

December, 2024

Dear Friends of UCCE Sutter-Yuba,

2024 has been an incredible year, full of exciting projects, memorable events, and new connections! We're grateful to our collaborators and community partners, as none of this would have been achievable without your support.

Here are a few of the highlights:

New hires:

- ◆ **Area Director** - Preet Ahluwalia (*Sutter, Yuba, Butte, Colusa, Glenn Counties*)
- ◆ **Livestock & Natural Resources Advisor** - Andrea Northrop-Warner (*Placer, Nevada, Sutter, Yuba Counties*)
- ◆ **4-H Regional Program Coordinator** - Mary Zoller (*Shasta, Trinity, Tehama, Butte, Glenn, Colusa, Sutter, Yuba Counties*)

In 2024, UCCE Sac Valley Orchard Advisors, including Clarissa Reyes, began hosting **Third Thursdays: Things from the Field**. These small group sessions are open to anyone working with orchards, providing an opportunity to meet local farm advisors, explore seasonal management strategies for field challenges, and ask UCCE Specialists questions about their operations.

The **Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP)** teamed up with Sutter Adult School to provide nutrition and physical activity education series for 84 participants learning English as a second language. Throughout six lessons, participants actively took part and were awarded a certificate of completion.

Our **Forestry Education** program, in partnership with the California Society of American Foresters, hosted the Forestry Institute for Teachers (FIT) for California educators. FIT provides week-long training for PreK-12 educators on forest management and related careers, including lesson plan development, stipends, and certifications in PLT and WET. This year, four sessions trained 99 educators from 28 counties across the state.

Your support empowers our advisors, community education specialists, and volunteers to make a real impact. We collaborate closely with our local community partners to identify and address the challenges we all face. By giving today, you'll ensure our team has the resources needed to continue serving our community, as we've been doing for over 100 years.

Thank you for your generosity,



Whitney Brim-DeForest
Outgoing County Director, 2019-2024

Donate Online!

cesutter.ucanr.edu



"It's an honor to join Sutter-Yuba UCCE, where UC ANR and the Sutter and Yuba communities have shared a long history. I'm eager to learn from this deep partnership and work alongside you to support the next generation of farmers and community members for years to come."



Preet Ahluwalia
Area Director

Every dollar you invest in UC Cooperative Extension Sutter-Yuba Counties will remain in our counties!

UCCE Sutter-Yuba

Area Director

Preet Ahluwalia

UCCE Sutter-Yuba Advisors

Whitney Brim-DeForest, Rice and Wild Rice Advisor

Sarah Light, Agronomy Farm Advisor

Clarissa Reyes, Orchard Systems Advisor

Ricky Satomi, Forestry and Natural Resources Advisor

Cross-County Advisors

Franz Niederholzer, Orchard Systems Advisor

Sudan Gyawaly, Integrated Pest Management Advisor

Betsy Karle, Dairy Advisor

Dan Macon, Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor

Andrea Northrop-Warner, Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor

Matthew Rodriguez, 4-H Youth Development Advisor

Veronica Van Cleave-Hunt, Community Nutrition, Health and Food Security Advisor

UCCE Sutter-Yuba Staff

Melissa Ussery, CalFresh Nutrition Education Supervisor

Kenia Estrada, CalFresh Community Education Specialist II

Adam Yandel, CalFresh Community Education Specialist II

Sonia Rodriguez, EFNEP Community Education Specialist II

Mary Zoller, 4-H Regional Program Coordinator

Taiyu Guan, Assistant Specialist

Troy Clark, Jr. Specialist

Consuelo Baez Vega, Jr. Specialist

Vanessa Varela, Jr. Specialist

Victor Barragan, Ag Technician

Jaskirat Pandher, Ag Technician

Justin Todd, Rice Intern

Clair Akin, Cover Crop Tool Selection Coordinator

Heather Montgomery, Climate Smart Agriculture Community Education Specialist III

Austin Roughton, Forestry Youth Education Coordinator

County Staff

Michele Searcy, Executive Secretary/Office Manager

Rene McCrory, 4-H Secretary/Office Assistant III

Cheryl Hoke, Master Gardener Program Cooperative Education Specialist

Shilpi Pandit, Office Assistant I

Sierra Jefferson, Office Assistant I



We Appreciate Your Continued Support!



UC Cooperative Extension in Sutter-Yuba Counties

The University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Sutter-Yuba is a collaboration between Sutter and Yuba Counties and the University of California, dedicated to bringing science-based research and programming to the local community. Established in 1918, it is one of the oldest of the 64 Cooperative Extension offices in the state.

UCCE Sutter-Yuba brings UC's cutting-edge research in key areas such as agriculture, natural resources, nutrition, gardening, and youth development to benefit the local communities. By living and working in the community, UCCE Sutter-Yuba deepens its connection to the people it serves, extending UC's reach across diverse populations. The program fosters collaboration with public, private, and tribal organizations to promote stewardship, encourage problem-solving, and support community education, ultimately improving local well-being and sustainability.



Serving Our Community



22,013
Attendance at
programmatic
events



74
Academic-led
workshops
and field days



337
Volunteers
17,971
Volunteer Hours



19,914
of youth reached
UC CalFresh Healthy
Living



2,063
Residents reached
UC Master Gardener program



3,385
of youth in 4-H program



Rice/Wild Rice

Supports growers through field visits, newsletters/blog posts, and field days. Conducts research on cover crops in rice systems, trials on registration of herbicides in wild rice, and new rice management systems including no-till drill systems, no-till water-seeded systems, and tadpole shrimp and weed integrated pest management.



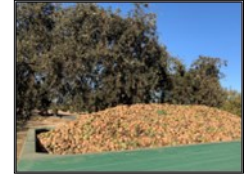
Field Crops

Field crop production research includes integrating livestock and grazing into annual cropping systems; the impact of almond shell application to alfalfa fields on soil moisture, yields, weeds, and soil; and increasing nitrogen use efficiency in wheat and developing extension materials on cover crop management for the region.



Orchard Systems

Conducts farm calls, walnut research projects and extension; Evaluates rootstock trials and whole orchard recycling practices, almond and prune variety and rootstock trials, fertility management, and safe and effective spray applications, bloom tracking and fruit thinning timing trials.



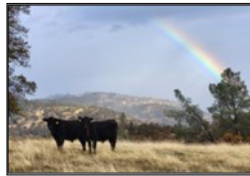
Forestry

Works with residents and resource managers to improve the production, health, resilience, and management of local forestlands through research and technical guidance on silvicultural systems, home and landscape hardening, GIS training, and workforce trainings on core forestry concepts.



Livestock and Natural Resources

Focuses on rangeland drought management strategies, helping the commercial ranching community plan for and respond to wildfires and other emergencies, increasing capacity for using grazing to mitigate wildfire, and protecting livestock from predators, and Blue Oak regeneration.



Dairy

Creates economical and sustainable solutions for the dairy industry throughout the Sacramento Valley. Researches projects that include the impacts of arthropod pest control on animal health and production, evaluation of colostrum feeding and management on calf health, and an analysis of mechanical manure separator systems.



Integrated Pest Management

Monitors critical almond, walnut, and peach pests to track development, provides integrated pest management services to growers. Pest management research efforts involve surveying the web-spinning spider mite populations and evaluating the mating disruption of navel orangeworms in walnuts.



4-H Youth Development Program

4-H engages youth in reaching their fullest potential by focusing on the development of citizenship, leadership, and life skills, such as decision-making, communication, responsibility and teamwork.



UC Master Gardener Program

UC Sutter-Yuba Master Gardeners diagnose home garden and pest problems and hold public workshops on garden preparation and fundamentals at the Learning Garden at the Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds, and throughout the community.



Food and Nutrition

The CalFresh Healthy Living - UCCE Nutrition Education Program works with local public-school teachers and organizations to provide research-based nutrition, gardening and physical activity programming



Climate Smart Agriculture

The Climate Smart Agriculture Program provides outreach, education, technical assistance, and implementation for CDFA's Climate Smart Agriculture Incentive Programs.

