

Central Sierra & Sacramento: Local Interests & Needs

Sue Mosbacher, Program Coordinator

- Amador/Calaveras
 - El Dorado
 - Sacramento
-
- USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant (PI)



Amador/Calaveras County: *Small but mighty!*

- 15 volunteers
- Monthly Saturday seasonal topic classes
- 6 Basics classes annually
- Stations at Farm Day & Ag Day
 - Colorful Jams & Jellies, Juicy Juice
- Venison Class
 - Field dressing, aging, preserving
- BYOPC (**B**ring **Y**our **O**wn **P**ressure **C**anner)
- Tomato Tasting Booth
 - MG Tomato Tasting Contest
- 2020 New Classes: Baby Food, Fair Entries
- 2020 New Youth Events: Jr Jams & Jellies



El Dorado County: *Building Relationships*

- 40 volunteers
- Quarterly MG/MFP Combo Classes
 - 8 MFP/MG members
 - MG Liaison position
- Waiting list Make & Take Cheese classes
- Strong Facebook presence
 - Nationwide questions & referrals to us
- Drafting taster preparation policy for Environmental Health for statewide MFP
- Titanium relationship with fairgrounds
- Youth Events – auto entry into fair
 - 2018: 176 Youth entries in preserved foods



Sacramento County: *Old & New Opportunities*

- 60 volunteers
- Long-term projects
 - Monthly phone tree calls to volunteers
 - State Fair booth & demos
(Want to join us? Last few weeks of July)
 - Second Saturday Basics Classes
- New Projects
 - Class taster group projects
 - 2020 Wednesday Evening Demos:
quarterly M&T, W&E, SoSo
 - Combine Saturday Basics classes with new member training
 - Off-site outreach training class



General Training Update:

Changes since last Coordinator Meeting

- Fewer classes each month, lengthened overall training program length
 - More practice time at home
- Oral and written sections of final exam and regular classes
 - Homework presentations
 - MFP Corner
- 2 Phase-training: classes and field work
 - Checklist of activities to accomplish
- Internet recipe case study reviews
- Hands-on VMS training on Day 1
- New topics: kombucha, kimchi, meat, cheese



USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/scbgp>

- Project Goal: Bring food preservation events to counties without a MFP program to introduce people to and increase awareness of “specialty crops”
- \$146,000, November 2017 – April 2020
- Classes: Citrus, Fruits, Veggies
 - Process and recipe booklets
- Youth workshop: low-sugar jellies entered into local county fair
- County Fair booths
 - 117 recipe cards
 - Distributed over 15,000 recipe cards at 10 fairs
- Upcoming: more classes, 4-H leader training, website, materials to statewide office & produce associations
- *Will I do it again?*



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources

UC Master Food Preserver Program

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