

Dynes visits Half Moon Bay

UC helps keep California agriculture competitive, UC President Bob Dynes told stakeholders in Half Moon Bay on July 28 as he continued his “exploration” of the state. “A large portion of [California agriculture] is competitive because of Cooperative Extension. The University of California has a close relationship with the growers, and the more efficiently we can transfer our knowledge and our technology to the growers, the more competitive California will be,” he said.

Accepting the invitation of President’s Advisory Commission member Jack Pearlstein, Dynes and VP Gomes visited Nurserymen’s Exchange, a major producer of miniature roses, bulbs and tropical plants. Owner Pearlstein led the group, which included Associate President Linda Williams, Associate VP Rick Standiford, Assistant VP for administrative services Chris Casey, and Executive Director Steve Nation, and San Mateo County Director emeritus Hank Sciaroni on a walking tour of the wholesale area and the highly automated greenhouses.

Distributors come from as far as Oregon, Los Angeles and Nevada to purchase home and garden plants and decorative accessories from Nurserymen’s Exchange. Pearlstein emphasized plant quality, which begins with production practices.

“If the humidity is not perfect, the stress in the baby plants comes out later



President Dynes recently visited Nurserymen’s Exchange in San Mateo County.

and you get shorter shelf life when you get the plant home,” Pearlstein said.

The greenhouse plants — including venus flytrap, calendula and roses — are in pots and watered from the bottom so they take up only as much water as they need, then the excess water is reused. Water is an important issue for nurseries, Pearlstein told Dynes, “We need your help.” He explained that farmers need campus researchers and Cooperative Extension to advise them how to treat water before letting it off the property or recycling. He noted that recycled water used to irrigate geraniums had once caused a disease problem in the crop.

UC Davis entomologist Michael Parrella works with the nursery industry to develop biological control strategies for insects. Among the pots of miniature rose bushes, Parrella pointed out the yellow sticky cards used to monitor insect populations and the “banker” plants, lush blades of wheat, that provide habitat for the parasites that control the aphids. Disease is also a problem in greenhouses. Pearlstein uses high intensity discharge lights and a roof that opens to control humidity. “If you control the environment, it’s almost organic,” Pearlstein said.

At a lunch hosted by Pearlstein, Dynes addressed a small group of growers, policy-makers and other local business people. One grower asked about budget cuts the Division has endured. “We’ve had four years of cuts,” said Dynes. “This is the first year of an increase and we will be giving raises this year. We have a plan for the next five years – and it will take five years – to become competitive.”

After lunch, the group drove to Elkus Ranch, a 600-acre parcel donated to UC by Richard Elkus in 1975 for youth programs. San Mateo County director Gloria Brown



Dynes helps 4-H members vaccinate sheep.

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rode with Dynes from Nurserymen's to Elkus Ranch and explained UCCE's role in the county.

At the Elkus Ranch Conference Center, Brown described Elkus' vision for providing a setting where disabled children could engage in recreation and skill-building activities and urban youth could learn about agriculture and the environment. He also hoped for the two groups to interact. More than 9,000 Bay Area youth use the ranch each year.

Ranch coordinator Joyce James led Dynes to the barn where daycampers were dyeing wool, then to the colorful and aromatic sensory garden, where she explained how disabled youth water the plants, do transplanting and collect seeds as horticultural therapy, which they hope will lead to jobs that use those skills.

Taking the hands-on approach, Dynes helped 4-H members corral and vaccinate sheep with a booster against eight diseases. Afterwards, Master Gardener volunteers showed Dynes around the demonstration garden, where they plant varieties of flowers and berries to see which grow best in that climate.

Dynes, who has begun referring to his visits to California communities as his "explorations," said, "I have learned enormous amounts, which affect my thinking about the University of California and California."

Tulare County recruits dairy advisor

Candidates are being sought for a dairy advisor position in Tulare County. The objectives of this position are to provide applied research and education programs across a broad spectrum of dairy industry issues including (but not limited to) environmental stewardship, quality assurance, animal welfare, food safety and production efficiency. The program will emphasize manure management as it relates to air and water quality.

A bachelor's degree and master's degree are required. Although degrees in Dairy or Animal Science are preferred, degrees in other related disciplines will be considered. Training or experience in dairy manure management including environmental and confined animal production interactions is highly desirable. Coursework and/or experience in agricultural engineering; agronomy; plant science; land, air and water resources; or a closely related field are highly desirable. Additional background in the application of engineering systems for manure and waste water handling; principles of dry lot dairy production; and a demonstrated knowledge of extension educational methodologies is desirable.

Beginning salary will be in the UC Cooperative Extension Assistant Advisor rank (DOQ). See CE Advisor salary scale at <http://www.ucop.edu/acadadv/acadpers/tab0405/table33.pdf>. The full position vacancy announcement for position #ACV 05-01-R and required academic application are available at <http://cvr.ucdavis.edu>. Submit applications to Cindy Inouye, UC Cooperative Extension Central Valley Region, 9240 S. Riverbend Ave., Parlier, CA 93648; e-mail cinouye@uckac.edu, phone (559) 646-6535. Complete packets must be received by **Sept. 30**. Refer to position #ACV 05-01-R.

RREA calls for proposals

The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) Statewide Special Program is requesting proposals for education programs for the 2005-2006 federal fiscal year. Areas of priority are identified in the call. The call and application forms are available at the following Web address: <http://groups.ucanr.org/rrea/>

The funding period is Oct. 1, 2005, to Sept. 30, 2006. The deadline to submit proposals, which must be done online, is **Sept. 14, 2005**.

The general funding ranges are from \$6,000 to \$12,000. Proposals will be reviewed for merit by a nine-member Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Decisions on funding will be made by the end of September, and recipients will be notified by letter of award and/or rejection by early October or as soon as possible thereafter.

Questions can be directed to Ken Churches or Pam Thomas in the North Coast and Mountain Regional Office at (530) 754-8510 or pkthomas@ucdavis.edu.

Kearney REC calls for project proposals

Kearney Research and Extension Center is soliciting proposals for new research and demonstration projects for the period Nov. 1, 2005 through Oct. 31, 2006.

Proposal forms can be obtained at <http://danrrec.ucdavis.edu/rec/form/index.html> and are due by **Oct. 24, 2005**. Submit all forms electronically to Janie Duran at jduran@uckac.edu.

Kearney has specialized research facilities suitable for greenhouse, post-harvest, sample handling (including cold storage and drying) and assorted laboratory research activities. To learn more about these facilities, contact Laura Van der Staay at (559) 646-6030 or lvdstaay@uckac.edu.

Located on 330 acres in the San Joaquin Valley, Kearney is suitable for many row/other, tree and vine crops. If you have questions about field research support, please contact Chuck Boldwyn at (559) 646-6020 or cboldwyn@uckac.edu.

Other questions can be directed to Center Director Fred Swanson at (559) 646-6060 or fwanson@uckac.edu.

South Coast REC issues call for proposals

South Coast Research and Extension Center is soliciting proposals for new and continuing research and demonstration projects in 2006. Proposals are due by **Oct. 7, 2005**.

Located on 200 acres, SCREC has land suitable for growing row, orchard and field crops, and turfgrass, landscape and nursery plants. Usable orchards available for new research or demonstration projects include 'Hass' avocado trees, 'Valencia' orange trees on single rootstocks and on many rootstock varieties. There is also ample greenhouse bench space.

SCREC also provides labor, equipment, facilities and technical and management support to UC academics and to personnel from cooperating non-UC organizations, such as USDA. Up to 9,000 hours of labor will be available to support approved projects.

For more information, contact Julie Chavez (949) 653-1824 or jgchavez@ucdavis.edu. For proposal forms, please visit <http://danrrec.ucdavis.edu/rec/form>.

Names in the news



Left to right: Gilles, Fairfax, Biging, Hill, Ullman and Connell

Gilles, Fairfax, Biging assume CNR posts

Keith Gilles, UC Berkeley professor of forestry, has been named executive associate dean of the College of Natural Resources.

Dean Paul Ludden also appointed Sally Fairfax, Henry J. Vaux Distinguished Professor of Forest Policy, as associate dean, instruction and student affairs, and Greg Biging, professor of forest biometrics, as associate dean, forestry and extension. All appointments are effective Aug. 1.

Hill, Ullman named associate deans

UC Davis Dean Neal Van Alfen has appointed two new associate deans in the

College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences.

James Hill, agronomist in the Department of Plant Sciences, has been appointed associate dean for international programs, effective Sept. 1.

Diane Ullman, professor and chair of the Department of Entomology, has been appointed associate dean for undergraduate academic programs, effective Oct. 1.

Connell honored with Distinguished Service Award

The National Association of County Agricultural Agents presented Butte

County farm advisor Joe Connell with its Distinguished Service Award on July 21 at its 90th Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference in Buffalo, NY. The award is presented to the top 2 percent of the county agents from each state with more than 10 years service in the nation's Cooperative Extension Service. The selection is made by their peers in that state and endorsed by the state's Extension director. This year, 71 individuals received the Distinguished Service Award.

The program described Connell's qualifications: "The recipient has an

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New faces in ANR

Pomeroy joins Sea Grant

Caroline "Carrie" Pomeroy joined ANR on July 1 as a UCCE-Sea Grant Fisheries Extension Advisor. Based at UCCE Santa Cruz County, Pomeroy's position is broadly based, serving the Monterey Bay Area and the state. Pomeroy is a fisheries social scientist whose work focuses on the social, economic, and cultural aspects of fisheries. She holds an M.A. in Marine Affairs from University of Miami, and a Ph.D. in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences from Texas A&M University.

"California Sea Grant and Cooperative Extension are very fortunate to bring on board an individual with Carrie's breadth of experience and detailed knowledge of the fisheries in the region," said Paul Olin, director of the California Sea Grant Extension Program. "She is a skilled researcher who genuinely enjoys working with people, and is indeed a welcome addition to our statewide program."

From 1993 until 1995, Pomeroy studied the human dimensions of fisheries as a Visiting Scientist at Indiana University's Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis. Since coming to California in 1995, she has developed an applied social science research program focused on California fisheries, first as a Research Scientist with the Institute of Marine Sciences



at UC Santa Cruz, where she also taught Marine Policy.

Most recently, Pomeroy's work has focused on the socio-economic impacts of management actions on fisheries and fishing communities of the Monterey Bay area.

Pomeroy can be reached at cmpomeroy@ucdavis.edu and (831) 763-8040.

Aegerter named vegetable crops advisor

Brenna J. Aegerter has accepted the position of vegetable crops farm advisor for San Joaquin County. Aegerter will begin as farm advisor on Oct. 1.

"I am extremely pleased to have Brenna join the San Joaquin staff," said Mick Canevari, San Joaquin County CE director. "Her plant pathology background and field experience fits nicely into our vegetable industry needs. Having earned her advanced degrees at nearby Davis and knowing the area gives her insight to some of the water quality issues which will be part of her assignment."

Aegerter earned her B.S. in Plant Science and M.S. and Ph.D. in Plant Pathology at UC Davis. Most recently Brenna has been working as a post-doctoral researcher in the UC Davis Department of Plant Pathology with Thomas Gordon. After Oct. 1, she can be reached at (530) 754-7634 or bjaegerter@ucdavis.edu.



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excellent extension program in almonds, olives, citrus, and ornamental horticulture utilizing newsletters, field demonstrations, meetings, and publications. Joe conducts projects on variety and rootstock selection, pruning, plant nutrition and irrigation. His pest management work has led to the adoption of improved methods of pest control. He serves as the UC Liaison officer to the almond industry and is recognized as a statewide expert in the production of almonds and olives.”

Jensen named Santa Barbara CD

Wayne Jensen is now the county director for Santa Barbara County. He succeeds Franklin Laemmlen, who retired Aug. 1. Jensen is also livestock & natural resources advisor for Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties.



Jolly receives national economists award

Desmond Jolly, director of the Small Farms Center and a Cooperative Extension economist, has been awarded the 2005 Outstanding Black Agricultural Economist Award by the Committee on the Opportunities and Status of Blacks in Agricultural Economics.



The organization, a committee of the American Agricultural Economics Association, presented the award to Jolly on July 26 during the association’s summer meeting in Providence, R.I.

The Outstanding Black Agricultural Economist Award honors economists who have made exceptional contributions in teaching, research and other professional endeavors.

Rosenberg, Zilberman win AAEA awards

UC Berkeley agricultural personnel management specialist Howard Rosenberg’s Agricultural Personnel Management Program Web site, apmp.berkeley.edu, was selected by the American Agricultural Economics Association Extension Section



Above, from left: NACAA team newsletter national winners Wayne Jensen, contributor; Maria Sherrill, distribution; Mark Gaskell, contributor; Jenny Kraus, layout & design; and Franklin Laemmlen, editor/contributor. **Right, top to bottom:** Lemaux, Costello, Van Eenennaam, Stoddard and Phillips.

ANR members collect communications awards

Several members of ANR received communications awards from the National Association of Agricultural County Agents at the organization’s annual meeting in July.

Franklin Laemmlen – national winner in the “team newsletter” category for Central Coast Agricultural Highlights <http://cesan-tabarbara.ucdavis.edu/ccahmain.htm>

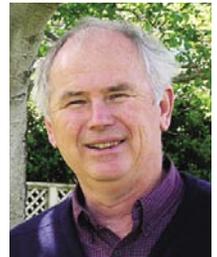
Peggy Lemaux – national winner for communication via Web sites for <http://ucbiotech.org>

Larry Costello – national winner for publication for “Abiotic Disorders of Landscape Plants: A Diagnostic Guide” (Publ. #3420). Costello coauthored the guide with Ed Perry, Nelda Matheny, Pam Geisel and Mike Henry.

Alison Van Eenennaam – national finalist for video/DVD production of “Genetic Engineering in California Agriculture.”

Scott Stoddard – two regional finalist awards, one for a radio biotechnology spot and one for his Sweetpotato Tips newsletter.

Phil Phillips – regional finalist award for feature story on the glassy-winged sharpshooter’s ability to transmit the disease citrus variegated chlorosis.



as the 2005 Outstanding Extension Agricultural Economics Web site.

UC Berkeley agricultural economist David Zilberman, along with colleagues Gershon Feder and Richard E. Just, received the AAEA’s 2005 Publication of Enduring Quality Award for their paper, Adoption of Agricultural Innovations in Developing Countries: A Survey.

Keen named to state science committee

Gov. Schwarzenegger appointed 17 scientists to two committees of the state’s Science Advisory Board, Office of Environmental

Health Hazard Assessment. More than half of the appointees are affiliated with UC.

Carl Keen, a professor and chair of the department of nutrition at UC Davis was reappointed to the Development and Reproductive Toxicant Identification Committee.



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Vaux honored by UCOWR

Henry J. Vaux Jr., professor emeritus and associate vice president emeritus, received the Warren A. Hall Medal on July 13 from the Universities Council on Water Resources (UCOWR) for scholarly contribution to the field of water resources.

The banquet program stated: “Dr. Vaux exemplifies how government service and academic scholarship can be combined to build a career of contributions to the field of water resources that stands second to none.”

A peer said of Vaux: “It is doubtful that anyone in any water resource discipline today has a broader and deeper grasp of the nation’s water problems and prospects, nor a better idea of how best to fund and administer research in these fields.”

Vaux was a water resources economist at UC Riverside and director of the Water Resources Center from 1986 to 1993. He was AVP from 1993 to 2004.

About 90 universities in the United States and throughout the world comprise UCOWR.

The deadline for nominations for the Communications Advisory Board has been extended to Aug. 26.

ANR REPORT

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

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Retirements

Franklin Laemmlen, county director and vegetable/pest management advisor for Santa Barbara County, retired Aug. 1 after a 25-year career with UCCE.

In 1980, Laemmlen joined UCCE Imperial County as the plant pathology farm advisor for the desert counties. In 1992, he transferred to become the vegetables/pest management advisor for Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. He added the county director responsibilities in 1999.



“Pathology was the area he was most helpful,” says Daren Gee, owner of DB Specialty Farms. The Santa Maria strawberry grower credits Laemmlen with helping growers and fungicide manufacturers by doing comparisons of new and registered products on different strawberry varieties.

Laemmlen earned his bachelor’s in

entomology at UC Davis and his master’s in entomology at Purdue University. After three years of working in Kenya, Laemmlen got his doctorate in plant pathology from UC Davis.

He began his career with Cooperative Extension at the University of Hawaii in 1970 as a plant pathologist. In 1972, he moved to Michigan State University as an extension plant pathologist for greenhouse, ornamental and landscape crops.

For the past 12 years, Laemmlen, who now has emeritus status, has written a gardening column for local newspapers and will continue. Laemmlen and his wife, Anne, plan to celebrate his retirement with a cruise down the Danube River in Europe. Eventually, he would like to do some volunteer work overseas.

For the full story, go to <http://news.ucanr.org/newsstorymain.cfm?story=697>

Bilingual card gives tips for coping with heat stress

Recent heat-related deaths of farmworkers are a tragic reminder of the dangers of heat stress.

To raise awareness of the dangers of becoming overheated, UC Berkeley agricultural personnel management specialist Howard Rosenberg has produced a heat-stress information card for farmworkers that explains in English and Spanish how heat-related illnesses develop and how to avoid them. Although the advice is directed at farmworkers, it is useful to anyone who works in the heat.

Rosenberg warns that excess heat can impair the body, even before a person feels ill. Although some of the heat that people have to deal with comes from the sun and ambient air, most heat is generated by their own bodies. “At rest the body produces little heat, but at work it demands more energy and faster metabolism, which greatly increases internal heat production,” Rosenberg says.

He recommends drinking water even before being prompted by thirst because thirst is a late signal of a water deficit. “Chugging to quench an intense thirst is like pouring water on a wilted plant,” Rosenberg says.

For farm operations, Rosenberg recom-

mends that managers and foremen try to keep drinking water containers as close as possible to centers of activity. If the water is too far away, such as at the end of a long row, workers may not want to take time away from their tasks or exert the extra effort to get to it.

Rosenberg also recommends helping workers understand the causes of heat stress, their own bodies’ heat release mechanisms, and the critical importance of replenishing the fluid they lose as sweat. “We hope the new card enables more growers to effectively deliver information that their employees need to know,” he said.

The card is being produced in cooperation with California Farm Bureau Federation, Grape and Tree Fruit League, and California Association of Winegrape Growers.

To order free copies of the bilingual heat-stress cards for farmworkers, contact Elisa Noble at enoble@cfbf.com or (916) 561-5598. More information about heat stress is available from Rosenberg’s Web site: <http://are.berkeley.edu/heat/>. Updates on regulatory developments pertaining to heat illness prevention are posted at <http://apmp.berkeley.edu/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=328>