

# Between the Furrows

A Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau Monthly Publication

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## INSIDE this issue

- 3 Ask Laura**  
IPM Approach to Pest Management
- 4 Water Nanny**  
You Have Been Ranked
- 5 Recipe**  
Glazed Apple Squares & Bayou Stew

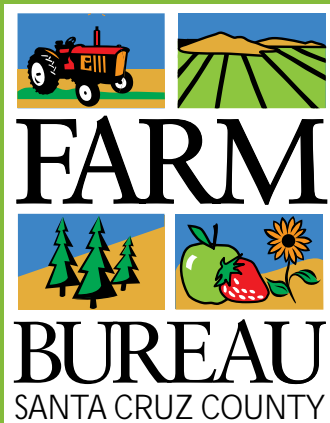
## 12 Calendar



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## County of the Year Award Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau Honored



Santa Cruz County was named as a finalist for the Innovator Award. Pictured above are (L-R) Jane Nelsen, Nita Gizdich, David Van Lennep and Cynthia Mathiesen. They represented Santa Cruz County well at our county display during the CFBF Annual Meeting.

Five county Farm Bureaus received awards for outstanding service and innovative activities completed during 2014. The awards were presented during the 96th California Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting held in Garden Grove last month. The **Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau** earned **County of the Year** honors among Farm Bureaus in its membership class—the second straight year it has been honored in this category. A contingent of seven



Accepting the "County of the Year" award are (L-R) Nita Gizdich, David Van Lennep and Cynthia Mathiesen

traveled to Southern California to represent Santa Cruz County. They included **David Van Lennep**, President; **Tom Broz**, 1st Vice President; **Cynthia Mathiesen**, Past President; **Nita Gizdich**, Director; **Jane Nelsen**, Agriculture Director; **Jess Brown**, Executive Director and **Laura Brown**. The award was based on the organization's more active role in county elections this year, conducting three candidate forums, and its involvement in local issues including the placement of a proposed walking trail and the development of a county economic-vitality study. Farm Bureau was also honored for the variety of educational and fundraising events conducted during the year and its regular outreach through news media and social media.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.SCCFB.COM](http://WWW.SCCFB.COM)



# President's Message

DAVID VAN LENEP, PRESIDENT

**“We should all be proud of the statewide recognition given to Santa Cruz for our successful programs, outreach and local leadership.”**

## FB Receives “County of the Year” Award at CFBF Annual Meeting

Early in December a small contingent from Santa Cruz County traveled to the 96th Annual Meeting of the California Farm Bureau Federation held in Garden Grove. Garden Grove, next door to Disneyland, must have looked very different when they dedicated the name, as there seemed to be a definite lack of vegetative cover. Historically, crops of oranges, walnuts, chili peppers and later strawberries were grown there. In 1933, much of the town was destroyed by the Long Beach earthquake, prior to being incorporated as a city in 1956. Interesting similarities to some of our local counties, culminating with urban development pushing out agriculture.

through news media and social media.

For the Innovator Award, each of the four finalist counties set up a booth to showcase their particular accomplishment to be voted on by meeting attendees. We presented our outreach and education efforts with Pajaro Valley school teachers. Despite the success of the program and the outstanding efforts and dedication of our three emissaries, Cynthia Mathiesen, Nita Gizdich, and Jane Nelson, we did not win.

We should all be proud of the statewide recognition given to Santa Cruz for our successful programs, outreach and local leadership.

The California Farm Bureau Federation recognized Santa Cruz for two outstanding accomplishments this year; County of the Year and one of four finalists for the Innovator Award.

[CFBF Award-Continued on Page 7](#)

Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau earned County of the Year honors among Farm Bureaus of similar size, the second straight year we have been honored in our membership category. We were chosen for a number of reasons, including having a more active (and successful I would like to add) role in county elections this year which included conducting three candidate forums. We remained involved in local issues including the placement of a proposed walking trail and the development of a county economic-vitality study, continued success with local educational and fundraising events, and consistent outreach

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# ASK LAURA

Steve Tjosvold, Farm Advisor, UCCE

## IPM Approach to Pest Management

**Q: What is one critical component of an effective organic or IPM approach to pest management?**

**A:** Without a doubt, the proper identification of the insect, disease or weed is the first step and critical part to help make effective management decisions. A case in point is the light brown apple moth (LBAM), which is an important insect in our area and must be controlled when found in the field. Unfortunately there are many common look-alike larvae that can be misidentified as LBAM, and this may lead to unnecessary insecticide applications. Knowing how to identify it and other look-alike larvae can help make appropriate management decisions.

**Q: How can I learn how to identify light brown apple moth in the field?**

**A:** A new identification guide and online video is available called "**Field Identification Guide for Light Brown Apple Moth in Nurseries**" from UC

IPM. The online training can be used for a quick training for field personnel anywhere with internet access. It is only 13 minutes long. The field guide could be handed out after the online training. With many useful images and simple descriptive keys, the guide could be taken into the field to help find and identify LBAM. A Spanish version of the online training is under development and soon will be available.

The development of this guide was supported in part by the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Specialty Crop Block Grant program. Authors: Steven A. Tjosvold, Neal B. Murray, University of California Cooperative Extension; Marc Epstein, Obediah Sage, California Department of Food and Agriculture; Todd Gilligan, Colorado State University

Download the document and access the video training (under Emerging Pests in California) at: <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/selectnewpest.floriculture.html> For a printed document while still available: contact Steve Tjosvold at [satjosvold@ucdavis.edu](mailto:satjosvold@ucdavis.edu)

## Words of Wisdom

"If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward."

*Martin Luther King, Jr.*

# THE WATER NANNY

## You Have Been Ranked

The delivery room seemed so crowded, a doctor, two nurses, worried husband, and panting and puffing mother to be, plus the State statistician. The baby popped, parents counted fingers and toes and the statistician went to work. 3 points for eye color, 2.5 for head circumference, length, weight, points for baldness, and so on, for a combined score of 23.7, which was promptly tattooed on the still screaming infant's right foot. Now that the scoring was accomplished the fate of the child had been decided, no appeals allowed. The fact there was no correlation between the child's eventual success in life and the output of the State algorithm was of no matter. Scoring all children at birth made the application of governmental regulations so much easier, if not particularly fair.

The Department of Water Resources has taken a similar approach to prioritizing each of the 515 groundwater basins in the state. It took into consideration (with a ranking from 0 – 5) the following eight categories: 1. population overlying the basin, 2. rate of current and projected population growth, 3. number of public supply wells, 4. total number of wells that draw from the basin (x75%), 5. irrigated acreage, 6. degree to which persons rely on groundwater as their primary source of water, 7. any documented impacts on the groundwater within the basin, including overdraft, subsidence, saline intrusion, and other water quality degradation, and 8. other information determined to be relevant by DWR.



The winner with the all-time high score (not a good thing) is the East Side Aquifer in Salinas with 27, Pajaro came in 8<sup>th</sup> with 24.8, the Llagas basin in south Santa Clara county was 4<sup>th</sup> with 25.8 and Paso Robles was 14<sup>th</sup> with 23.3, all HIGH priority basins. All High and Medium priority basins (scores over 13.43) are now required as part of the new groundwater legislation signed last year to prepare Groundwater Sustainability Plans. (More on this in the future.)

So what's with the scores? Llagas is very well managed with water recharge using imported water, no reduction in groundwater levels with some industrial pollution scores 25.8. Cambria, which practically ran out of water this last

summer and had such severe water rationing that restaurant diners had to use porta-potties, received a Very Low ranking with an adjusted score of 0.0. There appears to be little correlation between the score and the need for action, or enhanced regulatory oversight.

On a much brighter note ... The Pajaro Valley Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture is going back to its roots to recognize Gary Manfre as Man of the Year, California Grill as Business of the Year and Ed and Jean Kelly for Lifetime Achievement. Looks like local produce folks take 3 of the 6 annual awards. Your very own Santa Cruz Farm Bureau has also been sweeping up awards with the 2014 Organization of the Year from the Santa Cruz Chamber of Commerce and a plethora of trophies from the State Farm Bureau including County of the Year and five Awards of Excellence. Getting an award for excellence in the community is based on what your peers think of you, what score they assign. However, this score is based on what was actually accomplished, not from a statistical exercise involving the multiplication of varieties of mixed fruit.



### FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Hope lies in dreams, in imagination, and in the courage of those who dare to make dreams into reality."

*Jonas Salk*



*"Agriculture, the Original Green"*

# FAVORITE RECIPES

The two recipes below are examples of recipes you can find online at websites from our local growers, farmers' markets, etc. Santa Cruz County has a plethora of resources to find outstanding recipes using fresh local fruit, vegetables, meat, fish or poultry. The first recipe comes from Prevedelli Farms ([www.prevedelli.com/recipes](http://www.prevedelli.com/recipes)). The second one comes from the Monterey Bay Certified Farmers Market - Edible Paradise ([www.edibleparadise.com/](http://www.edibleparadise.com/)), a recipe by Annalise Keller. Here are a couple of other sites where great recipes can be found: [www.driscolls.com/recipes](http://www.driscolls.com/recipes); [www.gizdich-ranch.com](http://www.gizdich-ranch.com); [www.liveearthfarm.net](http://www.liveearthfarm.net); <http://www.lakesideorganic.com/recipes>. The possibilities are endless and the results will be yummy!

## Snowy Glazed Apple Squares

Apples bake between two crusts in jellyroll pan. Top is glazed

2 ½ cups sifted flour	5 cups sliced peeled Mutsu apples
½ tsp salt	1-cup sugar
1 cup shortening	1 ½ tsp ground cinnamon
2 eggs, separated	1-¼ cups sifted confectioner's sugar
Milk	3 TB water
1-½ cups crushed corn flakes	½ tsp Vanilla

Combine flour and salt in bowl. Cut in shortening. In measuring cup, beat egg yolks with enough milk to make 2/3 cup. Add to flour mixture, toss lightly. Divide dough almost in half. Roll larger portion to fit a 15 ½ x 10 ½ x 1 jellyroll pan. Sprinkle with corn flakes. Spread apples over flakes. Combine white sugar and cinnamon; sprinkle over apples. Roll out remaining dough. Place on top: seal edges. Beat egg whites until foamy, spread on crust. Bake in moderate oven over 350 degrees 1 hour.

Meanwhile, make glaze by combining confectioners sugar, water and vanilla. When dessert is done, remove from oven and cool slightly then spread with glaze. To serve, cut into squares

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## Bayou Stew with Chicken, Sausage and Rice

### INGREDIENTS:

2 tablespoons vegetable oil	1/2 teaspoon ground white pepper
3/4 lbs. fresh boneless, skinless chicken thigh cutlets, cut into 1/2-inch cubes	1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
1/2 lb. andouille sausage, sliced into 1/4-inch rounds	1/2 teaspoon dry mustard
1/4 lb. okra, trimmed and sliced	1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
1 cup chopped onions	1/2 teaspoon crushed dried basil
1/2 cup thinly sliced celery	1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup chopped green bell peppers	5 cups chicken broth
1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper	1 (14.5-ounce) can diced tomatoes, drained
	1 1/2 cups long-grain rice

### METHOD:

In a large, heavy pot, heat oil over medium heat until hot. Add chicken pieces and sausage and cook until all sides are browned, about 7 minutes. Transfer chicken and sausage to a plate lined with paper towels and set aside.

To large pot, add okra, onion, celery, bell pepper, black pepper, white pepper, cayenne pepper, dry mustard, thyme, basil and salt. Sauté vegetables, stirring frequently, for about 10 minutes, or until vegetables are soft. Stir in broth, tomatoes and rice and bring mixture to a boil. Cover, reduce heat and simmer for 15 minutes, or until rice is tender.

Add reserved chicken and sausage and simmer gently until thoroughly heated. Serve hot. SERVINGS: 6

## Asian Citrus Psyllid and Huanglongbing



**H**appy New Year from all of us here at the office of the Agricultural Commissioner. As the new year begins, I want to remind growers that it is time again to renew your agricultural Restricted Materials Permit or Operator Identification Number (Operator ID). If your permit or Operator ID expired last year or expires early this year please call the Agricultural Commissioner's Office to make an appointment for renewal.

For several years we have been using the internet based CalAg Permits program to issue permits and Operator IDs. This program provides growers with the ability to see his or her permit and site maps, and also allows entry of pesticide use records, via the internet. To access CalAg Permits, you must provide us with a valid e-mail address, and we will issue you a log in name and password. If you have not yet done this, we can sign you up during your permit renewal appointment. We really want to encourage all growers to submit electronic pesticide use records either by using Cal Ag Permits or any of the many different companies that provide this service. It is fast and efficient and it can save a trip to our office. We no longer have staff resources to enter the data from the hard copies, so you will be doing us a big favor if you submit your use reports electronically. We are happy to assist you if you need help getting started. And, Napa County has some excellent user-friendly videos that show you step by step how to enter your data. You can find them at [www.countyofnapa.org/AgCommissioner/CAP/](http://www.countyofnapa.org/AgCommissioner/CAP/)

If your Private Applicator Certificate (PAC) has expired, you can renew it with continuing education classes or by taking the PAC re-certification exam. If you will be using continuing education, please remember to bring the certificates of the continuing education classes to our office. If your PAC card was previously issued for three years, you will need a minimum of six hours of continuing education, which include at least two hours in laws and regulations. The continuing education must have been completed before the PAC card expired. The PAC card must be renewed at the Agricultural

Commissioner's Office within 90 days after expiration or you will have to take the PAC re-certification exam in order to renew.

If you will renew your PAC card by taking the exam you may wish to prepare by reviewing the book "Pesticide Safety", available at your local University of California Extension office. Please allow at least an hour of your time when you come in to renew your permit or Operator ID and at least another hour if you will be renewing your PAC card by taking the exam.

You can obtain updates on agricultural issues by attending the many educational workshops that are typically offered early in the year. Check with your local Agricultural Commissioner's Office and the University of California Extension website at <http://cesantacruz.ucdavis.edu/> for information on upcoming workshops. In addition, approved continuing education classes held throughout California can be found on the Department of Pesticide Regulation website at [http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/cont\\_ed\\_cfm/classes.htm](http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/license/cont_ed_cfm/classes.htm)

We look forward to working with you during 2015, and will do our best to assist you. Please don't hesitate to call us.



## Mulching to Save Water

There are several advantages of using mulch in orchards, vineyards and cane berry farms. In addition, any disadvantages can usually be overcome with the proper mulch product, application and maintenance. Before deciding whether or not mulching is right on your farm or ranch consult with your UC cooperative extension expert, and/or soil conservationist with the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

Mulch helps: Conserve soil moisture resulting in reduced use of irrigation water which in turn reduces labor and energy expenses; protect soil from direct rainfall splash, runoff and related sheet and rill erosion; Improve soil organic matter and soil quality which can enhance crop quality and crop yields; reduce or eliminate weed growth and competition; improve beneficial microorganisms that help fight soil borne pathogens; protect surface water quality both on and off-site

from sediment produced as a result of erosion; and reduce expenses related to runoff, erosion, and sediment control. Mulching can also improve rainwater infiltration and have positive implications for groundwater recharge.

Some mulch may contain weed seed and cause weed issues in your farming operation. Use mulch products that don't contain weed seed like certified weed-free straw, rice straw, wood chips (including crop residues from vine, berry cane or orchard pruning's).

Mulching is an incentive practice under the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) administered by NRCS. The 2015 EQIP program has a continuous sign-up and funding process this year. To find out more about EQIP and/or how mulching can help you save water on the farm, contact the Capitola NRCS office at: 475-1967.

### President's Message—Continued from Page 2

Each Annual Meeting is an opportunity to see what is happening to others around the state, and to get a better understanding of what California Farm Bureau has been focused on for the year.

By the end of the meeting I had a couple take home thoughts:

**Water**—though we have considerable groundwater and surface water issues locally, we are currently in better circumstance than many other counties. This is due in part to our reliance on an autonomous water supply, and a regulating body for the primary groundwater basin in the Pajaro. Recently passed statewide Groundwater legislation will mandate all basins be regulated by 2022, with earlier timelines for those in overdraft. Farm Bureau has regularly disagreed with much of the local water regulating tactics, but we continue to be a voice for agriculture in that arena.

**California Farm Bureau**—Santa Cruz County often breaks ranks with the California Farm Bureau on specific issues, political endorsements, dues structures and other administrative activities. However, it is very clear that without a strong and dedicated State Farm Bureau, the statewide plight of agriculture as a whole would be worse.

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## Keep Your Osha 300 Log Up To Date

If you are a farm employer, you should be very familiar with the recordkeeping requirements of the California Division of Occupational Health (Cal/OSHA) relating to safety in the workplace. Required records include the OSHA 300 Log and documents about safety hazard analysis, inspections, and accident investigations.

The OSHA 300 log records all work-related deaths along with injuries and illnesses that require more than first aid treatment. An annual summary of injuries and illnesses is required to be posted in the workplace. Some small businesses (less than 10 employees) and certain industries may have limited exemptions from this recordkeeping requirement.

According to Cal/OSHA, the 300 Log is written in plain language and uses a "question and answer" format. It has several advantages over the old California standard, including increased employee involvement and privacy protection, simpler forms, more uniform general criteria for recording injuries and illnesses; clearer regulatory requirements; and greater flexibility to use alternative technologies such as computers in meeting requirements.

Keeping track of all of the recordkeeping requirements can be a daunting task and State Fund has taken up the task of making it easier for all of our policyholders. We have developed a bulletin that provides instructions on keeping the 300 Log. The State Fund Loss Control Bulletin *Required Recordkeeping Procedures* is available online at [www.scif.com/safety/losscontrol/Article.asp?ArticleID=311](http://www.scif.com/safety/losscontrol/Article.asp?ArticleID=311).

Cal/OSHA also requires employers to keep records on hazard evaluations and the corrective actions taken to reduce or control safety risks in the workplace. Job hazard analysis evaluates a worker's job tasks, tools, equipment and procedures to determine the level of safety risk and how to control it. Also examine and plan for hazards associated with new tools, equipment, chemicals, tasks, and work environments. Keeping records of these hazard evaluations and risk reduction efforts can document that a business has diligently worked to protect workers. Communicate with employees about these evaluations to make them aware of job hazards and help them work safer.

Periodic workplace safety inspections identify hazards in the workplace. Keep records of the identified hazards and the actions that were taken to correct them. Investigate all employee accidents and near misses to determine the root cause of the accident. Document any corrective actions taken to reduce the risk of further accidents. Take the same steps when investigating employee complaints by recording the investigation process and any necessary corrective actions. Communicate the results of inspections, accident investigations, and complaint response to employees.

For copies of OSHA's Form 300, 300A, and 301 or further information clarifying mandatory recordkeeping, including which employers are exempt or no longer exempt, visit Cal/OSHA's Web site, or the federal OSHA Web site. For employers without Internet access or for questions not addressed on these Web sites, call your local Cal/OSHA consultation office.

Today, State Fund is the largest workers' compensation carrier in California. State Fund has regional offices throughout the state, which provide a full range of services to policyholders and injured workers. We provide coverage to employers of all sizes, from "mom and pop" operations to major organizations.

Since 1943, the California Farm Bureau and State Fund partnership has provided farmers with affordable worker compensation insurance coverage and accident prevention training for agricultural employers and their employees. In addition to providing farm and ranch employers with workers' compensation insurance protection, we also have taken on the mission of assisting employers in providing safe places to work.

For more information, call toll-free at (800) 773-7667, or check the State Fund Web site at [www.statefundca.com](http://www.statefundca.com).



## National Labor Relations Board Changes Course

Now Allows Union Communication on Employer Email



In a December 10, 2014 decision the Board reversed its prior decisions which focused on employer's property rights in their email systems and allowed employers to forbid such communications on work email. In the December 10 decision the Board said it had focused too

little on the importance of email as a means of workplace communication and also failed to protect employee rights under the National Labor Relations Act and failed to adopt the Act to changing patterns of industrial life.

The decision opens employer email to being used for non-work related activities with some limitations. For example, workers would have to call up a union meeting during on email after work hours using their own time. And the employer can prevent workers from accessing outside of work hours if it is "necessary to maintain production or discipline." Absent justification for a total ban, an employer may "apply uniform and consistently enforced controls as necessary to maintain production and discipline." The name of the case is Purple Communications, Inc. and Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO. Cases 21-CA-095151, 21-RC-09531 and 21-RC-091584

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## Include GPS Systems When Insuring Equipment

Written by Margie Piercy, SPHR, Director, Sponsor Business Development, Nationwide Insurance

We've written before about the importance of insuring your homes and farm buildings to their current values, but it's just as important for farmers and ranchers to also have their equipment insured to an adequate value. When making sure your equipment limit on your farm insurance policy is adequate, here are several things to consider.

Equipment values vary as the demand for used equipment ebbs and flows in your area of the country, as well as with the usage and maintenance performed on the equipment. Because of this fluctuation, the purchase price of the equipment may not be the current value. Without adjusting for this change in equipment markets, you could find yourself under-insured when a loss occurs.

Farm and ranch operations are also utilizing more and more technology. The Nationwide® Agribusiness AgriChoice® farm policy can include coverage for Global Positioning System (GPS) equipment. If a piece of equipment has permanently

attached GPS components, the value of these components needs should be included in the value of the equipment.

If GPS components are portable, such as a display that can move from unit to unit, these also should be included either as an individually scheduled farm personal property item or as part of your farm personal property blanket. GPS activation fees may also be associated with these items. The value of the activation fees should also be insured.

Keep in mind, the value of GPS components and their activation fees can increase the value of equipment quickly. Having these values accounted for in your insurance limits will help to make sure you aren't surprised at the time of a loss and are able to get back to normal operations as quickly as possible.

To find a local farm agent, visit <http://www.farmagentfinder.com/>

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# Agriculture News

## Farm Team Action Alert

### House Passes Drought Legislation

**H.R. 5781** the "California Emergency Drought Relief Act of 2014" led by David Valadao (R-CA21), cosponsored by several California Republican's as well as well as Democratic Congressman Jim Costa (D-CA16), is to provide short-term water supplies to drought-stricken California.

As California farmers and ranchers continue to face historic drought conditions and harsh regulatory restrictions on water deliveries, **H.R. 5781** will make it easier for the water our state receives naturally,

even during times of drought, to reach communities in dire need of it.

This critical legislation passed the U.S. House of Representatives and will be taken up by the Senate. Senator Feinstein has been key to negotiations, however Senator Boxer needs to hear from you.

Contact Senator Boxer! Please urge Senator Boxer to support this package by taking action today!

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# CALENDAR **Between the Furrows**

A Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau Monthly Publication

**WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 14**

YF&R meeting

**MONDAY - JANUARY 19**

Martin Luther King, Jr. Observed  
Office Closed

**THURSDAY - JANUARY 22**

Agricultural Policy Advisory  
Commission

**THURSDAY - JANUARY 29**

Board  
Retreat

**WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 4**

- Legislative Committee meeting
- Executive Committee meeting
- Membership Committee meeting

**MONDAY- FEBRUARY 9**

Public Relations & Information  
Committee meeting

**WEDNESDAY - FEBRUARY 11**

Young Farmers & Ranchers  
meeting

**MONDAY- FEBRUARY 16**

President's Day Observed  
Office Closed

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