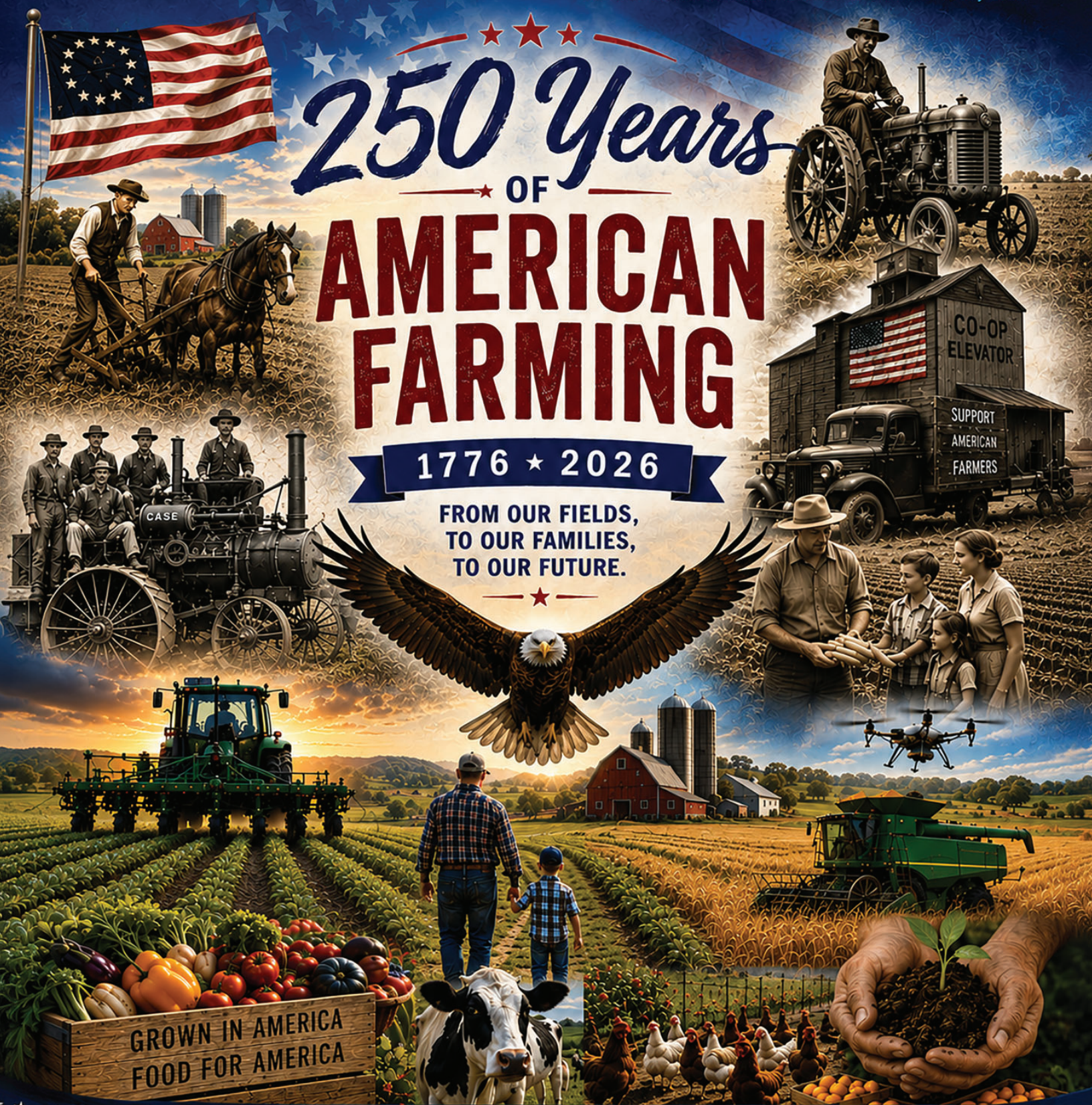


FB AGRICULTURE

The official publication of Riverside County Farm Bureau, Inc.
A private, nonprofit organization serving farmers throughout Riverside County since 1917.
Our 80th Year of Publication: Volume LXXX, Number 7, July 2026.

Riverside County



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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING AND BECOMING PART OF THE FARM BUREAU FAMILY.

Would You Pass a DPR Inspection?

By Anna Gensaci, Farm Employers Labor Service (FELS)

If a County Agricultural Commissioner showed up during your next pesticide application, would your operation be ready?

That's essentially what DPR's PR-ENF-104 inspection form is designed to answer. While the checklist may look detailed, it all comes down to one goal: making sure employees handling pesticides stay safe and go home healthy at the end of the day.

Here are a few key areas every operation should have dialed in:

Training: More Than Once a Year

Annual pesticide safety training is required, but it doesn't stop there. Every time a new pesticide is introduced, handlers must be trained on that specific label before they use it. Think of your annual training as the foundation, and each new product as another layer.

The Label Is the Law

Personal protective equipment (PPE) continues to be one of the most common compliance issues. If the label requires gloves, eye protection, coveralls, or a respirator, those items are not optional, they're required. Just as important: PPE must be worn correctly to do its job.

Be Ready for an Emergency

Emergency medical care information must be identified and posted at the worksite. In an emergency, seconds matter. Having that information clearly visible, on the spray rig or inside the cab, can make all the difference.

Think in Three Layers of Safety

A simple way to approach compliance:

- Can you reduce or eliminate exposure?
- If not, are you using the right PPE?
- If something goes wrong, are you prepared to respond?

That last step means having a fully stocked decontamination site, including water, eyewash, soap, towels, and clean coveralls.

Try a Mock Inspection

One of the best ways to prepare is to walk through the DPR inspection form yourself. Check your training records, PPE, emergency postings, and decontamination supplies.

Would your operation pass today?

Compliance can feel overwhelming, but it doesn't have to be. Resources like FELS are available to help with training, policies, and guidance before small issues turn into costly citations.

At the end of the day, passing an inspection isn't the real goal, protecting your employees is. Visit FELS at www.fels.net/



FELS
Farm Employers Labor Service
California Farm Bureau

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A Message From RCFB President

Summer has definitely arrived in Riverside County! The early high temperatures in March wreaked havoc on many of our crops, but that's just another day in the life of a farmer, a weather event that helps one farmer can devastate another. It's the same with legislation: it's nearly impossible to write a bill that works for every sector of agriculture. That's why Farm Bureau matters. We advocate for ALL of us, giving us a platform to discuss issues, candidates, and strategy. As I always say, we are BETTER TOGETHER!

We're just about 100 days from an important election. Will this state stay the course, or are voters ready for change? Our own Sheriff Chad Bianco didn't win the primary, but we're proud of how well he did against more than 60 candidates, many well-known. Thank you, Sheriff Bianco, for your dedication to California, we're glad you remain Sheriff of Riverside County. Please educate yourself on the candidates and cast your ballot as soon as voting starts.

I'm pleased to announce our Riverside County Farm Bureau office is now housed at the Lake Perris Fairgrounds. We're thrilled to partner with the SoCal Fair. Monthly meetings will now alternate between the Date Commission office in Palm Desert and the fairgrounds in Perris, check our website for details. While you're there, take a look at our refreshed site, where you can also renew your membership.

Thank you for your continued membership and support for YOUR Farm Bureau. Should an issue need our attention, please call our office at 951-684-6732. Whether you're planning, planting, or harvesting, I wish you good health and may the wind blow in your favor. God bless this great country!



Your President,
Ellen Way

Food Safety Training & Technical Support for Riverside County Growers

Jimmy Nguyen serves as the Food Safety and Organic Production Area Advisor for Imperial and Riverside Counties with UC ANR. Through UC Cooperative Extension, he provides critical food safety training and technical support to growers and farm workers throughout Riverside County.

Jimmy works closely with the agricultural community to help operations meet regulatory requirements while strengthening on-farm food safety practices. His services include:

- FSMA Produce Safety Rule training (offered in both English and Spanish)
- Hands-on instruction in worker health, hygiene, and on-farm food safety practices
- Guidance on agricultural water assessments and recordkeeping
- On-farm follow-up support to assist with implementation of food safety practices

He also provides support on evolving regulatory requirements, including farm production water evaluations under the updated FSMA agricultural water rule and preparation for compliance with the Food Traceability Rule (FSMA 204).

For more information or to schedule a training, please contact:

Phone: (442) 265-7700 ext. 7718 or (530) 302-6896
Email: cgnguyen@ucanr.edu



FREE WEB SERIES • SUMMER 2026

Cultivating Your Land's Potential: A Web Series for Landholders on Agricultural Leasing



ABOUT THIS SERIES

Unlock the full potential of your property. Join our three-week series guiding landholders through agricultural leasing. The sessions will help participants understand their property and assess whether to lease to agricultural producers, including evaluating benefits, exploring farmer considerations, and preparing for successful leasing.

Each week, leading regional organizations will share valuable tools, resources, and expert guidance to help you bring your vision to life.

WHO IT'S FOR

This program is perfect for landholders who want to:

- Discover the financial & conservation benefits of agricultural land use.
- Understand the logistical steps required to put land into production.
- Explore new, creative possibilities for their land.
- Improve communication and build stronger relationships with tenants.

SESSIONS:

1
WEEK

AUG. 12

Leasing Land for Agriculture: Benefits, Considerations, and Pitfalls

2
WEEK

AUG. 19

Doing the Groundwork: Understanding and Preparing Your Land for Leasing

3
WEEK

AUG. 26

Finding the Right Farmer: How to Connect, Build Trust, and Negotiate Your Lease

ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION:

TIME
Wed., 5:30 – 7:00 pm

WHERE
Online via Zoom

COST
Free to attend

This web series is a collaborative effort, presented by organizations dedicated to increasing access to land services for both landholders and landseekers. California FarmLink's work on this project is being funded by the Climate Smart Land Management Grant, in collaboration with the Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County and the County of San Diego.



REGISTER NOW

Scan the QR code to sign up for this free program!
Or visit the link here: bit.ly/cultivate-potential



CALIFORNIAFARMLINK.ORG

California Ag in the Classroom Regional Teacher Conference San Diego County



Registration is now open for our Southern Region Teacher Conference on **October 10, 2026**. The conference will feature hands-on workshops, classroom-ready resources, networking opportunities, lunch, and a local dairy farm tour. If you know of any teachers who may be interested, we would greatly appreciate your help spreading the word!

Registration Link: <https://learnaboutag.org/programs/conference/>

Literacy for Life Grants

Our Literacy for Life Grant Program is also currently accepting applications. This program provides funding to support agricultural literacy projects in K–12 classrooms.

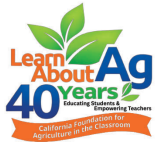
Application Link: <https://learnaboutag.org/grants/literacy-for-life/>

Taste and Teach

Applications are also open for Taste and Teach, a program that helps educators bring agriculture and nutrition concepts to life through hands-on classroom experiences.

Application Link: <https://learnaboutag.org/tasteandteach/>

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
LITERACY FOR LIFE GRANTS
TASTE AND TEACH PROGRAM
LearnAboutAg.org



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Night

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DATE
AUG 28,
2026

TIME
6:00PM

LOCATION
EVENT CENTER
SOCAL FAIR

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 GRAND CHAMPION	\$1,000 4 TICKETS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 tickets to Casino Night Name/logo on playing table Social Media spotlight Logo on event signage
 RESERVE CHAMPION	\$500 2 TICKETS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 tickets to Casino Night Social media spotlight Logo on event signage
 DIVISION CHAMPION	\$250 2 TICKETS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 tickets to Casino Night Name on event signage

★ THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE FUTURE OF OUR FAIR! ★

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Truth-in-Wine-Labeling Bill Withdrawn from Senate Committee

Assembly Bill 1585 by Damon Connolly, D-San Rafael, and Rhodesia Ransom, R-Stockton), California Farm Bureau's truth-in-wine-labeling measure, was withdrawn from consideration in the Senate Governmental Organization Committee. The bill would require wines labeled "American" to be made entirely from domestically grown grapes, providing consumers with greater transparency while supporting California's winegrape industry. Despite passing the Assembly unanimously on a 67-0 vote with broad bipartisan support, the measure faced significant opposition from a small group of corporate interests during its Senate committee process.

California's winegrape growers produce approximately 80% of the winegrapes grown in the United States, making truthful country-of-origin labeling an important issue for producers and consumers. While the bill's withdrawal is disappointing, California Farm Bureau will continue working with coalition partners to advance policies that support domestic winegrape growers and ensure consumers receive accurate labeling information.

PFAS Pesticide Bill Advances After Key Amendments

Assembly Bill 1603 by Assemblymember Nick Shultz (D-Burbank) passed the Senate Environmental Quality Committee on a 4-2 vote and now moves to the Senate Agriculture Committee.

Ahead of the hearing, significant amendments were made in response to concerns from agricultural and business groups. The changes remove provisions that would have classified PFAS-containing pesticides as restricted materials and eliminate new SprayDays notification requirements. Instead, fluorinated ingredients would be tracked through California's existing Pesticide Use Report system. The bill still bans the registration of new pesticide products with intentionally added PFAS starting Jan. 1, while allowing those already in the approval process to proceed.

Despite these improvements, the California Farm Bureau and coalition partners remain opposed unless further amended. They argue the ban on future products could limit access to newer, safer, and more effective pest control tools, noting that California already has a rigorous pesticide review system.

The bill now heads to the Senate Agriculture Committee, where opposition groups will continue pushing for changes.

California Farm Bureau Files Amicus in U.S. Supreme Court Case on Pesticide Labeling and Roundup

the U.S. Supreme Court issued its opinion in *Monsanto Co. v. John L. Durnell*. California Farm Bureau, along with 12 other state Farm Bureaus, submitted an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in March, urging the court that the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, or FIFRA, prevents states from imposing additional or different labeling requirements on pesticides. In its decision, the nation's highest court agreed with our position and disagreed with the decision by the Missouri Court of Appeals. The U.S. Supreme Court's opinion affirms that federal law regulating the sale and labeling of pesticide products bars failure-to-warn lawsuits in state courts.



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Dairy Plus Program Makes \$34 Million Available for Advanced Manure Management Projects on California Farms

The California Dairy Research Foundation (CDRF) today announced that California dairy farmers can now apply to the next round of the Dairy Plus Program, a collaborative initiative designed to support advanced manure management projects on dairy farms. A total of \$34 million is available with individual projects receiving up to \$1.25 million in funding.



The Dairy Plus Program aims to help dairy farms improve management practices, achieve environmental goals, and build resiliency. The program has completed two prior grant rounds, in which 37 projects have been awarded a total of \$43.6 million. The program is funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)'s Advancing Markets for Producers (AMP) Initiative, and it is administered by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)'s Office of Agricultural Resilience and Sustainability (OARS) in partnership with CDRF.

"The Dairy Plus Program supports dairy farmers' important efforts to continually innovate and improve the protection of natural resources," said Denise Mullinax, Executive Director of CDRF. "By adopting state-of-the-art practices, dairy farms can address nitrogen and salt surpluses, prepare for changing water quality regulations, and work toward meeting multiple environmental targets. We encourage eligible producers to explore the program and determine whether it can help them reach their environmental and operational goals."

The 90-day application period for the third round of Dairy Plus funding opened on June 16. Applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. PT on September 14. This is anticipated to be the final round of funding.

The Dairy Plus Program supports several pathways for enhanced manure management, including the use of vermifiltration systems, manure solid separation via weeping wall, advanced solid-liquid separation with flocculants and/or bead filters, and advanced solid-liquid separation by centrifuge. Practices may be accompanied by the use of a digester and/or subsurface drip irrigation systems.

All projects eligible for Dairy Plus funding consideration must be paired with other key manure management practices or technologies, that have been either privately or publicly funded. Full eligibility requirements and application materials are available on the Dairy Plus Program webpage.

In addition to providing incentive funding, Dairy Plus includes technical assistance, environmental benefit measurement, and efforts to create new market opportunities for sustainably produced commodities.



The California Dairy Research Foundation

(CDRF) is an independent non-profit organization that leads and delivers research and science-based programs to support an innovative and sustainable California dairy industry.

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FREE VIRTUAL WEBINAR

PROPOSITION 19 EXPLAINED:

PROTECTING YOUR FARM, RANCH, AND FAMILY LEGACY

Tuesday, July 28, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Proposition 19, approved in 2020, significantly changed how property is transferred between generations in California, creating new tax challenges for farm and ranch families. While an exclusion remains for qualifying family farms, it often provides only partial relief, particularly for larger or higher-value operations, leading to increased tax burdens and more complex succession planning. Ongoing issues include the law's complexity, limited value of the \$1 million exclusion, and confusion around mixed-use properties and Williamson Act land, making outcomes difficult to predict.

To help navigate these challenges, join attorney Robin Klomprens as she explains the law, outlines common scenarios, and shares planning strategies to help families make informed decisions about preserving their operations and legacy. **To register:** <https://www.cfbf.com/get-involved/webinars>



YFR Inland Empire Young Farmers & Ranchers
California Farm Bureau

Taste OF THE VALLEY

SAN JACINTO VALLEY FARM TOUR

DISCOVER THE FARMS, PEOPLE, AND TRADITIONS THAT MAKE OUR VALLEY THRIVE.

★ SATURDAY, AUGUST 8 ★

STOP 1 DAIRY FARM TOUR

- Modern dairy operations
- Cow nutrition & care
- Milking systems
- Feed production
- Sustainability practices

STOP 2 GRAPEFRUIT RANCH TOUR

- Grapefruit production
- Irrigation
- Integrated pest management
- Harvest practices
- Packing & marketing

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YFR Young Farmers & Ranchers
California Farm Bureau

— INLAND EMPIRE —
YOUNG FARMERS & RANCHERS

AUGUST Monthly Meeting

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6TH | 6:00 PM

Toscano's PIZZA & PASTA

Tosceno's Pizza & Pasta
762 Beaumont Ave
Beaumont, CA 92223

Join us as we plan:

- Fall educational workshops
- Upcoming farm tours
- Community outreach
- Future YF&R events

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Connect with fellow young farmers, ranchers, and agricultural professionals and *learn about local agriculture!*



Riverside County AGRICULTURE

The official publication of Riverside County Farm Bureau, Inc.



YOU ARE INVITED



Alex Sanchez, Grimmway Farms



Ellen Way, RCFB President

JOIN FARM BUREAU TOGETHER WE GROW!

Why Join Farm Bureau?

- ✓ Standing up for farmers on key policy issues in Sacramento and Washington D.C.
- ✓ Defending private property rights and ensuring you have the tools needed to farm.
- ✓ Cultivating tomorrow's leaders with training and Young Farmers & Ranchers programs.
- ✓ Stay connected with local farmers on topics that matter most to your operation.

Join Today!



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QR CODE

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

There will be no Board of Directors meeting in July or August. The next Board meeting will be held 3:30PM on Wednesday, September 9, 2026 at the Date Commission Office, 39205 Leopard Street Suite E, Palm Desert.

Food and Farm News

Courtesy of CFBF

Farm advocates seek support for local USDA offices
California Farm Bureau this month joined more than 100 agricultural organizations in a letter urging congressional appropriators to provide additional funding and staffing support for local U.S. Department of Agriculture offices of the Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service. The coalition highlighted growing concerns that staffing reductions, retirements and workforce attrition have led to delays and service disruptions in USDA field offices across the country, including in California. The offices play a critical role in administering farm programs, conservation assistance, disaster relief and technical support for farmers. According to the letter, several USDA agencies have experienced significant workforce losses during the past year, creating challenges for producers seeking timely access to programs and services.

Water uniformity tool helps farmers identify savings
A recently launched online computer program not only helps producers determine whether irrigation systems are applying water uniformly but can also estimate the cost of wasted energy, water and fertilizer. Dubbed the Distribution Uniformity and Return-on-Investment Estimator, the free program identifies areas of an irrigation system needing maintenance, repairs or upgrades to improve distribution uniformity. It also translates the distribution uniformity score into an estimated financial return on investment based on estimated water, energy and fertilizer savings as well as estimated potential yield improvements. Statewide, the impacts could be huge, according to irrigation experts Jim Anshutz and Inge Bisconer, who created the tool. California has more than 4 million acres irrigated with low-flow microsprinkler and drip irrigation. Of those, about 3.4 million acres have not been tested.

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