

Riverside County AGRICULTURE

The official publication of Riverside County Farm Bureau, Inc.
A private, nonprofit organization serving farmers throughout Riverside County since 1917

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Welcome New Members

We would like to "Thank You" for becoming part of the Farm Bureau Family.

2023 CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM CONFERENCE

Join us in the Farm to Fork Capital

The California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference is September 22-24, 2023!

Our goal? Make agriculture come alive in classrooms throughout the state!

Learn exciting ways to teach K-12 students where their food and fiber come from. The conference includes hands-on activities, farm, and ranch field trips, the ever-popular farmer panel, an exciting author panel, exhibits, and collaboration with other educators. Dynamic presenters and speakers enhance the experience and make the Ag in the Classroom Conference a must-attend event!

"We think every teacher should attend this conference!"

- 2022 Conference Attendees

"I enjoy the Ag in the Classroom Conference for the expansion of awareness that enables the educators and students to learn more about their environment (earth), and their place in it. Students always gain insights and appreciation for agriculture's role in our daily lives."

- 2018 Conference Attendee

Attendees will explore California's prolific food and fiber industry and enrich their current curriculum at the same time! Participants will receive teaching resources designed to meet California's academic standards. The annual event will energize classroom teachers, administrators, afterschool coordinators, and community volunteers to bring agriculture into their classrooms and programs.

The California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference aims to help educators teach K-12 students about the importance of agriculture to California's economy and environment and to their health and lifestyles. The conference is hosted by the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom.

Conference registration is available online at <https://learnaboutag.org/programs/conference>

The California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to increase awareness and understanding of agriculture among California's K-12 educators and students.

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As a Farm Bureau member, you can SAVE UP TO 30% on your next stay at any Great Wolf Lodge location Nationwide. You're going to love winding down waterslides, dining in themed restaurants and building family traditions. All lodges include a colossal, 84-degree indoor waterpark, daily activities, spacious family suites and much more. So clear your calendar and head to your nearest Great Wolf Lodge. Discount valid at any of the 19 Great Wolf Lodges throughout the U.S. and Canada. To take advantage of this offer, simply provide your unique offer code when booking. The California Farm Bureau code can be found on <https://members.cfbf.com/> (login required), or by calling the Farm Bureau member help desk at 1-800-698-3276 to obtain the discount code.

Pesticide Applicator Continuing Education (CE) Renewal Requirements

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) reminds you that **CE courses can only be taken one-time per calendar year** to receive hours towards license and certificate renewal requirements. It is important to ensure that a course is not attended more than once with the intent of getting additional CE hours.

CE Course Sponsors: DPR asks that you monitor registration of your CE courses having the same agenda and DPR ID code to ensure that individuals do not attend your courses more than once and are then short CE hours come renewal.

License and Certificate Holders: To avoid delays or non-renewal of your license or certificate, please ensure you are attending different CE courses to meet your renewal requirement for CE hours.

Ensure you receive a certificate of course completion for each course you attend. CE sponsors are required by regulation to give each attendee a record of completion with the hours completed in each CE category; CE sponsors must also keep their own records with this information.

Certificates of course completion must include the following information:

1. DPR Course ID code
2. Course date
3. Course title
4. Course location
5. Name of sponsoring organization
6. License or certificate holder's name
7. License or certificate number
8. Hours credited in each category
9. License or certificate holder's signature

If you are missing any certificates or have questions about CE hours earned for a course, please contact the sponsor of the course in question.

Additionally, be sure to turn in your renewal application **as early as possible** so DPR has time to notify you if you are unknowingly short CE hours. You might have time to make up missing hours before December 31. There is no grace period for getting CE after your license or certificate expires. Please visit https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/licensing_renewal for more information.

Continuing Education (CE) Renewal Requirements

CE Course Sponsors

- ✓ CE courses can only be taken one time per calendar year.
- ✓ Individuals can not receive additional CE hours for attending again.

License and Certificate Holders

- ✓ Obtain your required number of hours during your valid license period.
- ✓ Ensure you are attending different CE courses.
- ✓ Avoid delays and renew your license or certificate early.



SAVE THE DATE



Registration for California Farm Bureau's 105th Annual Meeting opens Friday, September 15th



California Fresh Fruit Association continues to support fresh fruit growers after more than 100 years

Farm Credit proud to support growers of 13 luscious permanent fruit commodities



Every summer, people around the country enjoy luscious fruits like apricots, table grapes, kiwis, peaches and plums. And since California is the nation's largest producer of each of these commodities, there's a good chance those fruits were grown right here in the Golden State.

Working to protect the interests of growers of these and several other permanent fruit crops is the California Fresh Fruit Association (CFFA). With roots dating back to 1921, it's one of the oldest agricultural trade associations in California, said Courtney Razor, CFFA's Director of Member Services and Communications.

"CFFA is a public policy organization that advocates on behalf of 13 permanent, fresh fruit commodities, everything from blueberries to stone fruit to table grapes," Razor said. "We advocate for our grower and shipper members at the local, state and federal levels on a vast array of issues including but not limited to labor, water, trade and food safety."

Statewide, the association has about 350 members from Lake County to the Coachella Valley, with the bulk of operations clustered between Madera and Kern counties.

Keith Hesterberg, President and CEO of Fresno Madera Farm Credit, said without CFFA members, consumers would have much less fresh fruit.

"According to state statistics, California growers lead the nation in the production of apricots, figs, table grapes, kiwis, nectarines, peaches, persimmons, plums and pomegranates – and second nationally in blueberries and cherries," Hesterberg said. "In fact, the state is basically the sole source of American production of kiwis, nectarines, clingstone peaches and plums. Farm Credit is proud to support many different commodities like fresh fruit that are such important parts of California agriculture."

Farm Credit Alliance members AgWest Farm Credit, American AgCredit, CoBank and Fresno Madera Farm Credit are proud supporters of CFFA. The organizations are part of the nationwide Farm Credit System – the largest provider of credit to U.S. agriculture.

Razor said water supply and implementation of the state's groundwater management system were key priorities, even in this extremely wet water year.

On the labor front, CFFA members were disappointed in the passage of AB 2183 last year, which permits so-called "card check" voting for union representation instead of secret-ballot elections that allow workers to vote without fear of coercion. She said the association has been working with other ag organizations to educate members about how to comply with the new requirements. The group is also supportive of technological research and mechanization with the goal of making farm practices more efficient.

She credits the Association for rising to the occasion during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure CFFA members and their employees had access to personal protective equipment and vaccinations so growers could provide safe working environments and ensure fruit could be harvested and transported to consumers.

Razor also thanked Farm Credit for its sponsorship of CFFA's 87th Annual Meeting, which was held in March this year at The Lodge at Torrey Pines near San Diego.

"The California Fresh Fruit Association is extremely grateful to Farm Credit for their continued partnership and support in helping us make the event a success each year. At our 2023 Annual Meeting, we had 225 members in attendance who heard from keynote speakers about priorities taking place this year at the state Capitol and in Washington, D.C. as lawmakers begin preparations for the Farm Bill," she said.

Mark Littlefield, President and CEO of AgWest Farm Credit, said supporting organizations advocating for California agriculture is an important priority for Farm Credit's philanthropical efforts.

"The issues CFFA works on are absolutely critical to the success of our state's fruit growers – indeed, all of California's farmers and ranchers," Littlefield said. "Without water, a labor force and the ability to export crops overseas, the industry that feeds the nation and the world could not exist, which is why it's so important that CFFA and other advocacy organizations do such a great job of educating policymakers here in California and in Washington, D.C."

Meet the new avocado variety a half-century in the making



(Photo courtesy University of California)

Researchers at the University of California, Riverside, on a long quest for a better avocado recently released a new variety to growers in the global marketplace.

The university says that the Luna UCR variety is more than a half-century in the making and boasts great flavor, a rind that turns a tell-tale black when ripe and high postharvest quality. Growers, meanwhile, will benefit from a smaller tree size, allowing denser plantings for more efficient and safer harvesting and minimal pruning, according to a news release.

The varietal also produces a type of flower that makes it an efficient pollinizer for various avocado varieties, including the stalwart hass, the world's leading avocado variety, the university said. Planting Luna UCRs intermingled with other varieties could help ensure good yields by increasing pollination rates, according to the release.

Developed by agricultural scientists at the University of California, Riverside, the Luna UCR is officially known as the BL516. The variety is protected under a pending patent that credits Mary Lu Arpaia, a UC Cooperative Extension horticulturist based at UCR, and her colleague Eric Focht, a UCR staff research associate in the Botany and Plant Sciences Department in the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences.

The development of Luna UCR has been intergenerational, going back to the work of the late, pioneering plant scientist B.O. Bob Bergh in the 1950s. Read the full article at <https://news.ucr.edu/articles/2023/07/10>

INLAND EMPIRE YOUNG FARMERS AND RANCHERS

AUGUST MEETING



Socialize, Network, and Shape Future Events

Thursday August 24 6pm

J Riley Distillery,
420 Oriental Ave,
Redlands, CA 92374



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San Diego CAPCA Sponsored
Tree and Vine Seminar

Temecula City Hall Conference Center
41000 Main Street, Temecula, CA 92590
August 22, 2023 8:00-2:30



5.5 Hours CEU (*Applied*)
Coffee and Pastries, and
Lunch provided

- ❖ **Asian Citrus Psyllid Update**
Sandra Zwaal, PCA
- ❖ **Cover Crops & Natural Enemies**
Nicola Irvin, PhD, UCR
- ❖ **Avocado Lace Bug Invasion**
Paloma Dadlani, UCR
- ❖ **Pesticide Regulation Update**
Ruben Arroyo, Riverside Ag Comm.
- ❖ **Western Grapeleaf Skeletonizer**
Carmen Gispert, PhD, UCCE
- ❖ **Eutypa and Other Diseases**
Philippe Rolshausen, PhD, UCR
- ❖ **Argentine Ant Mgmt. in Orchards**
Mark Hoddle, PhD, UCR

Pre-Registration \$80 online at www.CAPCA.com or
<https://capca.com/calendar/capca-san-diego-chapter-tree-vine-seminar/>

At Door Registration \$90

-OR-

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YF&R FARMPAC TRAP SHOOT FUNDRAISER



Benefiting the Fund to Protect the Family Farm (FarmPAC™)

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 14**

Redlands Shooting Park
2125 Orange Street
Redlands, California 92374



REGISTER NOW

\$100 per person
\$450 for a team of 5
includes traps, ammo
and lunch
Limit to 100 shooters



EVENT TIMELINE

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
registration
9:30 a.m.
shoot
Lunch and awards to follow



PARTICIPANTS BRING

- Gun
- Ear protection
- Eye protection

For more information and to register, visit www.cbf.com/farmpac.
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



📅 September 13, 2023 ~ 5:30 PM, Riverside County Farm Bureau Board of Directors meeting. In person at Farm Bureau office and via Zoom Conference. Please call our office at (951) 684-6732 for more information.

Food and Farm News

Courtesy of CFBF

Researchers helping California date growers with water efficiency

California's nearly \$90 million date industry produces more than half of the nation's dates, with most of the fruit grown in the arid Coachella Valley. Now University of California researchers are developing methodology to help growers establish guidelines for efficient water management in growing dates in the desert region, including identifying how much irrigation is needed depending on location, soil type and date cultivars. The effort has gained urgency as California date farmers work to conserve water to protect Colorado River supplies.

California contains a deadly citrus threat, but urges vigilance

Spread by the invasive Asian citrus psyllid, Huanglongbing, or citrus greening disease, arrived in Florida in 2005 and has since devastated that state's citrus production. But in California, where the psyllid was first detected in 2008 and the first Huanglongbing—or HLB—infection was found in a residential tree in 2012, no commercial citrus grove has been infected. Officials credit an intensive psyllid detection and eradication program, industry-wide awareness and mitigation tools, as well as the Golden State's climate, for warding off the spread of the disease.

Quarantine ordered in Los Angeles County after Tau fruit fly discovery

The California Department of Food and Agriculture has placed a portion of Los Angeles County under quarantine for the Tau fruit fly following detection of more than 20 flies in the unincorporated area of Stevenson Ranch near the city of Santa Clarita. The fly is native to Asia and is a serious threat to agriculture and natural resources, with a very wide host range, including numerous fruits and vegetables and a select range of native plants in California. The CDFG asked residents living in the quarantine area not to move any fruits or vegetables from their property.