University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Budget Update

Budget reductions in FY 02-03 and FY 03-04 have had a significant impact on statewide Cooperative Extension program delivery. So far we have lost 48 staff positions and 36 academic positions (84 total). Staff positions are mostly related to the operational infrastructure of Cooperative Extension. Their loss results in an overall slow down on the administrative side. Academic positions represent county based advisors. Their loss results in decreased program delivery to county clientele. Counties with at least one vacant position are: Modoc, Tulare, Riverside, Mariposa, Fresno, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, Yolo, Glenn, Contra Costa, Orange, Alameda, Sutter/Yuba, San Bernadino, Napa, Sonoma, Kings, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, Mendocino, Placer/Nevada, and Los Angeles. Unfilled positions occur due to retirement, resignation, separations, or existing vacancies. In the current financial environment these positions have little if any chance of being refilled. Fortunately, in the Tehama office we have had no retirements, resignations or separation, so we are currently retaining our three academic advisor positions. Tehama has lost part of its Livestock/Natural Resources program due to the resignation of Dr. Marc Horney in the Glenn County office.

County budget reductions resulted in the loss of one clerical position which is why the office is closed to the public from 12-5 pm daily.
Strategic Planning-Listening Session

YOU can have input as to the future of Cooperative Extension by attending the Redding Listening Session, February 10th, 1:30-3:30 PM, at the CR Gibbs Banquet Room located at the Best Western Hotel on Hilltop Drive, Redding.

Budget issues have prompted extensive strategic planning efforts for both Cooperative Extension (Farm & 4-H Office) and the Agricultural Experiment Station. As part of the planning process you are invited and encouraged to attend. Your experience, vision and insights are valuable to Cooperative Extension, and listening to your comments will help insure future program success. University of California administrators, including campus Deans and the Cooperative Extension Regional Director will be attending to hear and record your thoughts and ideas.

As we consider these recommendations and develop strategies to move forward, we would like to hear your ideas on how we can provide the most effective programs to meet the needs in local communities and throughout the state now and in the future. Ultimately, our goal is to continue developing and delivering excellent research and extension programs addressing the needs of the citizens of California.

If you would like to attend and help shape the future for Cooperative Extension Please register on-line at http://groups.ucanr.org/directions/ or if you have questions about registration please contact Lynne Buenz at (510) 587-6415. (E-mail: Lynne.Buenz@ucop.edu)

- Redding Listening Session
  Tuesday - February 10, 2004
  1:30 - 3:30 PM
  CR Gibbs Banquet Room
  2300 Hilltop Drive, Redding, Calif.

- Davis Listening Session
  February 26, 2004
THE PRUNE DAY PROGRAM

8:00 - 8:30 AM  REGISTRATION - Pick up lunch tickets  {CPA and Private Application Sign-Ins}
8:30  AM     WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS
8:40 AM     CONDITIONAL WASTE DISCHARGE WAIVERS FOR IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE - Vieva Swearingen, Shasta/Tehama Coalition Coordinator.
9:15 AM     BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR PRUNE PRODUCTION
          Richard Buchner, UC Farm Advisor - Tehama County
9:45 AM     LAWS & REGULATIONS UPDATE
          Doug Compton, Assistant Ag Commissioner-Tehama County

10:05-10:20AM  BREAK

10:20 AM     PRUNE PRODUCTION IN CHILE
          Joe Turkovich, Prune Production Research Sub-committee Member/Grower
10:50 AM     NEW PRUNE VARIETIES
          Carolyn DeBuse, Prune Cultivate Development and Evaluation Project
11:10 AM     NEW PRUNE VARIETIES - INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE
          Sunsweet
11:30 AM     BACTERIAL CANKER; MECHANISMS, PATHOGEN AND CONTROL
          Dr. Bruce Kirkpatrick, Plant Pathology - UC Davis
12:00 PM     LUNCH

2.0 Hours of PCA Credit has been applied for  (1.0 Hours of Laws and Regs, 1.0 Hours of Other)
MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

“TENTH ANNUAL TEHAMA COUNTY WALNUT DAY”

Co-Sponsored by UC Cooperative Extension and the Tehama County Agriculture Commissioner

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2004
8:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Red Bluff Elks Lodge, 355 Gilmore Road, Red Bluff, CA

Program presentations include:
Conditional Ag Discharge Waivers
Laws and Regulations Update
Nematode Management
Mechanical Pruning
Irrigation Management
Blight and Tulare performance Update
Marketing California Walnuts

"REGISTRATIONS DUE FEBRUARY 4th"
to the Cooperative Extension Office
1754 Walnut Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080

See Enclosed Flyer for Registration and Program Info