

UC
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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Sutter & Yuba Counties

Annual Report 2023



UCCE Sutter-Yuba



320
volunteers donated
16,096
hours public service
(estimated value) of
\$572,374



52
peer-reviewed and
audience-
requested
publications



23,729
total educational
interactions with the
public



113
academic-led
workshops, field
days, and classes
with
2,907
participants



16
activities bringing
research to policy

University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) brings the power of UC research in agriculture and natural resources, nutrition and youth development to local communities to improve the lives of all Californians.

Our Cooperative Extension (UCCE) county-based advisors, community education specialists, and campus-based academics work as teams to bring practical, trusted, science-based solutions to our state. We are problem solvers, catalysts, collaborators, educators, and stewards of the land, living in the communities we serve.

We are a partnership between Sutter and Yuba Counties and the University of California, who all support our work with funding and resources. We bring science-based research and programming to everyone in the community through a variety of different programs. We are one of the oldest of the 64 Cooperative Extension offices located across California. Established in 1918 — we turned 105 in 2023!



UC Master Gardener
volunteers reached
6,554
residents



2,086
youth in
UC 4-H Youth Development
Program



\$367,360
County



\$1,175,368
University



\$304,220
Advisor generated
(grants, gifts, other, etc.)

Thank you for your support!

Sutter County Board of Supervisors

Nick Micheli, District 1
Dan Flores, District 2
Mike Ziegenmeyer, District 3
Karm Bains, District 4
Mat Conant, District 5

Yuba County Board of Supervisors

Andy Vasquez, Jr., District 1
Don Blaser, District 2
Seth Fuhrer, District 3
Gary Bradford, District 4
Jon Messick, District 5



Partnering for Change

ANR builds partnerships based on deep and long-lasting relationships with local, state and federal governments, community-based organizations, schools, nonprofits and private industry. Here are the many organization that UC Cooperative Extension partners with to serve the residents of Sutter and Yuba Counties:

Agromillora Nursery	CDFA - Healthy Soils Program	John Amarel, REASON Farms	Tierra Buena Elementary School
AgSeeds Unlimited	Cedar Lane Elementary School	Johnson Park Elementary School	Tollcrest Dairy
Andros Karperos Elementary School	Chamberlain Farms	Kamprath Seed	TS&L Seeds
Barry Elementary School	Charlie Matthews/Matthews Rice Dryer	Kim Gallagher, Grower	UC Davis Agricultural Experiment Station
Bear River Supply PCA's	Chico State University Farm	King Avenue Elementary School	UC Integrated Pest Management Program
Benden Farms	CN Farms	Kuldip Atwal	UC Weed Research and Information Center
Big Valley Ag PCA's	Collins Lake	Lincoln Elementary School	USDA - Agricultural Research Service
Bridge Street Elementary School	Colusa County Farm Supply PCA's	Maral Livestock Shearing	USDA - Natural Resource Conservation Service
The Blue Zones Project	Colusa County Resource Conservation District	Marysville Joint Unified School District	USDA - Wildlife Services
Bob Amarel, Jr., Reason Farms	Community Housing Improvement Program	Matt Bozzo, Yuba County	USFS - State and Private Forestry
Bullards Bar	Conant Orchards	Matt Lagorio, Grow West	Western Cover Crops Council-SW Regional Committee
Burchell Nursery, Inc.	Diamond Foods Inc	Mendenhall Wool Ranch	Wallace Brothers
Butte Vista Elementary School	Dr. Heather Barden/Mini Buttes Farms	Miki Farms	Western SARE
CALFIRE	Dr. Ngoc-Phuong Luu, Bi-County Health Officer	Norene Ranches Inc.	Yuba-Sutter Cattlemen's Association
California Alfalfa and Forage Research Foundation	Ella Elementary School	Odyssey Farms	Yuba City Unified School District
California Canning Peach Association	Erdman Farms	Oryza Partnership	Yuba City Day School
California Cling Peach Association	Ettl Hall, Sutter County	Park Avenue Elementary School	Yuba County Agriculture Department
California Crop Improvement Association	Family Soup	Park Farming Organics	Yuba County Office of Emergency Services
California Dry Bean Advisory Board	Furlan Farms	Pleasant Grove Farms	Yuba County School Readiness Program
California Rice Commission	Gilbert Orchards	Richter AG.	Yuba County Sheriff's Department
California Rice Experiment Station	Golden Gate Hop Ranch	Rick Wilbur/Wilbur Ranch	Yuba River Endowment
California Rice Research Board	Grow West Supply PCA's	Riverbend Elementary School	Yuba Water Agency
California Tomato Research Institute	Gurbinder Atwal	River Garden Farms	Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council
California Walnut Board	Gurj Thakar	Say Love	Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds
California Wild Rice Advisory Board	Gray Avenue Elementary School	Sarbdeep Atwal	Yuba-Sutter Farm Bureau
Camptonville Elementary School	Grey Lodge	Sierra Gold Nurseries	
Casa De Esperanza	Habitat for Humanity's Harmony Village	Siller Brothers	
CDFA - Fertilizer Research and Education Program	Healthy YOUba Coalition	Society of American Foresters	
	Jaw GP	Sohnrey Family Farms	
	Joe Conant Grower	Sustainable Conservation	
	Joe Serger, Miki Orchards	Sutter County Agricultural Department	
		Sutter County Resource Conservation District	
		Sutter County Museum	
		Tahoe National Forest	

Training & Mentoring our local Workforce and College Students

Our office has focused on building connections to local higher educational institutions as well as community organizations to provide opportunities for mentorship and training for adults in our office. We have had the opportunity to work with students and Sutter County One Stop. We are proud to provide mentorship and training for the next generation of leaders in our community and beyond.

Student Interns:

Yasmeen Guillen - CSU, Chico
Jayla Pollard - Folsom Lake Community College
Adam Yandel - CSU, Chico
Alyssa Nott - Butte College
Alana Logie - Yuba Community College
Hector Amezcua - Yuba Community College
Jillian Ruiz - CSU, Chico

Sutter County One Stop Interns:

Naser Majroh
Mary Cruz Tejeda
Colleen Landis
Alfredo Razo
Kamaldeep Kar



BUTTE COLLEGE



Rice & Wild Rice



Whitney Brim-DeForest

County Director
Rice and Wild Rice Advisor
Sutter, Yuba, Placer, Sacramento
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Weed Management in Rice:

Studies continued on weedy rice control and watergrass control. Grower and Pest Control Advisor reports of weedy rice decreased in 2022-2023. The field trial conducted at UC Davis (since 2021) on fallow fields suggests that the reduction could be in part due to the large percentage of



acres fallowed across the Sacramento Valley in 2021-2022. The experiment, wrapping up in 2023, showed promising results: 2 years of fallow (no water applied to the field), as well as 2 years of managed fallow (field flushed and sprayed) both showed a 100% reduction of weedy rice in the field when rotating back into flooded rice.

Watergrass control continues to be an issue. Studies conducted in the greenhouse show widespread resistance across the valley to most herbicides, both granular and foliar-applied. Field studies of tank mixes in 2023 showed promising combinations that can be used as alternatives to two propanil applications.

Wild Rice:

2023 concluded the second year of field testing on the pathway to registering new herbicides for the wild rice industry in California. Funding was provided by the California Wild Rice Advisory Board, as well as the national IR-4 Program. Three growers collaborated with our team in 2022-2023, two in Shasta County, and one in Yolo County. Data was collected on weed control efficacy and phytotoxicity on wild rice, as well as yield impacts. There were several promising herbicides, and chemical companies will now have the opportunity to pursue registration of the products.



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources

UCCE Sutter-Yuba

Livestock & Natural Resources



Dan Macon

Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor
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Commercial livestock production and rangeland management in Placer, Nevada, Sutter, and Yuba Counties go hand-in-hand; most beef cattle, sheep, and goat operations rely on rangelands for a significant portion of the year. In addition to serving commercial ranchers, UCCE provides research-based information to local, state, federal, tribal, and nongovernmental land and resource managers. Our research and extension programs emphasize the ongoing and emerging issues impacting rangelands and the ranchers who rely on them.



In 2022-23, we continued to provide hands-on and virtual training programs for both new and experienced livestock producers. Our workshops and field days provided practical information on managing pasture and rangeland forages, reducing conflicts with predators and other wildlife, planning for wildfires and other emergencies, and using prescribed fire to reduce fuel loads and manage invasive weeds. We also developed resources to help ranchers diversify their income streams and adapt to drought and other climate impacts. We continue to coordinate the only multi-



county livestock disaster pass program in California, which provides training to ranchers to safely care for their livestock during wildfire or other emergency evacuations.

Our locally-focused research addresses short- and long-term needs for ranchers and land

managers. We are collaborating with a network of advisors and specialists to develop new remote sensing technology for measuring forage production and controlling livestock through virtual fencing. We are evaluating new approaches to using livestock to remove fuel loads, reduce the need for herbicides, and improve soil health in forestry and farming systems. We are evaluating cattle nutrition management strategies designed to improve efficiency and profitability. We completed an evaluation of foothill agricultural water use within the Nevada Irrigation District. Finally, we are helping policy makers translate our research into protecting livestock from predators into new policy approaches that recognize ranchers' unique role in addressing livestock-predator coexistence.

Program Highlights 2022-23:

- More than 800 producers and land managers participated in workshops regarding oak woodland restoration, livestock production practices, prescribed fire, and targeted grazing. These workshops were a combination of field days, classroom-based instruction, and webinars.
- UCCE coordinated the Nevada-Placer-Yuba Livestock Disaster Pass and Nevada County Agricultural Disaster Pass programs, providing training to more than 115 local producers in fire behavior, the incident command system, and disaster planning. This program was recognized by the California State Association of Counties as the top Rural Disaster and Emergency Response program in 2022.
- During the 2022 fire season, UCCE and county agriculture departments worked with local law enforcement and CalFire to provide safe access for livestock producers to care for livestock and remove equipment from evacuation zones.
- Our research into nonlethal livestock protection tools and livestock-predator coexistence provided policy makers with science-based information in the creation of predator loss compensation and pay-for-presence programs in the northern Sierra Nevada and Northeastern California.

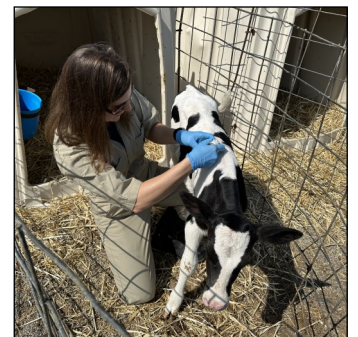
Dairy



Betsy Karle

Dairy Advisor
Northern Sacramento Valley
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The dairy program has been evaluating manure management technologies, dairy calf management and health, and disease prevention and treatment strategies. Data from these projects will support efforts to reduce methane emissions, improve antibiotic stewardship and treatment outcomes, and advance animal well-being. Results from studies were presented at local meetings,



World Ag Expo, and in various industry publications and papers were published in the Journal of Dairy Science and the journal Antibiotics. Heading into 2024- economic and feasibility analyses of management practices that are supported by research will be a priority.

IPM Program



Sudan Gyawaly

IPM Advisor
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Tehama, Butte
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High production cost and low price for some of the key crops grown in our region continues to make pest management efforts in these crops challenging. In 2023, the integrated pest management (IPM) program continued providing IPM services through publishing newsletter articles, one-on-one farm calls, and presentations at grower meetings or conferences throughout



the Sacramento Valley.

Also, Sudan's program started monitoring the critical pests of almonds, walnuts, and peaches to track their development and made the degree day information available to his clientele. The pest management research efforts involved i) surveying the web-spinning spider mite populations and ii) evaluating the mating disruption of navel orangeworms in walnuts. Sudan intends to share the results of these studies in upcoming grower meetings.

Agronomic Crops and Nutrient Management

Agronomy Advisor Sarah Light continues to do research and develop extension materials on cover crop management in the Sacramento Valley. In collaboration with the Colusa Resource Conservation District, the Western Cover Crops Council, and other natural resource partners, Sarah works to reduce barriers to cover crop adoption in annual cropping systems.

Sarah Light

Agronomy Advisor
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In addition to conducting field trials and producing extension materials, Sarah has been leading an effort to develop a decision support tool for cover crop selection. Clair Akin began working in the Sutter-Yuba UCCE office as the Cover Crop Selection Tool Coordinator on this effort and has brought together experts to validate data on cover crop performance. While most of her work is focused on winter cover crop management, Sarah has begun to develop extension materials on summer cover crops. She put in small demonstration plots in the region and is conducting a field trial which incorporates grazing and an economic analysis with Livestock Advisor Josh Davy. She is also working with the Livestock group at UCANR to improve understanding and resources for integrating animals into annual rotations.

Agronomy Advisor Sarah Light expanded the collaboration with Farm Advisor Rachael Long from Yolo County on a project evaluating the application of almond shells to established alfalfa fields. They applied a second year of almond shells to an established alfalfa field and measured changes in soil moisture in plots with and without almond shell application. In addition, Sarah contributes toward statewide efforts for the agronomy team at UC Cooperative Extension. As a board member of the Agronomy Society of America, California Chapter, Sarah works to organize the annual Plant and Soil Conference, which provide up to date research updates to the agricultural community.



UCCE Sutter-Yuba

Orchard Crops

In Clarissa's first year as an Orchard Advisor, she is assessing the needs of orchard growers and other stakeholders in walnut, peach, and kiwifruit crops. This will enable her program to address the goals and challenges of each of these industries with relevant research and educational outreach.

In the process of becoming familiar with regional orchard needs, Clarissa has:

- Participated in peach and walnut farm calls to meet growers and answer questions about tree health and management practices.
- Contributed to SacValleyOrchards.com, which provides information for orchard growers in the Sacramento Valley, and a quarterly Sacramento Valley Walnut Newsletter, which is distributed to local walnut growers and industry.
- Established a new walnut variety trial in collaboration with CSU Chico and other UC researchers.
- Continued existing walnut research projects evaluating rootstock trials and whole orchard recycling practices.

In the upcoming year, Clarissa plans to resume an annual peach meeting, as well as provide informal opportunities for orchard growers, consultants, and other industry members to meet in person and share ideas with our recently expanded team of Sacramento Valley UCCE Orchard Advisors.

Clarissa Reyes

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Prune Research



Franz Niederholzer

Orchard Crops Advisor
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Rising production costs and damaging pests continue to reduce prune growers' income. To help prune growers stay competitive in the world market, Franz Niederholzer continues to work with UC researchers and other UCCE advisors and staff in the Sacramento Valley on four key projects to improve prune farming practices, reduce costs and manage damaging pests.

- Prune thinning timing trial
- Bloom weather and crop set
- Mechanical hedging of prunes
- Bark and wood rot diseases in prunes



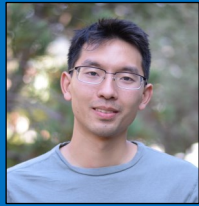
Results from this work are delivered to growers and PCAs through quarterly newsletters, annual grower meetings, blog posts, webinars, podcasts, phone calls and face-to-face meetings in the field. The newsletter articles have recently been picked up by the CA Prune Board who push this information to all prune growers, not just those who subscribe to the UCCE newsletter.

Sustainable Food Program at Harmony Village

The Master Gardener and Master Food Preserver programs of UC Cooperative Extension in Sutter-Yuba counties have been working with the residents of Harmony Village by Habitat for Humanity, a low-income, permanent housing facility, to create a sustainable food program. This program was funded by the UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education grant program (SAREP). Thus far, the project has helped the residents expand the current small community garden into a sizable garden that can provide a substantial amount of fresh produce. With guidance from UC Master Gardeners, participants were able to identify the types of food they wanted to grow - carrots, broccoli, cabbage, radishes - while learning how to soil prep, plant vegetables, care for the plants, and harvest the garden crops. Residents also gained knowledge in how to preserve their fresh food produce for a longer shelf life and how to incorporate food they grew into their meals from UC Master Food Preservers. Both organizations are conducting a 9-part series of workshops for both proper gardening techniques and food preservation safety. The goal of the project is for the residents to learn how to supplement their food needs, develop self-sustainability and preserve their limited fresh food as they continue to strive toward a healthier lifestyle.



UCCE Sutter-Yuba



Ricky Satomi

Forestry and Natural Resources
Advisor
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Forestry & Natural Resources

Forests and woodland encompass 48% of acreage in Yuba County and supports major tributaries of the Sacramento River. To ensure the persistence of our ecosystems and their residents, UCCE works with private

forest landowners, professional forest practitioners, local agencies, and rural householders to tackle major issues of concern.

In 2022-23, our extension activities focused on targeted forest stewardship, pile burning and GIS trainings for landowners and resource professionals. We also continued to expand our career mentorship program, bringing collegiate forestry students and local professionals together. Working collaboratively with CalFire, USFS, and American Forests, we developed and piloted a new cone survey tool to help locate cone masting activity and replenish our depleted seed banks. Finally, we expanded the Forestry Institute for Teachers program with new staffing and a new FIT-Focus session, delivering three-day intensive trainings on specific forestry topics.

To support changing markets and a growing demand for small diameter fuels reduction, we have collaborated with local fire safe councils and colleges to research the potential for grazing in forested environments. This multi-year study successfully completed the first of two treatments this year and will improve understanding of costs and benefits associated with grazing in WUI environments. We are also part of a statewide network of advisors and specialists evaluating new silvicultural approaches to ensure the continued survival of our forests and the services they provide.



Forestry Education Program



UCCE's Forestry Education program collaborated with the California Society of American Foresters to bring the Forestry Institute for Teachers (FIT) program to California educators. For 30 years, FIT has provided training and hands-on experiences that help PreK-12 educators introduce students to forest management concepts and career opportunities. Participants ultimately develop a lesson plan, which incorporates forestry principles into their classroom, and are provided with a stipend for implementing their classroom lesson. FIT also certifies educators in Project Learning Tree (PLT) and Project

Water Education Today (WET) Environmental Education curricula and offers Continuing Education Units from UC Davis or Cal Poly Humboldt to ensure continued literacy of California educators. Four FIT sessions, hosted in Humboldt, Shasta, El Dorado and Tuolumne counties, trained 96 educators from 33 counties across the state (four from Sutter & Yuba counties), representing a diverse range of formal and non-formal educators. This year, FIT has also rolled out a FIT-Focus session to offer participants a deeper dive into specific concepts such as Forest Disturbances.

The program has also collaborated with the UC Environmental Stewards program to enhance forestry workforce development through the creation of several lessons exploring key concepts and skills used in forestry and natural resource management. These activities supported the California Conservation Corps, Lake Tahoe Community College and other post-secondary audiences to learn about forestry.

Austin Roughton

UCCE Forestry Youth
Education Coordinator
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New 4-H Sign at the Sutter-Yuba 4-H Office

Thanks to a donation by the Siller Brothers we have a new sign in front of the 4-H Office on 142 Garden Hwy, after our old sign was destroyed in last year's weather. The sign is donated in memory of Sue Ann Scholz. Sign built by Feather River Metalworks.

Partnering for Change

Ag-Venture Day Camp Community Partners

The Center at Sierra Health Foundation has graciously provided funding for the University of California Cooperative Extension Sutter-Yuba Counties. With this grant CalFresh Healthy Living, 4-H Positive Youth Development along with UC Master Gardeners were able to develop, create and plan a summer day camp. The summer day camp took place the month of July for youth ages 6 to 12. The camp was named Ag-Venture Summer Day Camp where the youth learned about their community and agriculture. In line with the special themes during the month of camp, campers went on field trips, had guest speakers and all kinds of hands-on activities.

Themes included Interesting Insects, Foods and Farms, Woods and Water and Awesome Animals. With each week's theme we planned activities, field trips and guest speakers related to that week's theme. Our community came together to support our youth by volunteering to speak, give field trips and tours. Thanks to our community partners the youth at camp had experiences they will remember their whole life. The campers were able to see the vast amount of agriculture their community has. Youth were left with the understanding of repurposing bi-products like hops from beer and almond shells and hulls for feed and bedding for the dairy cattle at Tollcrest Dairy. The youth also got the unique opportunity to see a calf be born during their dairy farm visit. Some youth stated it was gross and cool at the same time.

I would like to thank all of our community partners for volunteering for making our camp a huge success. Thank you to Supervisor - District 5 John Messick, Dee Dee and Willie from the Yuba Water Agency, Kelly from Collins Lake and the Browns Valley Irrigation District, Charlie with Matthews Rice Dryer, Maddy from Tollcrest Dairy, Sandy Parker, Che from CN Farms, Heather from Mini Buttes Farms, Maral Livestock Shearing and Mendenhall Wool Ranch, along with a special thank you to The Center at Sierra Health Foundation.



THE CENTER
at Sierra Health Foundation



4-H Youth Development Program



Matthew Rodriguez

4-H Youth Development Advisor
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Rayna Barden

4-H Community Education
Specialist II, Sutter, Yuba
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4-H is the nation's largest youth development organization, grows confident young people who are empowered for life today and prepared for career tomorrow. 4-H programs empower nearly six million young people across the U.S. through experiences that develop critical life skills. 4-H is the youth development program of our nation's Cooperative Extension System and USDA and serves every county and parish in the U.S. through a network of 110 public universities and more than 3000 local Extension offices. The research-backed 4-H experience grows young people who are four times more likely to contribute to their communities; two times more likely to make healthier choices; two times more likely to be civically active; and two times more likely to participate in STEM programs.

To bring more awareness to 4-H Club Programming in Sutter and Yuba Counties we have increased our outreach in the community. Sutter-Yuba 4-H attended and participated at the Kiwanis Fishing Derby at Ellis Lake, Marysville Stampede Parade and Rodeo, Steele House Coffee Street Fair and Yuba City School District Back to School Day. Over 60 of our 4-H youth volunteered for these events where they invited families to join 4-H, explain the benefits of the club programming and shared fun science activities. The additional outreach has increased our 4-H club enrollment by over 100 families from last year. Over 729 families have enrolled in over 14 clubs in Sutter and Yuba Counties.



UCCE Sutter-Yuba



Cheryl Hoke

Master Gardener and Master Food Preserver Program Community Education Specialist
Sutter, Yuba
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Welcome to our NEW Master Gardener and Master Food Preserver Program Coordinator. Cheryl Hoke is the new UC Master Gardener and UC Master Food Preservers program coordinator in Sutter-Yuba counties and is a UC Master Gardener graduate from the class of 2019. She has an M.S. degree in non-profit management from Regis University in Denver, CO, and brings over 30 years of higher education experience in the areas of teaching, recruiting, admissions and enrollment. Further, she

has extensively worked with all age groups of children in a k-12 environment with her last role being a farm to school coordinator at YES Charter School in Oregon House, CA. There she implemented a successful program that utilized the crops grown on site in the student's school lunches. Cheryl has a passion for gardening, cooking and working to build and foster community relationships where all residents have access to good quality grown food.



Master Gardener Program

The UC Master Gardener program of Sutter-Yuba Counties is a group of 47 trained, dedicated and passionate volunteers whose primary

responsibility is disseminating horticulture information to home gardeners in the community. Our Master Gardener volunteers contributed 4,064 hours, contacted 2,023 community members that had gardening questions and were present at 62 events across both counties. Additionally, the UC Master Gardener Learning

Garden at the Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds was the centerpiece for the summer and fall garden workshop series which covered commonly asked questions on what and when to plant, pest management, pruning, how to plant an herb garden and much more. The workshop series was well attended by community members.

Additionally, through grant funding, 20 schools in Sutter County were gifted with supplies to start their own school gardens that included garden beds, shovels, rakes, hand tools, dirt and seeds/seedlings along with trainings and workshops. The produce from the learning garden was donated to vulnerable populations within the counties to include Harmony Village, Better Way Shelter and Casa De Esperanza. Also, through grant funding, a sizable garden project was created and implemented in conjunction with Habitat for Humanity at Harmony Village where the residents set up 15 raised garden beds and planted a variety of fall and winter crops and herbs.

The volunteers were also present in the following community outreach events:

- Farmer's market in Yuba City
- The Yuba Home, Garden and Recreation Show
- The annual spring tomato plant sale
- Farm Day
- Ag Venture Day Camp
- 93Q Public Radio Show
- Yuba Environmental Science Charter Academy (YES) school gardening
- 2023 Yuba County Be Prepared Fair on fire safety and defensible space information
- Workshops at the UC Master Gardener Learning Garden at the Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds
- Be Well Sutter County information fair and workshop series



As always, the UC Master Gardener Sutter-Yuba Program help desk is open to home gardeners on Tuesdays 9:00-noon and Thursdays 1:00-4:00pm. If you have a gardening question or problem, please give us a call or drop off a sample at our office for assistance, identification and support. We are here to serve you!



Master Food Preserver Program

The MFP program extends UC research-based information about home food safety and preservation to the public. The small group of four volunteers attended 5 events and made contact with 178 individuals that

had questions about effective and safe food preservation techniques. They also collaborated with fellow Master Gardeners and gave demonstrations on drying and dehydrating herbs and making and freezing jams and jellies. Additionally, they had a significant presence at Habitat for Humanity's Harmony Village grant project where demonstrations of drying/dehydrating fruits and vegetables took place. They were present and conducted a freezer jam workshop at the Ag-Venture Day Camp with over 100 children present. They will be offering classes and workshops to the public in the coming year. The UC Master Food Preserver Program's mission is to keep Californians safe and well as they use culturally appropriate, research-based practices to safely preserve food in the home, reducing food waste, increasing food security, and providing engaging ways for Californians to explore healthy food.



UCCE Sutter-Yuba

CalFresh Healthy Living

Teens Grow Friendships and Life Skills in the Garden

In the summer of 2023, Family Soup's TEEM-G group partnered with CalFresh Healthy Living, UCCE Butte Cluster (CFHL, UCCE Butte) to plan and implement a 10-week garden enhanced nutrition education series using the curriculum, *Teams with Intergenerational Support*. The goal of this series was to provide opportunities for participants to socialize during the summer months while learning how to grow and prepare food.

The Program Director and Youth Coordinator for Family Soup recruited participants and facilitated each lesson, while CFHL, UCCE Butte had an educator attend each lesson to provide some lesson materials and technical training and assistance on teaching garden enhanced nutrition education.

Parents and caregivers of the participants observed positive lifestyle habits in their adolescents. One parent wrote: *From this class, my daughter tried several new vegetables that she would not normally eat. She has also started flavoring her water with lemon and other fruits instead of choosing soda. I also have noticed her using safe food prep techniques that she is using at home.*

Family Soup's TEEM-G group will continue to work with CalFresh Healthy Living, UCCE Butte to promote healthy life skills. Beginning in October 2023, the TEEM-G group will learn money management related to shopping for food via the CalFresh Healthy Living, *Money Talks Curriculum*. CalFresh Healthy Living, UCCE Butte will also be featured in *NOISE*, Family Soup's Summer/Fall Newsletter



Veronica Van Cleave-Hunt

Community Nutrition, Health and Food Security Advisor
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Melissa Ussery

Nutrition Education Supervisor
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What is Family Soup?

Family Soup is a nonprofit organization based in Yuba City that supports families with children who have special needs. Their TEEM-G Group provides support for families with adolescents ages 13 - 17.



Family SOUP TEEM-G participants engaging in a recipe demonstration from the *Teams with Intergenerational Approach Curriculum*, at a table near their salsa garden.

UCCE Sutter-Yuba

UCCE Sutter-Yuba Advisors

Whitney Brim-Deforest, County Director, 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
Matthew Rodriguez, 4-H Youth Development Advisor
Veronica Van Cleave-Hunt, Community Nutrition, Health and Food Security Advisor

County Staff

Michele Searcy, Executive Secretary/Office Manager
Rene McCrory, 4-H Secretary/Office Assistant III
Shilpi Pandit, Office Assistant I

UCCE Sutter-Yuba Staff

Melissa Ussery, Nutrition Education Supervisor
Kenia Estrada, CalFresh Community Education Specialist II
Consuelo Baez Vega, Rice Junior Specialist
Troy Clark, Rice Junior Specialist
Victor Barragan, Ag Technician
Jaskirat Pandher, Ag Technician
Nick Searcy, Ag Technician
Taiyu Guan, Assistant Specialist
Clair Akin, Cover Crop Tool Selection Coordinator
Heather Montgomery, Climate Smart Agriculture Community Education Specialist III
Cheryl Hoke, Master Gardener and Master Food Preserver Program Community Education Specialist
Austin Roughton, Forestry Youth Education Coordinator
Rayna Barden, 4-H Community Education Specialist II
Adam Yandel, Student Assistant
Jayla Pollard, Student Assistant
Jillian Ruiz, Student Assistant
Alyssa Nott, Student Assistant
Alana Logie, Student Assistant
Yasmeen Guillen, Student Assistant
Hector Amezcua, Student Assistant

We Appreciate Your Continued Support!

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