

Between the Furrows

A Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau Monthly Publication

JUNE 2019
VOLUME 43, ISSUE 6

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Between The Furrows is a monthly publication of the SCCFB. Members receive a subscription as part of their membership investment.

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You're Invited
Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau
102nd Annual Meeting
"Farm to Market"
Wednesday, June 26, 2019

**Cabrillo College Environmental
Horticulture Center & Botanic Gardens**
5:45 Reception - 6:45 Dinner
\$100 per person

Featured Speaker:
Gary Bascou, Co-owner
Staff of Life Market
(Soon to be in Watsonville)

Evening Activities Include:
Announcement of Farmer of the Year Award
Election of Directors
Live & Silent Auctions

Reservations are available at: Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau
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Email: sccfb@sbcglobal.net or visit our website at [www.sccfb.com/](http://www.sccfb.com/events)
events Reservations may also be make via WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM Search for 102nd Annual Meeting in Watsonville



BRENDAN MIELE,
PRESIDENT

given their economic adversities on top of the many frustrations and difficulties normal to farming? And always the answer is: "Love. They must do it for love." Farmers farm for the love of farming. They love to watch and nurture the growth of plants. They love to live in the presence of animals.

President's Message

Why Does The Farmer Farm?

Why do farmers farm,

They love to work outdoors. They love the weather, maybe even when it is making them miserable. They love to live where they work and to work where they live." (Wendell Berry)

Are they driven by love as Wendell Berry penned? With so much adversity and constant challenge one might think of farmers as being in a codependent relationship; returning again and again to an abusive partner. But farmers are optimists; they have to be in

President's Message - Continued on Page 5

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Eleanor Roosevelt

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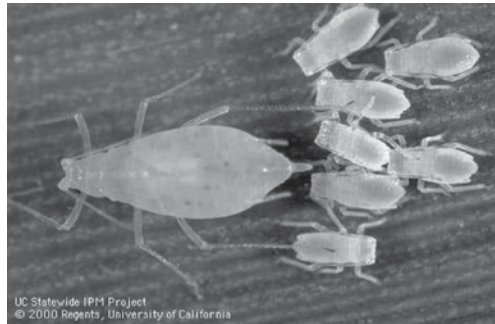
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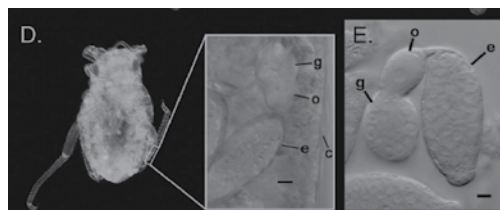
Steve Tjosvold, Farm Advisor Emeritus, UCCE

Grandmother Is Pregnant and Other Reasons Why Aphid Populations Increase So Rapidly



Rose grass aphids

We are all familiar with aphids, especially in the spring when their populations seem to increase so rapidly and may require control before plant damage occurs. Aphids have unique strategies to flourish. The aphid mother you see this spring is actually a grandmother. Her daughters and granddaughters are contained within the same body! She does not need sex to produce offspring. The individuals develop within her body and are deposited as live young. In this way, one female may produce as many as 80 individuals per week. It's a strategy that builds up aphid populations quickly to take advantage of fleeting advantageous environmental conditions and to overwhelm the abundant predators and parasites that can attack them.



(D.) A late-stage prenatal daughter embryo that already possesses multicellular embryos (granddaughter embryos) within its own ovaries (see inset for an image through the embryonic cuticle of the daughter). (E) A granddaughter embryo

dissected out of a late stage prenatal embryo. g, germarium; o, oocyte; e, embryo; c, cuticle of daughter embryo. Scale bars are 10 microns. See: G.K Davis, 2012

Each individual of these 3 generations are genetically alike. Clones might be a disadvantage in a changing environment and pressure from pesticide applications since there is no recombination of genes afforded by sex. But insect ecologists have noted that spontaneous mutations in these clones are possible. If a favorable mutation occurs, then their populations are advanced quickly.

Most aphid species overwinter in the egg stage, and these eggs hatch in the spring into females that produce live young as described above. Several generations like this may be produced during the season. Sometimes winged individuals (see image below) may be produced that migrate off the original host plant species to a different plant species. In the latter part of the season, the aphids migrate back to the original host plant species and a generation consisting of both males and females are produced. The individuals of this generation mate, and the females lay eggs, which overwinter.

Aphid identification: Aphids are soft pear-shaped bodies with long legs and antennae and may be green, yellow, brown, red, or black depending on the species and the plants they feed on. A few species appear waxy or woolly. Their feeding can cause distorted stems and leaves. They can transmit viruses. They often produce abundant sticky honeydew from their anus that can become colonized by "sooty mold" and become unsightly. Most species have a pair of tube-like structures called cornicles projecting backward out of the hind end of

Ask Laura - Continued on Page 9

THE WATER NANNY

Pursuit of Happiness

The Declaration of Independence gives three examples of unalienable rights which were given to all humans by their creator, and which governments are created to protect; Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. It is hard to improve on this but California has given it a try. We were the first state to determine that there is a fundamental human right to "safe, clean, affordable and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking and sanitary purposes." Governor Brown signed this right into state law in 2012. A remarkable human right for a state that is half desert.

The ever progressive Supervisors in Monterey County voted in 2018 to make Monterey County the first in the state to adopt the same high standards, although the proclamation noted it was not intended to impact the allocation of existing water rights. So with this caveat we can start to see limits on implementing this wonderful right.

According to the Monterey Environmental Health Bureau there are 970 water systems in the county with 14 or fewer connections, which are regulated by the county, of which 235 are out of compliance with primary drinking water standards due to high levels of nitrate, arsenic, and fluoride. In some of the North County systems, particularly those in the Granite Ridge area of Prunedale there are even more problems, including just plain lack of water due to no real aquifer.

To comply with the "right" to uncontaminated water those on existing contaminated wells residents can 1) consolidate with a neighboring clean water system, 2) drill a new well or 3) install a centralized treatment system on the existing well. While this may achieve the right to clean water, it is far from affordable, and may not be possible if there are no local solutions other than large treatment systems, which require oversight. The one feature of rural systems is a lack of community consensus as to operation and billing, much less maintenance, so a large treatment system is problematic.



Monterey County Health proposed an already available alternative for water system between 15 to 199 connections, Point of Use (POU) or Point of Entry (POE) treatment. POU is an under the sink system, and POE is a larger system

outside each residence, thus point of entry.

Now the Prunetuckians, like our forefathers, are a bullheaded group. They live in the country for a reason, no neighbors nor government interference. The whole idea of clean water was a step too far. Years of bottled water has proven just fine, although the ring around the toilet is a bit distinctive. The first time the ordinance was presented it was viewed as a deep state mandate, forcing small water system members to cooperate, when they can't even politely talk to each other. The idea of clean water went down in flames.



The Environmental Health Bureau revised it to be voluntary. Prundalians held public meetings, fetched their torches and sharpened pitchforks, for a march on the Salinas Supervisors' Chambers, apparently unaware they were protesting their human right to water. Voluntary was still a stretch too much. Even though the head of the Health Department reminded the Supervisors that there was an obligation to force everyone to have clean water, like it or not, the Supervisors wilted in the face of all the burning torches, and sent the legislation back for further review. So much for promoting fundamental human rights.

In this spirit we can all reflect of our democracy and ponder this wisdom: "Democracy must be something more than two wolves and a sheep voting on what to have for dinner." (James Bovard), and "The best argument against democracy is a five-minute conversation with the average voter." (Winston S. Churchill) **Have a great 4th of July.**



FAVORITE RECIPES

Ella's Tomato Chutney Recipe

This recipe comes from Ella King, Owner of Ella's at the Airport and Cafe Ella in Watsonville. She was the featured speaker at this year's Down to Earth Women Luncheon held May 9th at Driscoll's Rancho Corralitos. The recipe was given to all of the attendees at this year's luncheon.

6 cups cherry tomatoes - uncut

1/2 cup golden raisins

1 cup white wine vinegar

2 cinnamon sticks

2 whole star anise

1 cup brown sugar

1/2 teaspoon Kosher salt

Put all ingredients together in a sauce pan and let cook on medium low heat for 30 - 45 minutes till tomatoes burst and create a gooey goodness, the consistency of jam. Taste for salt value. Can add the zest from one lemon for brightness.

Loves to play with these flavor friends: Pork, Chicken, Brie, Feta, Port Salute, Basil, Watercress, etc.



President's Message - Continued from Page 2

order to endeavour again and again, to sow the seed today for the crop of tomorrow. Farming is an extremely deep and intimate commitment between farmer, soil, sun and biota; passion binding them all.

Some farmers have a family history rooted in the fields. Farming has been a way of life for generations. Others have divested from their familial urban and suburban past and embraced an agrarian mindset, valuing the rural over the urban; holding the toil in the field above the office or industrial job.

For some it's an affinity for the outdoors. Sun, wind, dust, and the quieting moisture of a low hanging fog draw us to our fields and pastures. When asked, "Why do you Farm?"; this is what some local farmers told me.

Dick Peixoto - Lakeside Organic Gardens:

"I farm because I have a passion for working with the land and the people. The crops I produce daily are distributed throughout the United States. I feel we are helping people

live a healthy lifestyle and hoping it will extend their life. We are supplying over 300,000,000 servings this year and making a positive impact on our customer and our neighbors."

Larry Jacobs - Jacobs Farm:

"Inspired by seeing the changes from seed to plant to food."

"Whatever their personal drive, we should all be thankful that our farmers choose to farm."

Regardless of their reasons for their endeavor, farmers have a positive impact on society. Farmers are creators. They don't just improve their land and produce the crops we eat. They spur economic activity; providing jobs and supporting the local economy by purchasing equipment and services critical to the farm operation. Farmers commit their time to educate youth about agriculture,

they endow the community with philanthropic giving and participate in politics and public discourse.

Whatever their personal drive, we should all be thankful that our farmers choose to farm .

Estoppel Certificates Are Important



Estoppel certificates are often required from the tenant when property is transferred or a bank loans. The certificate has important consequences and should be understood before being signed.

An estoppel certificate is a legally binding promise by the tenant that certain facts relating to a lease are true and complete so the lender or buyer won't have unwelcome surprises later. The tenant typically affirms the lease start date, monthly rent, any defaults, addresses and names for legal notices, security deposits, encroachments, any renewals or extensions, and whether the tenant agrees the lease remains in full force and effect with no breach by the landlord. Leases sometimes require the tenant to provide an estoppel certificate and specify what it must contain. But sometimes the lease does not require the tenant provide an estoppel certificate and sometimes the landlord or bank asks for one or asks for more or different representations than the lease requires.

In *Plaza Freeway v First Mt. Bank*, (2000) 81 Cal.App. 4th 619, a tenant occupied land under a 20-year lease that was unclear as to its start and end dates. The property was being sold. The buyer asked for an estoppel certificate stating the lease start and end dates. The lease had an option that required the tenant to give notice of intent to exercise the option one year before lease expiration. Years after the sale the tenant attempted to exercise the option by sending the one-year notice. The landlord claimed the one-year notice was eight months too late based on the date the tenant put in the estoppel certificate. The tenant stuck with the tenant's interpretation of the unclear lease and stayed past lease expiration.

A lawsuit was filed to evict the tenant. The trial court judge disregarded the estoppel certificate and ruled for the tenant that the option notice was given within the required one-year based on the tenant's interpretation of the lease. The landlord appealed. The court of appeal reversed the trial court and ruled that the end date the tenant gave the landlord in the estoppel certificate prevented the tenant from later arguing the tenant's interpretation of lease expiration controlled. The

court of appeal said that to rule for the tenant and disregard the estoppel certificate would "defeat the purpose behind the widespread practice of using estoppel certificates." *Plaza Freeway* at 629.

Another important consequence of estoppel certificates is to document agreements or practices not in the lease or to clarify vague terms in a lease. Parties and lenders signing and receiving these estoppel certificates should read them carefully. An estoppel certificate should be reviewed carefully to make sure it is not used to misinterpret the parties' original intent. Careful use of an estoppel certificate is warranted. The problem is exacerbated by fast moving transactions where documents are not provided until late in the transaction or the estoppel certificate is one of hundreds of pages of fine print.

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"The Farm Bureau allows me to connect with other farmers and keep up with current local and state issues."

**Geri Prevedelli-Lathrop,
Prevedelli Farms, Watsonville**



Managing LBAM Pest Pressure



As we hopefully leave the rainy and cooler days behind and harvesting activities begin to peak, it is important not to forget to stay on top of monitoring and managing Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM) in the agricultural fields. This is especially important if you plan on exporting fruits and vegetables found on the LBAM host list to British Columbia, Canada, or Mexico. LBAM pest pressure has been high at the start of this season and Santa Cruz County Agricultural Commissioner staff have intercepted three LBAM larvae during fruit inspections at coolers during April and early May this year. Remember that if you plan to export your commodities to British Columbia you will need to update your Canadian compliance agreement with the Agricultural Commissioner's Office. It is important that you pay close attention to the requirements of the agreement in order to meet the objectives and ensure shipments destined to British Columbia are free from all LBAM life stages. If

suspect LBAM is found during inspection at a cooler, the lot and field will be held. Held lots may only move within the regulatory boundary defined as the "Northern Area". https://maps.cdфа.ca.gov/QuarantineBoundaries/LBAM/LBAM_PQM_Northern_Area.pdf

Suspect LBAM larva are sent to the CDFA entomology lab for identification. If LzBAM is confirmed by the State lab, an official field inspection will be scheduled. If LBAM is detected during the official inspection, treatment will be required using an approved pesticide. Fields and lots will be released after official verification that the pest risk has been mitigated. While the Canadian compliance agreement identifies important elements growers must follow to control LBAM in the field, similar procedures should be implemented if you plan to ship to Mexico. These key elements include adhering to your Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program and scouting your fields on a weekly basis 30 days prior to harvest to quickly identify and suppress LBAM and other leafrollers. Guidelines to control LBAM and other leafrollers can be found on the UC IMP website: <http://www.ipm.ucanr.edu/>

Ag Commissioner - Continued on Page 9

12th Annual Down to Earth Women Luncheon

The 12th Annual Down to Earth Women (DEW) Luncheon was held at **Driscoll's Rancho Corralitos** in Watsonville, and had a record attendance – over 350 women! This event is for women who are involved in, or support, agriculture in Santa Cruz County and the Pajaro Valley.

This year's featured speaker for the event was **Ella King, Owner, Café Ella and Ella's at the Airport**, who spoke on the topic "Good Food is the Foundation of Genuine Happiness." **Brittany Nielsen, News Anchor, KSBW Action News 8**, was the Mistress of Ceremonies for the luncheon.

The purpose of the luncheon is to raise funds for Agri-Culture's Focus Agriculture program, the Jimmie Cox Memorial Scholarship fund and the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau's school programs. **Susan True, Executive Director, Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County**, spoke about her experience as a participant in Agri-Culture's Focus

Agriculture program. **Maria Vasquez, 1993 Jimmie Cox Memorial Scholarship recipient**, spoke about how the scholarship has grown over the year. When she received it, the award was \$500, now \$5,000 is being given annually.

Women wearing hats has become a tradition of the event.



Assistance Is Available To Help Reach Conservation Goal



Assistance is available to help reach conservation goal of 5,000 acre-feet per year

Even with a high rainfall year, water conservation is among the most urgent issues facing Pajaro Valley agriculture.

PV Water's Basin Management Plan (2014), establishes a conservation goal of saving 5,000 acre-feet of groundwater per year by 2023. In a collective decision-making process, stakeholders proposed that the conservation goal would largely be accomplished through broad participation in increased agricultural water use efficiency. This requires an effort from the majority of agricultural water users in the valley.

In addition to this locally-driven initiative, the state of California is urging water conservation through implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (2014), which requires that critically overdrafted groundwater basins, including the Pajaro Valley, become sustainable by 2040.

With funding from PV Water, the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County and the University of California Cooperative Extension are working with our partners to provide free technical services and financial assistance to

help growers maximize their water use efficiency, saving both money and water.

Services available to growers at no cost include:

- Irrigation system efficiency evaluations including measurement of pressure throughout the irrigation system, measurement of irrigation uniformity, an assessment of water leaks, and a confidential report including recommendations to improve the design and management of the irrigation system.
- Rebates and technical assistance for making expert-recommended improvements to the irrigation system. Growers may receive up to \$4,000 in rebates.
- Irrigation scheduling optimization including assistance to use CropManage to inform irrigation scheduling, and trainings to use soil moisture sensors.
- Training irrigators to operate their system optimally, through individual or group trainings.
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The Agricultural Commissioner - Continued from Page 7

Your diligence in following the requirements of the Canadian compliance agreement and implementing practices to control the pest in the field will help to ensure that LBAM is not found in shipments being inspected and therefore help prevent disruption to your operation and the imposition of additional export requirements. For questions regarding LBAM export requirements in Santa Cruz County please call the Agricultural Commissioner's Office at 831-763-8080.



Ask Laura - Continued from Page 3

their body (see image below). Cornicles are like the exhaust pipes at the tail end of a hot rod, but in this case, secrete defensive fluid. The presence of cornicles distinguishes aphids from all other insects.



Potato aphid winged adult with cornicles (circled)

References:

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Dixon A.F.G. 1985. Structure of aphid populations. *Ann. Rev. Entomol.* 30:155-74
Flint, M.L. 2013.
Aphids. Pest Notes. Publication 7404. University of California Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program.

Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau

102nd Annual Meeting

Cabrillo College Environmental Horticulture
Center & Botanic Garden
June 26, 2019
5:45 p.m. - Reception
6:45 Dinner

California State Fair

Cal Expo, Sacramento, CA
July 12 through July 28, 2019

26th Annual Golf Tournament

Seascape Golf Club, Aptos, CA
1:00 p.m. Shotgun Start, July 12, 2019

Santa Cruz County Fair

September 11 through September 15, 2019

Annual Directors' Dinner

Location to be determined
November 7, 2019
5:45 p.m.

CFBF 101st Annual Meeting

Monterey, CA
December 2019 TBA

Agri-Culture

11th Annual Testicle Festival

Estrada Deer Camp
194 Hazel Dell Road, Watsonville, CA
August 24, 2019
3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

23rd Annual Progressive Dinner

To be determined
October 26, 2019
3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

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~ C&N Tractor, Julie Oliver

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Between the Furrows

A Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau Monthly Publication

CALENDAR

SATURDAY - JUNE 8

Greenhouse Growers Open House

MONDAY - JUNE 10

Public Relations & Information Committee meeting

WEDNESDAY - JUNE 12

Young Farmers & Ranchers meeting

WEDNESDAY - JUNE 26

102nd Annual Dinner Meeting

FRIDAY - JUNE 28

Focus Agriculture, Session 5

MONDAY - JULY 2

Public Relations & Information Committee meeting

- WEDNESDAY - JULY 3
Legislative Committee meeting
- Executive Committee meeting
- Membership Committee meeting

WEDNESDAY - JULY 10

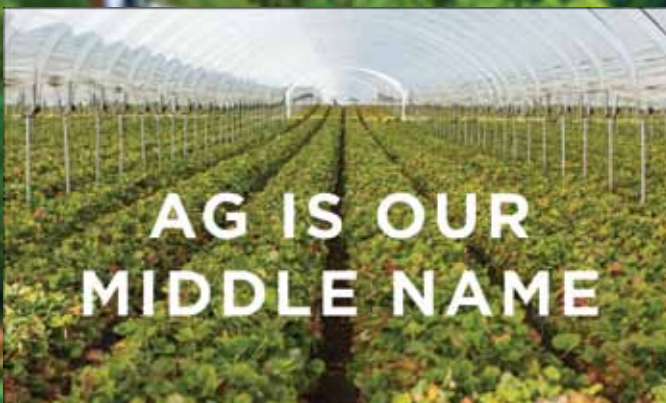
Young Farmers & Ranchers meeting

FRIDAY - JULY 12

26th Annual Golf Tournament

FRIDAY - JULY 26

Focus Agriculture, Session 6
"A Day on the Farm"



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