requiring pesticide protections. By partnering with federal agencies and academic institutions, EPA aims to develop precise habitat maps, ensuring targeted conservation efforts.

The EPA has also signed a memorandum of understanding with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), recognizing the role of voluntary conservation practices in pesticide management. This collaboration aims to integrate NRCS practices into pesticide labels, offering growers additional compliance options. Looking ahead, the EPA also plans to introduce online mitigation measures to streamline pesticide label updates and explore offsetting mechanisms for situations where pesticide avoidance is impractical.

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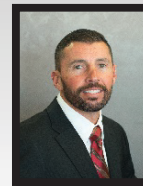
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Next Steps for FMMO

*Source: Sabrina Halvorson
National Correspondent / AgNet Media*

The USDA has finished the Federal Milk Marketing Order (FMMO) hearing and is now considering more than 12,000 pages of testimony as it formulates its plan for FMMO modernization. The National Milk Producers Federation (NMPF) continues to do what it can to ensure that the proposal best reflects the interest of dairy farmers and their cooperatives.

“We feel that we made, we presented a very good hearing record,” Vice President for Economic Policy and Market Research, Dr. Peter Vitaliano, said on the MMPF’s

Dairy Defined podcast. “Half the room was full of basically USDA-related people. We watched them closely for their body language and other things, although we’re an ex parte, as you know. Communications between USDA and the industry are very limited just to procedural things.” Still, he said he’s ‘comfortable’ that the members will get a decision that they’re able to ‘live with’, but nobody is going to get everything they want.

“That’s pretty clear. USDA is going to give ... each of the major parties a little something. The final result will be a market improvement over what we have now. Federal order pricing formulas, which is the only thing this whole hearing was about, have basically maintained, by and

large a fixed structure of the dairy industry and over the 25 years or so that those formulas have been in effect the industry has changed considerably,” he said. “The formulas are now increasingly out of step with what the industry looks like.” He said the NMPF proposals are to increase the formula to match where the industry is now and where it will be in the future. He said successful modernization must respect the entire industry and work for farmers.



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Leadership Farm Bureau Class Announced for 2024

Source: California Farm Bureau

Nine agricultural professionals have been chosen for the California Farm Bureau's 2024 Leadership Farm Bureau program.

Leadership Farm Bureau class members will participate in a 10-month educational and development initiative that prepares them for leadership roles in Farm Bureau

and agriculture. The program includes 250 hours of instruction, with seminars on key issues affecting California farmers, ranchers and agricultural businesses.

Program participants will learn about government and legislation, media and communications, public speaking and team building. They will also attend lobbying sessions in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., and meet with lawmakers and administrative and regulatory officials.

Members of the Leadership Farm Bureau class include:

- Ben Abatti III of Imperial County, a third-generation farmer who grows alfalfa, sugar beets, wheat and other forage crops in Holtville.
- Alex Arroyo of Monterey County, general manager of King City Transplanting in the Salinas Valley.
- Tanya Brouse of Butte County, a program coordinator for the Butte County Farm Bureau who also works with the Butte Agriculture Foundation.
- Sy Honig of Sutter County, a third-generation farmer, owner of Honig Farms and a pest control advisor.
- Jackie Kennedy of Glenn County, founder of Knaughty Farms Olive Oil and office manager for a family farm growing olives, rice and walnuts.
- James Moller of Shasta County, a seventh-generation cattle rancher and a manager for Driscoll's Inc. focusing on strawberry nursery production.
- Rachel Nettleton of Kern County, executive director of the Kern County Farm Bureau and a marketing and communications professional.
- Harsimerdip "Harry" Sidhu of Sutter County, a vice president of First Northern Bank in Yuba City who grew up on his family's fruit and nut farm.
- Danielle Vietti of Tulare County, a vice president at AgWest Farm Credit in Tulare who specializes in dairy financing.

The California Farm Bureau works to protect family farms and ranches on behalf of more than 26,000 members statewide and as part of a nationwide network of 5.8 million Farm Bureau members.

BURROUGHS
FAMILY FARMS

ecdysis

3RD ANNUAL REGENERATIVE ALMOND FIELD DAY

An interactive learning opportunity to explore resilient almond farming in California

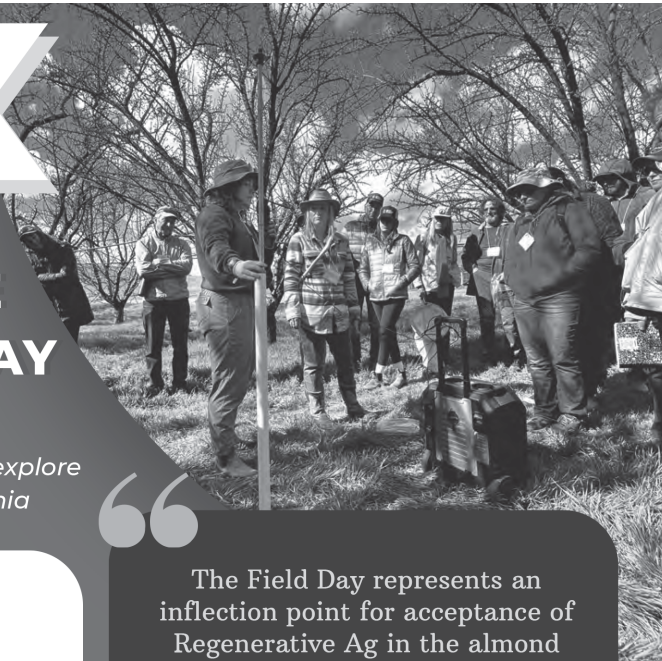
FEBRUARY 22, 2024

Join us for an interactive field day that will offer farmers at every level the opportunity to learn from practitioners on the ground, get the latest information from researchers, ask questions of each other, and connect with folks committed to growing a food system that is healthy for our land and communities.

WEDNESDAY FIELD DAY | 9am-3pm

- Tour and explore the orchards with demonstrations
- Learn and connect through farmer-to-farmer panels
- Hear research updates from experts in the field
- Learn about sap sampling and interpretation
- Enjoy meaningful conversation over a nourishing and delicious lunch
- Engage with businesses that can help on your regenerative journey during the trade show.

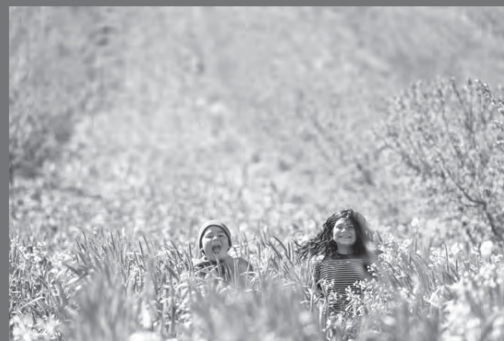
REGISTER AT:
<https://bit.ly/regen-almonds>



The Field Day represents an inflection point for acceptance of Regenerative Ag in the almond industry. The day was a huge success, with real data, real-life stories of success, and real demonstrations of orchard benefits.

- 2022 PARTICIPANT

The 2022 Almond Field Day attracted 300+ registrants!



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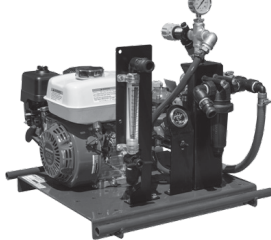
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2023 MJC Winter Industry Tours

Incredible experiences with a group of outstanding young agricultural leaders within the department. Our mission: to deep dive into the world of agriculture, exploring internships, job opportunities, and policy's within the industry.

Day One:

Our first stop, Yosemite Foods! The team there welcomed us and shared valuable insights unto the processing facility, offering a firsthand look at the heart of their operations. We express our gratitude and thankfulness for the opportunity to learn about the multitude of job opportunities available within agricultural sector.

Thank you Yosemite Foods for opening your door to us!

Our next stop, Yara International! Yara is an international wholesale fertilizer distributor operating through the Port of Stockton, where we were warmly welcomed. Their mission is to responsibly feed the world and protect the planet. The team generously



shared valuable sights into their processing facility, providing a firsthand glimpse into the core of their operation. We express immense gratitude for the chance to discover yet another amazing job opportunities within the agriculture sector.

Thank you Yara International for giving us this opportunity!

Day Two:

Our journey brought us to Secretary of CDFA, Karen Ross. We took a deep dive into California's agriculture issues and discussed the state's responses. The warmth of the California Department of Food and Agriculture team provided valuable insights, offering a firsthand look into their core operations. We discovered upcoming changes in the Dairy program and the chal-

lenges posed by multiple fruit flies affecting our crops.

Thank you Secretary Ross and the entire staff at CDFA!

The next stop in our travels brought us to the California State Capitol, where we delved into the political landscape of agriculture. Our tour of the capitol was filled with rich history, beautiful art, and major construction. We are forever grateful for this experience.

Our thanks go out to those who met with us at the Capitol!

The next stop brought us to Agricultural Council of California, where we dove into the political landscape of California. En-

gaging with lobbyists during our tour, we acknowledged insights into pivotal matters like water rights and political challenges within the agricultural sector. We are grateful for the opportunity to explore diverse career paths in

agriculture, this experience not only enlightened us but also kindled a passion for dynamic opportunities that lie ahead.

Our sincere thanks go out to Dennis Alani, Tricia Geringer, Senator Marie Alvarado Gil, and Assemblyman Juan Alanis for meeting with us in Sacramento!

Next we journeyed to California Farm Bureau and got a visit from Blue Diamond Growers. We learned about a new e-commerce program Blue Diamond growers is launching for their membership. Joe and Coe discussed marketing and sales techniques and the importance of influencers. We wrapped up the day with an exercise in leadership hosted by our very own Ryan Amaral in his new position at California Farm Bureau. Engaging with these companies we garnered valuable insights into important matters such as marketing ploys, goal setting, and reflection.

Thank you Blue Diamond Growers and Ryan Amaral for meeting with us, as well as California Farm Bureau for hosting us for the evening!

Day Three:

We ventured back towards Modesto on our final day, and visited Corto Olive Company in Stockton. We learned about the olive oil process from field to table. Additionally, we were taught the proper way to store, sample and taste olive oil. We discussed the global olive oil market and what it takes to make high quality olive oil. Did you know that Corto is a sister company to Stanislaus Food Products?

We are so thankful for Jason, David, Della and Roti for giving us their time and knowledge as well as being a great final stop on our trip!

Last but certainly not least, Morada Produce Co. This family owned company specializes in growing cherries, walnuts, onions, and bell peppers.



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WHEN & WHERE

Stanislaus County Farm
Bureau Boardroom

English 7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Spanish 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

- March 7
- March 21
- April 4
- April 18
- May 2



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JASON L. EDWARDS

From "REVIEW" on page 5

tions become available, we will share that information. Staff: Alex Biering, abiering@cbbf.com

CALIFORNIA WATER COMMISSION MEETING

The California Water Commission will meet at 9:30 a.m. next Wednesday, February 21, in the California Natural Resources Building's First Floor Auditorium in Sacramento. On the agenda are the first State Water Project (SWP) briefing of the year, including an update on project operations, the allocation for the 2024 water year, the hydrologic outlook, and any planning or operational decisions to be made this year related to the SWP. SWP representatives will also introduce the project's five-year strategic plan, titled "Elevate to '28." The meeting is open to the public and will have in-person, streaming, and virtual participation options. Staff: Alex Biering, abiering@cbbf.com

CALIFORNIA IRRIGATION INSTITUTE CONFERENCE FEB. 26-27

The California Irrigation Institute, of which Farm Bureau is a founding board member and sponsor, will hold its 62nd annual meeting on February 26-27 in Sacramento. The conference title is "Flowing Futures" and this year's program features a heavy emphasis on remote measuring monitoring, forecasting, and use

of AI tools. Online registration and day-of registration are both available. Staff: Alex Biering, abiering@cbbf.com

Wildfire

SB 1003 authored by Senator Monique Limon (D Santa Barbara) has been introduced Existing law requires a state agency to secure at least 3 competitive bids or proposals for each contract with a third party but establishes exceptions to these requirements for specified contracts. SB 1003 would include in the list of exceptions a contract entered into by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for the purpose of providing logistical support for large-scale prescribed fire operations. Staff: Peter Ansel; pansel@cbbf.com

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Flood Damage Assistance for California Growers Available From NRCS

*Source: Brian German
Ag News Director / AgNet West*

California growers dealing with flood damage from storms this year have assistance opportunities available from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Funding support for farmers and ranchers is being made available through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program from USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). An announcement of \$1 million was made as an initial investment in helping agricultural producers address flood-related damage.

"NRCS in California is committed to assisting agricultural producers recover from these recent, devastating rain events, and this initial \$1 million investment will help get farmers back to farming," NRCS California State Conservationist Carlos Suarez said in a press release.

The announcement of the support was made after a tour of urban and rural communities that experienced varying levels of damage from recent storms. Deputy Secretary Xochitl Torres Small, Undersecretary Robert Bonnie, and NRCS Chief Terry Cosby all participated in the tour. The delegation visited multiple sites in San Diego County, which included two agricultural operations near the Tijuana River that were damaged due to recent flooding events.

NRCS is also highlighting other initiatives that are

available to help communities mitigate the risks of flood damage. The Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) is a recovery effort to address imminent hazards caused by floods and other natural disasters. "EWP allows us to work with local sponsors to help damaged watersheds so that lives and property are protected, while preventing further devastation in the community," said Suarez.

The EWP Program provides funding for emergency measures, covering up to 75 percent of construction costs with local contributions in cash or in-kind services. Eligible projects include addressing debris-clogged waterways, unstable streambanks, erosion-threatening infrastructure, and wind-borne debris removal. Sponsors, including cities, counties, tribes, or tribal organizations, must request assistance within 60 days of the disaster occurrence and agree to project management responsibilities.

Full Press Release:

SAN DIEGO, Calif., February 12, 2024 – A delegation from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, including Deputy Secretary Xochitl Torres Small, Undersecretary Robert Bonnie (Farm, Production, and

Conservation), and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Chief Terry Cosby, toured flood-damaged sites throughout San Diego County today. While touring damage to urban and rural communities, \$1 million was initially announced to help agricultural producers recover from January 2024 flood-related damage.

"NRCS in California is committed to assisting agricultural producers recover from these recent, devastating rain events, and this initial \$1 million investment will help get farmers back to farming," said NRCS California State Conservationist Carlos Suarez.

The funding is being made available through NRCS's Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

Furthermore, NRCS California reminds eligible sponsors that the Emergency Watershed Protection Program (EWP) helps communities address watershed impairments or hazards such as debris removal and streambank stabilization after major flood events.

"EWP provides immediate assistance to communities to mitigate potential hazards to life and property resulting from



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flood events and other disasters,” added Suarez. “EWP allows us to work with local sponsors to help damaged watersheds so that lives and property are protected, while preventing further devastation in the community.”

The USDA delegation was hosted by City of San Diego and County of San Diego of-

ficials. The tour visited multiple sites near National City, and then continued to see two agricultural operations damaged near the Tijuana River. Additionally, on February 10, NRCS Chief Cosby visited one tribal community and one flower nursery damaged by rain events in San Diego’s north county.

The EWP Program is a recovery effort aimed at relieving imminent hazards to life and property caused by floods, fires, windstorms, and other natural disasters. All projects must have an eligible project sponsor. NRCS may bear up to 75% of the eligible construction cost of emergency measures (90% within county-wide limited-resource areas as identified by the U.S. Census data). The remaining costs must come from local sources and can be in the form of cash or in-kind services.

EWP is designed for installation of recovery measures to safeguard life and property as a result of a natural disaster. Threats that the EWP Program addresses are termed watershed impairments. These include, but are not limited to:

- Debris-clogged waterways.
- Unstable streambanks.
- Severe erosion jeopardizing public infrastructure.
- Wind-borne debris removal.

Eligible sponsors include cities, counties, towns or any federally recognized Native American tribe or tribal organizations. Sponsors must be able to provide the local construction share, obtain permits and site access and agree to perform operations and maintenance of the constructed projects. Willing sponsors must submit a formal assistance request (by mail or email) to the California State Conservationist within 60 days of the natural disaster occurrence or 60 days from the date when access to the sites become available. For more information, potential sponsors should contact their local NRCS office.

Since its inception in 1935, NRCS has worked in partnership with private landowners and a variety of local, state, and federal conservation partners to deliver conservation based on specific, local needs. Please visit www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov for more information about NRCS.

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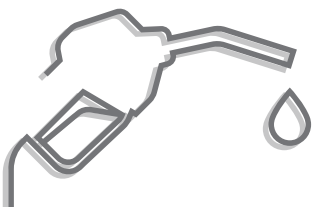
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Fruit fly quarantines multiply to prevent threats to farms

Seven counties remain under quarantines in a battle to eradicate and stop the spread of four different species of invasive fruit flies that agricultural officials say could wreak havoc on California farms and hundreds of crops. The Oriental fruit fly triggered quarantines in parts of Santa Clara, Contra Costa, Sacramento, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Portions of Los Angeles County have been under quarantines due to findings of the Mediterranean, Tau and Queensland fruit flies. The Queensland quarantine largely affects Ventura County centered around Thousand Oaks.

Governor announces strategy to protect salmon populations

As California experiences hotter, drier temperatures due to climate change, Gov. Gavin Newsom has announced the state's first strategy to protect and help restore salmon species to reduce their risk of extinction. The California Salmon Strategy, released last week, is a 37-page document that outlines actions state agencies are already taking to stabilize and recover salmon populations. The strategy calls for steps including removing barriers and improving infrastructure for salmon migration, restoring habitat, protecting water flows in key rivers and modernizing hatcheries.

PG&E electric transmission project raises concerns in Lodi wine country

Farmers and vintners in northern San Joaquin County are expressing concern about an electrical transmission project they say would bisect farm properties, restrict the ability to change crops and negatively affect property values in one of the state's top wine regions. Growers with farms in the path of the transmission system proposed by investor-owned Pacific Gas & Electric Co. and the local municipal power provider, Lodi Electric Utility, raised concerns during a virtual meeting last week of the California Public Utilities Commission.

Wine sales slow amid messaging discouraging drinking

Winemakers in the U.S. and abroad are struggling to sell their product, and lead-

ers in the sector are increasingly focused on anti-alcohol messaging. Shanken, a news organization that collects data on wine, beer and spirits, reports that 2023 was the third consecutive year of negative volume growth for U.S. wine sales, following more than a decade of flattening consumption. Some in the wine sector have traced the origin of negative health messaging around wine to a 2018 study published by The Lancet, which found there was "no safe level" of alcohol consumption.

Farmers assess damages after recent California storm surge

With a respite from stormy weather, farmers say they are surveying for damage and waiting for the ground to dry so they can access fields and orchards to make repairs or do other practices. Historic and deadly storms that brought two weeks of rain and powerful winds to California led to mudslides, flooding and widespread power outages and related evacuations. A state of emergency was declared for eight Southern California counties. Even with farming challenges caused by the storms, farmers say they are grateful for the winter weather, which adds water to the state.

Valentine's Day inspires, tests flower retailers and wholesalers

With Valentine's Day falling on a Wednesday and clear skies forecast for most regions in the U.S., flower retailers were preparing for a busy Feb. 14. Two separate consumer data analyses projected record Valentine's Day flower sales this year. The holiday typically trails only Mother's Day in flower sales. For California cut flower farmers, the winter holiday brought a welcome boost in demand alongside renewed frustration. For two years running, dark skies and stormy weather have impacted flower crops grown in the state for Valentine's Day.

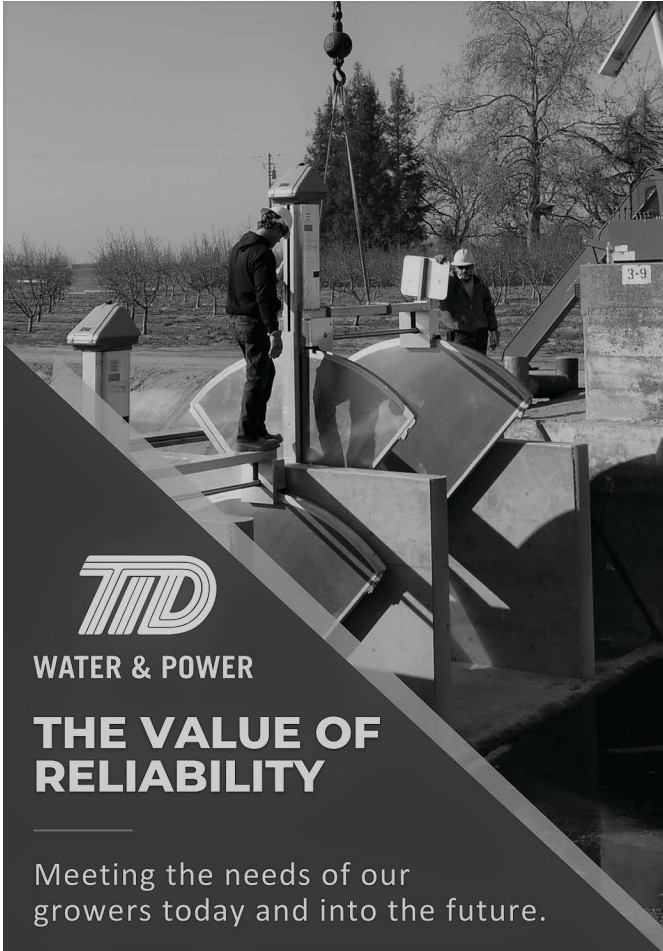
Researchers strive to ramp up studies to meet needs of organic farmers

California leads the nation in organic agricultural production, accounting for more than \$14 billion in organic sales and 36% of the U.S. organic market in

2021. Yet research has lagged behind the exponential growth of organic farming in the state. Now that trend may be changing, thanks to an increasing focus on supporting organic studies and information sharing. With organic studies drawing increasing funding interest, researchers and growers are looking to identify potential study areas that are best connected to day-to-day challenges of organic farming.

USDA offers grants up to \$250,000 to inspire 'value-added' farm products

Federal funding is available under the Value-Added Producer Grants program to help farmers and ranchers generate new products and create marketing opportunities. The U.S. Department of Agriculture may award up to \$75,000 for planning activities or up to \$250,000 for capital expenses related to producing and marketing value-added agricultural products. USDA said it is interested in proposals for initiatives aimed at reducing pollution and increasing resilience to impacts of climate change. Some \$31 million in funding is available through the program.




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MJC Wins Big at Cal Contest

MJC took students to the Cal Contest hosted at Merced College on February 9, 2024. Pictured below.

Students participated in Job Interview, Ag Sales, and Ag Marketing! Congratulations to all the students!!

In addition MJC won the Quiz bowl competition. Pictured right.

Job Interview
Ag Education
1st- Aubrey Swift
3rd- Anahy Yopez

Ag Sales
2nd- Jacob Dugo
3rd- Frances Pierce

Ag Production
1st- Grace Harkrader
2nd- Molly Terpstra

Ag Tech
2nd- Kalin Casey
3rd- Crayton McCafferty

Horticulture
2nd- Taylor Day
3rd- Elainna Dulcich

Ag Marketing
1st- Joseph Avila
Natalie Flores
Ag Sales
1st- Grace Harkrader
Molly Terpstra
Crayton McCafferty
2nd- Sienna Davies

Congratulations to everyone!

QUIZ BOWL



SIENNA DAVIES, FRANCES PIERCE, TAYLOR DAY,
JOSEPH AVILA, & ASHER CUMMINGS - 1ST PLACE

CAL CONTEST

FEBRUARY 9TH



**MJC TOOK A GROUP OF STUDENTS
TO MERCED COLLEGE TO
COMPETE IN THE CAL CONTEST**



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Fresno 557-2759

Veterinary

- **Adian Equine**
Oakdale 847-8258
- **Dairy Veterinary Services**
Escalon 551-3949

Attorney

- **Ross W. Lee**
Modesto 521-9190
- **Jensen & Jensen**
Modesto 529-0791

Feed/Farm Supplies

- **A.L. Gilbert**
Keyes 632-2333
- **Blue Mtn. Minerals**
Columbia, 533-0127
- **Conlin Supply**
Oakdale 847-8977
- **NuWest Milling LLC**
Hughson 883-1163

Banking/Financial

- **Agri Business Financial Inc**
Oakdale 607-0037
- **Central Valley Community Bank**
Fresno 559-323-3472
- **Edwards, Lien & Toso**
Hilmar 634-9484
- **Farmers & Merchants Bank**
Riverbank 571-4023
- **Grimbley Coleman CPA's Inc**
Modesto 527-4220
- **Moss Adams**
Stockton 955-6100
- **Oak Valley Community Bank**
Oakdale 844-7500
- **Vermeulen Company CPA**
Ripon 599-5051

Equipment & Repair

- **Acosta & Daughters LLC**
Waterford 872-4815
- **Belkorp Ag LLC, John Deere Dealer**
Modesto 538-3831
- **Coit & Hewes LLC**
Modesto 985-0559
- **Garton Tractor Inc.**
Turlock 632-3931

Misc. Services

- **Melvin Wheeler**
Modesto 526-9770
- **Marchy Dairy**
Ceres 537-0630
- **McManis Farms Inc**
Modesto 541-9345
- **Melo Farms LLC**
Turlock 585-7852
- **Michael Van Andel**
Modesto 531-4667
- **GD Insurance Agency**
Turlock 991-2929
- **Giddings Corby Hynes Inc**
Modesto 526-3110
- **Hoobler Insurance Services**
Patterson 601-0418
- **LG Crop Ins.**
Turlock 262-8140
- **Linda Squires Insurance Agency**
Hughson 652-
- **Nicholson Insurance Inc**
Modesto 526-2697
- **Rico Pfitzer Pires Insurance Agency**
Gustine 854-2000
- **Schut Insurance Services Inc**
Patterson 892-6226

Misc. Services

- **Alexandria Perrin LLC**
Modesto 216-7027
- **Clark Pest Control**
Modesto 556-5200
- **Cover Specialty Services**
Modesto 988-3864
- **Diane Powers**
Modesto 494-8650
- **Drone For Hire**
Modesto 818-4109

Petroleum

- **George W. Lowry**
Salida 545-0791
- **Valley Pacific Petroleum**
Stockton (209) 948-9412
- **Hunt & Sons, Inc.**
Modesto 522-7291
- **Van de Pol Enterprises**
Keyes 667-0236

Processors

- **Grizzly Nut**
Waterford 874-5223
- **Setton Pistachio of Terra Bella Inc**
Terra Bella 559-535-6050
- **Turlock Walnut Co.**
Turlock 668-0955
- **Travaille & Phippen**
Manteca 599-6111

Non-Profit

- **Almond Alliance**
Modesto 559-5800
- **Almond Board of California**
Modesto 672-9743
- **CA Farmland Trust**
Elk Grove 916-544-2712
- **Central Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**
Modesto 789-5123
- **Modesto Chamber of Commerce**
Modesto 577-5757
- **Oakdale Chamber of Commerce**
Oakdale 847-2244

Restaurant

- **Medlen's House of Beef**
Oakdale 847-4379
- **The Fruit Yard**
Modesto 577-3093
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