

# Bi-County Farm Advisor

Janine Hasey – County Director

101-6300	FY 16/17 Adopted Budget	FY 17/18 CAO Recommended	Change
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Salaries and Benefits	0	0	0
Services and Supplies	98,291	92,285	(6,006)
Other Charges	0	0	0
Fixed Assets	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>98,291</b>	<b>92,285</b>	<b>(6,006)</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Fed/State	0	0	0
Grant	0	0	0
Realignment	0	0	0
Fees/Misc	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>NET COUNTY COST</b>	<b>98,291</b>	<b>92,285</b>	<b>(6,006)</b>

## Purpose

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/garden assistance

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

## Program Discussion

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 resources, youth development, home gardening and nutrition education subject matters.

## UCCE Advisors

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

In addition, advisors are responsible for identifying emerging issues and working with

# Bi-County Farm Advisor

Janine Hasey – County Director

local clientele to develop and conduct research to address these areas of concern. Research activities in FY 2016-2017 included:

- Water quality and irrigation timing
- New variety and rootstock evaluation
- Exotic and endemic pest management
- Plant nutrition/nitrogen management
- Cultural practices/training systems
- Farm/ranch economic viability

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

## UCCE Cross-County Advisors

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. Two examples: the UCCE Dairy Advisor in Glenn County also has responsibilities in Sutter and Yuba Counties and works with Yuba County dairies; the UCCE Vegetable Crops Advisor is based in Colusa County but also serves Sutter and Yuba clientele.

## Staff Changes FY 2016-17

The University of California continues to demonstrate its commitment to local partners and clientele. Two new Nutrition Educators were hired in June and November 2016. Interviews were held in January 2017 for an Area Agronomy Advisor headquartered in Sutter/Yuba, also serving Colusa County, who will start in summer of 2017. The Master Gardener Program Rep has been reappointed for another year starting April 1, 2017.

## Projected Staff Changes FY 17-18

To address critical local programmatic issues, UC ANR is in the process of recruiting for two UC academic advisor positions: a Placer-Nevada/Sutter-Yuba Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor who will be based in Placer Co., and a Forestry and Natural Resources Advisor for Yuba, Nevada, and Butte Counties who will be housed in Sutter/Yuba. The Forestry Advisor will be involved in fire safety. There are two additional planned advisor recruitments: an Area Nutrition, Family and Consumer Science Advisor housed in Butte County, and a Colusa/Sutter-Yuba 4-H Youth Development Advisor to fill our recently vacated position. All of these positions will address critical needs in Sutter and Yuba Counties.

## Support/Contributions

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 grants and gifts to augment county and UC funding. This allows 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
- Watershed management
- Nutrition education
- Youth development

The University of California contributed in excess of \$1,200,000 to support the local UC Cooperative Extension office through direct and indirect support related to programs specific to

# Bi-County Farm Advisor

Janine Hasey – County Director

the local office, as well as statewide programs that benefit local clientele.

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 three University Advisors, two University Program Representatives, two Nutrition Educators and other cross-county programmatic Advisors
  - 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.

## 4-H Youth Development Program

The 4-H Youth Development Program (YDP) is an organization for youth ages 5-19 that promotes hands-on experiential learning. 4-H welcomes youth members and adult volunteers from all backgrounds and all locations. 4-H emphasizes enrichment education through inquiry-based learning.

Youth are encouraged to discover their passions, adopt a growth mindset, set goals and practice self-reflection. 4-H projects and programs are focused around the core content of citizenship, healthy living, science, engineering, and technology. These pivotal experiences build a foundation of leadership and skills for success in their future careers.

In FY 2016-2017, the 4-H YDP expanded its influence in Sutter County by supporting Browns Elementary School District and Franklin Elementary School District with after-school science programming. Using Teens as Teachers, Junk Drawer Robotics curriculum is taught to 3<sup>rd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. 4-H continues to support three after-school sites within the Wheatland School District, one of which is located on Beale AFB. 4-H programming is also available through the 4-H School Enrichment program. We provide teacher support with hands on science projects that support California Science Standards.

Sutter-Yuba 4-H continues to have great success with our two specialty clubs. Able Riders 4-H club provides an opportunity for children with disabilities to benefit from the therapeutic effects of horseback riding. Sutter-Yuba Guide Dog 4-H club offers guide dog puppy projects through the Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc. Guide Dogs for the Blind helps raisers through every step of the process. It is a rewarding and emotional commitment, and those who receive a guide dog are extremely grateful.

# Bi-County Farm Advisor

Janine Hasey – County Director

The traditional club program continues to thrive with 17 clubs serving the bi-county area, including a club on Beale AFB. 4-H members in the club program participate in projects that are of interest to them. Each project is led by caring adults, who engage youth members in hands-on learning in the project area. Some of our projects include guide dogs for the blind, sewing, rocketry, shooting sports, robotics, livestock, Legos, community service, ATV repair, and gardening. Over 550 youth members and nearly 200 adult volunteers participate in the 4-H club program.

## Master Gardener Program

In FY 2016-2017, the UC Sutter/Yuba Master Gardener Program recorded 10,019 individual contacts through the County office and outreach activities. In the fall of 2016, UC Master Gardeners held workshops with the Fremont-Rideout Foundation Teen Leadership Council at their Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds vegetable and fruit garden. All of this garden's produce is then donated to our community members in need. Over 55 Master Gardeners volunteered over 3,000 hours with a value of \$82,908 (2016 Independent Sector's value of volunteer time for California at \$27.59/hour) giving gardening and pest management advice through:

- Answering the public's gardening questions through UCCE office and phone help line
- The Yuba City Home and Garden Show
- Yuba City Farmers' Market – every Saturday May-Oct
- Marysville Community Garden, workshops and plant clinics
- Spring and Fall plant clinics at local churches, businesses and nurseries
- A gardening project and workshops at Yuba County Probation Department Day

Reporting Center for inmates on release program

- Gardening programs in Sutter and Yuba County elementary schools
- Participating in the American Assoc. of University Women (AAUW) Garden Tour
- Farm Day presentation to local school's 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders
- Maintaining Water-wise garden at Gauche Aquatic Park in collaboration with the City of Yuba City Irrigation, beneficial insects and caring for native plant workshops at the Gauche Park water-wise garden
- Spring and Fall Vegetable Plant Sales

## CalFresh Nutrition Program

The UC CalFresh Nutrition Education Program works through local public school teachers and community based organizations to deliver research-based curricula related to healthy lifestyles and eating habits. Two Sutter/Yuba-based UC Nutrition Educators manage and deliver the program to local clientele. These University positions 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.

## Summary

The Bi-County Farm Advisor's FY 2017-18 goal is to continue assisting local clientele by developing and delivering appropriate information to ensure goals and needs are met. 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 in Afterschool

# Bi-County Farm Advisor

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*Janine Hasey – County Director*

program to address local critical challenges facing our young people.

## **Bi-County Department**

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.

Apportionment of costs, as agreed by the two funding counties, is 63% from Sutter County and 37% from Yuba County. 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.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL EXPENDITURES 2014-2015	ACTUAL EXPENDITURES 2015-2016	BOS APPROVED 2016-2017	DEPARTMENT REQUESTED 2017-2018	CAO RECOMMENDED 2017-2018
AGRICULTURE EXTENSION						
101-6300-372.99-02	COUNTY CONTRIBUTION	0	0	0	92,285-	92,285-
*	REVENUE	0	0	0	92,285-	92,285-
**		0	0	0	92,285-	92,285-
Services & Supplies						
101-6300-463.23-00	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	70,210	77,158	98,291	92,285	92,285
*	EXPENDITURE	70,210	77,158	98,291	92,285	92,285
**	Services & Supplies	70,210	77,158	98,291	92,285	92,285
***	AGRICULTURE EXTENSION	70,210	77,158	98,291	0	0
****	AGRICULTURE EXTENSION	70,210	77,158	98,291	0	0