

Bi-County Farm Advisor

Chris Greer – County Director

101-6300	FY 12/13 Adopted Budget	FY 13/14 CAO Recommended	Change
EXPENDITURES			
Salaries and Benefits	0	0	0
Services and Supplies	79,499	78,777	(722)
Other Charges	(18,000)	(18,000)	0
Fixed Assets	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	61,499	60,777	(722)
REVENUE			
Fed/State	0	0	0
Grant	0	0	0
Realignment	0	0	0
Fees/Misc	0	0	0
TOTAL REVENUE	0	0	0
FUND BALANCE	0	0	0
NET COUNTY COST	61,499	60,777	(722)

Program Description

The Bi-County Farm Advisor Office (UCCE Sutter/Yuba Counties) operates under an agreement with the Counties of Sutter and Yuba and the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE). Its mission is to provide research-based educational programs to the residents of the two counties including:

- Agriculture & natural resources
- 4-H & youth development
- Nutrition education
- Home landscape or garden assistance

In addition, UC Agricultural and Natural Resource applied research is conducted with local producer cooperators.

Today's UCCE Mission remains similar to that of 1918: to assist people at the local county level in accessing appropriate information to achieve their goals. This is accomplished through applied research and educational programs and events. In Sutter and Yuba Counties, programs are conducted related to agriculture, natural resource, youth development and nutrition education subject matters.

Agriculture and Natural Resource Advisors assist local clientele, through individual consultations and farm visits, with issues such as:

- Pest management
- Water quality/water use efficiency
- Plant variety selection
- Plant nutrition
- Farm and ranch planning
- Fire safety

Accomplishments FY 2012/2013

Advisors are responsible for identifying emerging issues and working with local clientele to develop and conduct research to address these areas of concern. Research activities in FY 2012-13 included:

- Water quality
- Pest management
- New variety evaluation
- Exotic and introduced pests
- Plant nutrition

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- Cultural practices
- Farm/ranch economic viability
- Fire safety
- Alternative cattle feeds

Programs focus on local natural resources and economically important crops such as rice, dried plums, almonds, walnuts, and peaches as well as interest in emerging or alternative crops.

In FY 2012-13 the 4-H Youth Development Program utilized adult leader volunteers to serve students participating in traditional clubs as well as the Military Kids Program at Beale Air Force Base. 4-H is a non-formal educational youth program. The 4-H in Sutter and Yuba Counties offers many opportunities for youth in pragmatic educational settings. The purpose of the program is to empower young people, ages 5-19, to discover and develop themselves and grow into competent, contributing, caring citizens within their community.

These learn-by-doing activities, youth-adult partnerships, and research-based educational programs help young people enhance their leadership abilities, develop community service, citizenship and life skills. During FY 2012-13, the UCCE Sutter/Yuba Counties office continued to integrate the 4-H Science, Engineering and Technology Program into existing activities. This initiative, from the National 4-H office, has a goal of reaching more than 5 million youth with hands-on learning experiences to encourage young minds and fill the pipeline of young leaders proficient in science. The 4-H Science, Engineering and Technology Program will serve as an integral component of the long-term solution for improving the science literacy and aptitude of America's youth. This program is supported through a partnership of University, corporate sponsors, and volunteer leaders and has no significant impact on the County budget.

In FY 2012-13, the UC Master Gardener program trained 18 new volunteers and

reached a large clientele through the County office and outreach activities. Over 50 volunteer Master Gardeners recorded 2,065 total contacts and volunteered 2,124 hours in 2012 and participated in:

- The Total Home and Garden Show
- The Yuba City Farmer's Markets
- Marysville Community Garden and workshop series
- Spring and fall plant clinics at local nurseries
- Initiated gardening project at Yuba County jail for inmates on a release program
- Assisted in start-up of Live Oak Community garden
- Gardening programs in Sutter and Yuba County elementary schools
- Horticulture classes for homeowners and the community through the Sutter County Library
- Farm Day presentations to local school children

The UC CalFresh Nutrition Education Program works through local public school teachers to develop and deliver curricula related to healthy lifestyles and eating habits. A Sutter/Yuba-based UC nutrition educator manages and delivers the program to local clientele. This University position and program support are funded by a federal USDA grant administered by the State CalFresh Office within the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences at UC Davis and has minimal impact on the County budget.

Additional support, beyond that provided by the "resident advisors" in the bi-county office, is received from advisors in surrounding counties and campus-based specialists and/or faculty. The UC/County partnership provides programs that are designated for local needs and solutions, while leveraging the resources of the County/University partners. UCCE Sutter/Yuba also secures substantial grants and gifts to augment county and UC funding. This allows

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staff to conduct activities and purchase equipment that UC or County budgets do not permit. These grants directly support specific research and education programs in the areas of:

- Crop production
- Integrated pest management
- Water quality and watershed management
- Nutrition education
- Youth development

The total FY 2011-12 funding breakdown for the bi-county UCCE office is as follows:

UC Support	\$1,226,786
Sutter/Yuba Support	\$225,757
Total	\$1,452,543

This budget unit is funded in the following manner:

- Sutter/Yuba Counties
 - Clerical support
 - Office space, supplies and expenses
 - Transportation
 - Fixed assets
- University of California
 - Salaries and benefits for the four University Advisors, two University Program Representatives and other programmatic personnel
 - Other expenses related to programs as described below

Individual UC staff members have developed revenue streams to support additional field assistance, services and/or equipment including computers, printers, cameras, audio-visual equipment, office equipment, tools and labor. These items would typically be considered County funding responsibilities, but fiscal realities have required UC staff to develop significant external funding sources to meet these needs. University staff's travel to professional development activities such as

national or international scientific conferences, technology workshops, and other learning opportunities is funded by a combination of UC and grant/gift money. Grant/gift funding also provides seasonal field/lab assistants for the advisors.

Goals and Objectives FY 2013/2014

During FY 2013-14, the Bi-County Farm Advisor's office goal is to continue assisting local clientele by developing and delivering appropriate information to help them achieve their goals and needs. This will be accomplished through applied research and educational activities. In addition, we intend to foster continued growth of the UC CalFresh Nutrition Education Program and further develop the 4-H Science, Engineering and Technology Program to address local critical challenges facing our young people.

Despite the elimination of 33% of the county clerical support for the department over the last two years, the University of California is demonstrating its commitment to local partners and clientele in FY 2013-14. The County Director of the Bi-County Farm Advisor Department was successful in securing two new UC academic positions that will address critical local programmatic issues. An Area Agronomy Advisor position to be housed in Colusa is expected to be filled by July 1, 2013 and will address field and vegetable crop issues in Colusa, Sutter, and Yuba Counties. In addition, an Area 4-H/Youth Development Advisor position is expected to be released in February, 2014 and will address youth development issues in Colusa, Sutter, and Yuba Counties.

Sutter County is the designated lead agency for the Bi-County Farm Advisor Department, which is located in Yuba City. Sutter County bills Yuba County for its portion of the budget.

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Apportionment of costs, as agreed by the two funding counties, is 63% from Sutter and 37% from Yuba. This formula is based historically on a comprehensive evaluation of the workloads and an approximation of the time spent delivering UCCE programs in the respective counties.

Use of Fund Balance

This budget unit is within the General Fund.

The General Fund has a Committed Fund Balance for Farm Advisor/Agriculture Building to collect money to fund future improvements to the Sutter County owned Farm Advisor/Agriculture Building.

Each year, as directed by the Board of Supervisors through the annual budget, \$5,000 is budgeted in the Farm Advisor budget and in the Non-Departmental expense budget #1-103 to increase the General Fund Committed Fund Balance for Farm Advisor/Agriculture Building account #31205.

COUNTY OF YUBA
 BUDGET EXPENDITURE DETAIL
 BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2013-2014

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL EXPENDITURES 2010-2011	ACTUAL EXPENDITURES 2011-2012	BOS APPROVED 2012-2013	CAO RECOMMENDED 2013-2014
AGRICULTURE EXTENSION					
Services & Supplies					
101-6300-463.23-00	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	77,311	75,616	79,499	78,777
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*	Services & Supplies	77,311	75,616	79,499	78,777
Cost Reimbursements					
101-6300-463.90-00	REIMBURSEMENTS	18,000-	18,000-	18,000-	18,000-
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*	Cost Reimbursements	18,000-	18,000-	18,000-	18,000-
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**	AGRICULTURE EXTENSION	59,311	57,616	61,499	60,777
***	AGRICULTURE EXTENSION	59,311	57,616	61,499	60,777