

# Bi-County Farm Advisor

Janine Hasey – County Director

101-6300	FY 15/16 Adopted Budget	FY 16/17 CAO Recommended	Change
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
Salaries and Benefits	0	0	0
Services and Supplies	78,995	98,291	19,296
Other Charges	0	0	0
Fixed Assets	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>78,995</b>	<b>98,291</b>	<b>19,296</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>78,995</b>	<b>98,291</b>	<b>19,296</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.

## Major Budget Changes

\$14,335 General salary and benefits adjustments

\$27,000 New vehicle to replace vehicle being salvaged.

## 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.

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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 local clientele to develop and conduct research to address these areas of concern. Research activities in FY 2015-16 included:

- Water quality and irrigation timing
- Pest management
- New variety and rootstock evaluation
- Exotic and endemic pests
- Plant nutrition
- Cultural practices
- Farm/ranch economic viability

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

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 2015-16, the 4-H YDP expanded its influence with the start of the 4-H Food Smart Families program in after-school programming for Yuba City Unified and Marysville Joint School Districts. Using Teens as Teachers, the program creates more food secure homes by teaching families with limited resources how to shop for and cook nutritious meals on a budget. 4-H Food Smart Families teamed with the club program to provide the first Color Me Green 5K fun run. The 4-H Science in after-school program continues to thrive. It serves over 100 youth at three after-school sites within the Wheatland School District, one of which is located on Beale AFB.

Our 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 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.

In FY 2015-16, the UC Sutter/Yuba Master Gardener Program recorded 6,500 individual contacts through the County office and outreach activities. In the summer of 2015 we teamed with the City of Yuba City and hosted several water-wise workshops. Over 50 Master Gardeners volunteered nearly 3,000 hours with a value of \$80,610 (2015 Independent Sector's value of volunteer time for California at \$26.87/hour) and participated in:

- The Yuba City Home and Garden Show
- Yuba City Farmers' Market

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- Marysville Community Garden, workshops and plant clinics
- Spring and Fall plant clinics at local nurseries
- A gardening project and workshops at Yuba County Probation Department Day Reporting Center for inmates on release program
- Butchie’s Pool Spring and Fall Plant Sale
- Gardening programs in Sutter and Yuba County elementary schools
- Home Gardeners Workshop and display booths
- Farm Day presentation to local school’s 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders
- Planning and planting the Water-wise garden at Gauche Aquatic Park
- Tomato Plant Sale
- Spring and late summer Home Orchard workshops at the Sierra Foothill Research and Extension Center
- Drought, Irrigation and Beneficial insect workshops at the Gauche Park water-wise garden

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. 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. For example, the UCCE Dairy Advisor in Glenn County also has responsibilities in Sutter and

Yuba counties. She is conducting research on a bovine disease at a large Yuba County dairy. 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 \$1,000,000 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 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, one Nutrition Educator, and other cross-county programmatic personnel
  - Other expenses related to programs as described below:

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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.

The Bi-County Farm Advisor's FY 2016-17 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 program to address local critical challenges facing our young people.

## Staff Changes FY 2015-16

The University of California continues to demonstrate its commitment to local partners and clientele. A new Area Rice Advisor headquartered in Sutter/Yuba was hired and begins on April 4, 2016. An Area Vegetable Crops Advisor housed in Colusa, and also serving Sutter and Yuba, was hired and begins on April 11, 2016. Interviews will be held in March 2016 for an Area Agronomy Advisor headquartered in Sutter/Yuba, also serving Colusa County. The Master Gardener Program Rep has been reappointed for another year starting April 1, 2016.

## Projected Staff Changes FY 2016-17

The Director of the Bi-County Farm Advisor Department was successful in having six UC academic advisor positions approved for hiring from summer 2015 through fall 2016 that will address critical local programmatic issues. These include the three Advisor positions listed above, and in order of planned recruitment: an Area Nutrition, Family and Consumer Science Advisor housed in Butte County, an Area Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor housed in Placer County, and an Area Forestry and Natural Resources Advisor housed in Sutter/Yuba. All of these positions will address critical needs in 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. 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.

## Recommended Budget

This budget is recommended at \$238,654. The General Fund provides 63% of the financing for this budget unit and is increased \$23,587 (11%) compared to FY 2015-16.

## 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

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*Janine Hasey – County Director*

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 unit #1-103 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 2013-2014	ACTUAL EXPENDITURES 2014-2015	ORIGINAL BUDGET 2015-2016	CAO RECOMMENDED 2016-2017
AGRICULTURE EXTENSION					
Services & Supplies					
101-6300-463.23-00	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	67,484	70,210	78,995	98,291
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*	Services & Supplies	67,484	70,210	78,995	98,291
Cost Reimbursements					
101-6300-463.90-00	REIMBURSEMENTS	18,000-	0	0	0
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*	Cost Reimbursements	18,000-	0	0	0
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**	AGRICULTURE EXTENSION	49,484	70,210	78,995	98,291
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