

Bi-County Farm Advisor

Janine Hasey – County Director

101-6300	FY 17/18 Adopted Budget	FY 18/19 CAO Recommended	Change
EXPENDITURES			
Salaries and Benefits			0
Services and Supplies	92,285	96,019	3,734
Other Charges			0
Fixed Assets			0
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	92,285	96,019	3,734
REVENUE			
Fed/State			0
Grant			0
Realignment			0
Fees/Misc			0
TOTAL REVENUE	0	0	0
FUND BALANCE	0	0	0
NET COUNTY COST	92,285	96,019	3,734

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, farm visits, and meetings with issues such as:

- Pest management
- Water quality/water use efficiency
- Plant variety and rootstock selection

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- Plant nutrition
- Farm and ranch planning; cost studies
- Fire recovery and preparation

In addition, advisors are responsible for identifying emerging issues and working with local clientele to develop and conduct research to address these areas of concerns.

Research activities in FY 2017-2018 included:

- New variety and rootstock evaluation
- “Weedy red rice” identification and management
- Exotic and endemic pest and disease management
- Assessing flood damage in orchards
- Plant nutrition/nitrogen management
- Cultural practices/training systems
- Protecting livestock from predators
- Farm/ranch economic viability
- Treatments to reduce wildfire losses

Programs focus on local natural resources and economically important crops such as rice, walnuts, prunes, peaches, almonds, tomatoes, melons, field crops, 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. Four examples of UCCE Advisors based in nearby counties who also serve Sutter and Yuba clientele include the Livestock and Natural Resource Advisor in Placer/Nevada Counties, the Vegetable Crops Advisor in Colusa County, the Nutrition, Family, Consumer Science Advisor in Butte County, and the Dairy Advisor in Glenn County who also works with Yuba County dairies.

Staff Changes FY 2017-18

The University of California continues to demonstrate its commitment to local partners and clientele. We hired two advisors headquartered in Sutter/Yuba: an Area Agronomy Advisor, also serving Colusa County, who started July 2017, and a Forestry/Fire Science and Natural Resources Advisor, also serving Butte and Nevada Counties in September 2017. We hired two cross-county advisors who also serve Sutter and Yuba Counties: an area Livestock and Natural Resource Advisor based in Placer/Nevada Counties in July 2017, and an area Nutrition, Family, Consumer Science Advisor based in Butte County in September 2017.

Projected Staff Changes FY 18-19

To address critical local programmatic issues, UC ANR is in the process of interviewing for a Colusa/Sutter-Yuba 4-H Youth Development Advisor to fill our position vacated a year ago. Once that Advisor is hired, our Sutter/Yuba Cooperative Extension office will be fully staffed which has not been the case in over a decade. 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

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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
- Livestock and range management
- Wildfire recovery outreach
- Nutrition education
- Youth development

The University of California contributed \$1,500,000 in 2015-2016 to support the local UC Cooperative Extension office through direct and indirect support related to programs specific to the local office as well as statewide programs that benefit local clientele. This contribution is expected to rise with the additional advisors added to our staff.

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 five 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 2017-2018, the 4-H YDP is expanding its influence in Sutter and Yuba County by supporting numerous school sites with in-school and after-school programming. This year marks

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the first year with 4-H Embryology being taught in classrooms. Fifteen school sites in Yuba and Sutter County borrow Embryology kits that include curriculum, incubators and egg candler so that youth can see the development of cells with fertilized eggs. Cooking Academy was delivered using the Teens as Teachers format to afterschool programs at Barry Elementary, Park Avenue and Wheatland Elementary Schools. Teens teach 3rd grade students about nutrition and cooking with hands-on lessons. Ten schools in Sutter and Yuba Counties have received wheelbarrow gardens. Schools were given wheelbarrows, soil, plants and curriculum to support wellness activities and nutrition. We continue to provide teacher support with hands on science projects that support California Science Standards. Over 750 youth are participating in 4-H through in-school and after-school programs.

Sutter-Yuba 4-H continues to have great success with our specialty clubs Able Riders 4-H club provides an opportunity for children with disabilities to benefit from the therapeutic effects of horseback riding. Therapeutic horseback riding enhances physical, social and cognitive goals for youth with disabilities.

The traditional club program continues to thrive with 16 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 agricultural business tours, physical fitness, sewing, rocketry, shooting sports, robotics, livestock, Legos, community service, welding, and gardening. Club youth learn parliamentary procedure, leadership,

citizenship, and service to community while having fun and spending time with family and friends. Members have the option to attend leadership retreats, citizenship conferences and summer camps. Over 550 youth members and nearly 200 adult volunteers participate in the 4-H club program.

Master Gardener Program

In 2017, the UC Sutter/Yuba Master Gardener Program assisted more than 5,000 individuals through the County office and outreach activities. In the fall of 2017, UC Master Gardeners established a vegetable and fruit demonstration garden at the Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds where workshops will be held to educate local schools. Most of this garden's produce will be donated to our community members in need. Over 60 Master Gardeners volunteered over 3,000 hours with a value of over \$85,000 (2016 Independent Sector's value of volunteer time for California at \$28.46/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
- 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

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- Farm Day presentation to local school’s 3rd and 4th graders
- Maintaining Water-wise garden at Gauche Aquatic Park in collaboration with the City of Yuba City. Workshops given on irrigation, beneficial insects and caring for native plants
- 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 researched 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 2018-19 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-school and afterschool programs and collaborative garden programs 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.

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 (1-103) budget unit to increase the General Fund Committed Fund Balance for Farm Advisor/Agriculture Building account (#37309).

Yuba County has agreed to participate in this expense and is billed annually for its proportionate share of the cost.

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL EXPENDITURES 2015-2016	ACTUAL EXPENDITURES 2016-2017	BOS APPROVED 2017-2018	DEPARTMENT REQUESTED 2018-2019	CAO RECOMMENDED 2018-2019
AGRICULTURE EXTENSION						
101-6300-372.99-02	COUNTY CONTRIBUTION	0	98,291-	92,285-	96,019-	96,019-
*	REVENUE	0	98,291-	92,285-	96,019-	96,019-
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**		0	98,291-	92,285-	96,019-	96,019-
Services & Supplies						
101-6300-463.23-00	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	77,158	94,521	92,285	96,019	96,019
*	EXPENDITURE	77,158	94,521	92,285	96,019	96,019
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**	Services & Supplies	77,158	94,521	92,285	96,019	96,019
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***	AGRICULTURE EXTENSION	77,158	3,770-	0	0	0
****	AGRICULTURE EXTENSION	77,158	3,770-	0	0	0