

UCCE Central Sierra Newsletter & Announcements | March 2022

Serving Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado and Tuolumne Counties



JoLynn Miller
Director & 4-H Youth
Development Advisor

University of California
Cooperative Extension
Central Sierra Nevada
Multi-County Partnership

Greetings from UCCE Central Sierra!

Mid-March finds Spring fast approaching. Let's keep our fingers crossed for just a bit more rain! We have several online classes and in-person events on our calendar, as well as a Forest Stewardship Workshops beginning this month. Statewide UC Master Food Preserver Training is underway. What an awesome idea, having online classes for the lectures and in-person labs at the local county level. Please read on, I am sure you will find something to spark your interest.

Please take care and stay healthy.

Sincerely,
JoLynn Miller

UCCE Central Sierra Employment Opportunities

Multi-County Partnership Seeks Woody Biomass and Forest Products Advisor

The University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR), a statewide program with local development and delivery, is seeking a UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Woody Biomass and Forest Products Advisor. The position, based in Tuolumne County, will implement an innovative extension education and applied research program around the integration of vegetation management efforts, use of forest products, and community resilience.

[More Information](#)



Calaveras County Welcomes Community Education Specialist 2

The CalFresh Healthy Living, University of California Cooperative Extension in the Central Sierra is excited to welcome **Bambi Baechler**.



Bambi has worked in education for many years starting as a Preschool teacher and most recently as a Middle School Paraeducator for Calaveras Unified School District. In her time at the schools, Bambi volunteered with the CalFresh Healthy Living, UCCE nutrition and garden program. Bambi was also previously a health and fitness instructor. She has previously completed Half Marathons and Triathlons for nonprofit organizations that focused on raising funds and awareness for the local community and for children with disabilities or with life threatening illnesses. In her free time, Bambi enjoys yoga, hiking, biking, and camping with her four children and husband. Bambi is extremely excited to begin her journey with the CalFresh Healthy Living, UCCE program in Calaveras county!

UCCE Central Sierra Local Employment Opportunities

The University of California Cooperative Extension of Central Sierra is hiring a Community Nutrition and Health Advisor, 4-H Community Education Specialists, UC CalFresh Community Education Specialists...

[Read more](https://cecentralsierra.ucanr.edu)
cecentralsierra.ucanr.edu

UCCE Central Sierra Agriculture

The Central Sierra foothill region produces a wide variety of agriculture commodities. The University of California brings research and outreach to area farms to assist with growing and cultural practices, pest and disease management, and more!

Staff Spotlight: [Scott Oneto, Farm Advisor](#)



UC Davis Grapevine Red Blotch Disease Symposium March 16, 2022 | 9:00AM - 4:00PM

The UC Davis Department of Viticulture and Enology Extension Team will host a Grapevine Red Blotch Disease Symposium. This event will be presented both in person at the UC Davis Conference Center and livestreamed for those unable to attend in person. The program will cover topics that relate to Red Blotch

disease in grapevines. Presentations will include: the role of treehoppers, treatments, mitigation strategies, the impact of the disease on the composition of wine, and more. Click [HERE](#) to register.

On the Road in the Foothills March 31, 2022 | 9:00AM - 12:00PM via Zoom



The UC Davis Department of Viticulture and Enology, in collaboration with UCCE Central Sierra, is hosting a free seminar to present relevant research being done at UC Davis and, at the same time, listen to the issues that are important to grape growing and winemaking professionals.

- New traits to improve rootstock drought tolerance
- Redox Potential Monitoring and Control during Primary Fermentation: Implications on Fermentation Outcomes
- Irrigation timing and heat wave impacts on vine physiology and grape quality
- Understanding and controlling phenolic extraction during red wine fermentation
- Grape smoke exposure mitigation: from vineyard to winery



Amador County Rangeland Soil Health Project Update

By Amador County Resource Conservation District and University of California Cooperative Extension

Rangeland covers more than half of California's land mass and provide a multitude of beneficial uses, including open space, livestock grazing and wildlife habitat.

This report summarizes the second year of data studying the effects of a one-time application of compost to annual rangelands. Applying compost to rangelands can provide multiple forage and soil benefits and can be an important way to divert organic waste from landfills, reduce greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change, and benefit local ranchers by increasing forage productivity and forage quality.



Beef Cattle Health Webinar Series

UC Cooperative Extension in collaboration with UC Davis Veterinary Medicine is excited to offer series of free online webinars for cattle producers. Every Tuesday evening in March from 5:30-7:00 we will have guest speaker presenting with a question and answer session, covering topics important to cattle health and management. This session will be live and will include lots of visuals. [Register Here](#)



For questions or assistance please contact Tracy Schohr, livestock and natural resources advisor for Plumas, Sierra and Butte Counties at tk schohr@ucanr.edu or 916-716-2643.

March 15, 2022 | Toxic Plants and Livestock

Robert H. Poppenga, DVM, UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine

Learn what plants you should look for in your hay, pasture and on rangelands - you can't rely on your livestock to avoid toxic plants! Dr. Poppenga will provide insight into a variety of plant toxins along with their effects on domestic animals. He will also share cases of typical livestock poisoning and symptoms to watch for.

March 22, 2022 | "Herd Bull Health, Diseases and Injuries"

Bret McNabb, DVM, UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine

Herd bulls are the central component of the success for cow-calf producers. Dr. McNabb will share key strategies to keep your bulls healthy and prevent diseases. He will also discuss common bull injuries and feasibility of treatment options.

March 29, 2022 | Why did it Die?

Dr. Gabriele Maier, DVM, Cooperative Extension Specialist in Veterinary Medicine, UC Davis and Dr. Katherine Watson, Pathologist at UC Davis

When raising cattle, you can often be faced with losses that seem like a mystery. Dr. Gabriele Maier, DVM, Cooperative Extension Specialist in Veterinary Medicine, UC Davis and Dr. Katherine Watson, Pathologist at UC Davis will discuss submitting samples to the California Animal Health and Food Safety (CAHFS) Lab to find answers to why did it die. They will also share unique cases the CAHFS Lab have helped cattle producers identify to improve herd health and management.

UCCE Central Sierra Forestry

Forests and woodlands in the Central Sierra Nevada are beautiful, extensive, diverse and owned by both public and private landowners. Active management is

needed to reduce forest density and to help forests recover after wildfire. The goal of the Central Sierra forestry program is to empower landowners to overcome these challenges.

Staff Spotlight: [Susie Kocher, Forestry/Natural Resources Advisor](#)



Forestry Institute for Teachers - Registration Open Tuolumne | June 19-25 | Sierra Outdoor School, Sonora Shasta | July 3-9 | Camp McCumber, Shingletown Humboldt | July 10-16 | Humboldt State University, Arcata

[Forestry Institute for Teachers \(FIT\)](#) is a week-long residence workshop for California educators. Join natural resource professionals and credentialed educators to explore forest ecosystems and the impact they have on our communities. **40 hours**

of Academic Credit available! The \$50 application includes room and board for the week. Participants receive:

- Hands on training in California Content Standards using [Project Learning Tree](#) and [Project WET](#) curriculum guides
- Skills and materials for action-oriented student and classroom projects
- Meals and lodging
- 3 Continuing Education Credits from UC Davis or CalPoly Humboldt
- \$200 curriculum project stipend

Contact forestryinstitute@gmail.com for more information. [Apply Here](#)

Local Prescribed Burn Associations Host First Burn Events

The newly formed Motherlode Prescribed Burn Association (Calaveras and Tuolumne Counties) and El Dorado Amador Prescribed Burn Association have both hosted their first burn events this winter.

Both were formed this summer by interested local landowners, hosted by UCCE Central Sierra. Both have held an initial zoom meeting, workshops and field trips on how to conduct prescribed fires and now several burn events.

The El Dorado Amador PBA hosted a burn of invasive [Himalayan blackberries](#) with a rancher in Pilot Hill, (El Dorado county) in January 2022.

The Motherlode PBA hosted a forest understory burn in Long Barn (Tuolumne county) in December 2021 and a pile burning event at Camp Connell (Calaveras County) in January 2022.

PBA members are learning how to develop burn plans, complete needed permitting, burn prescriptions and weather, firing and monitoring techniques. Members are enthusiastic to continue learning how to conduct prescribed burns safely and to regain the use of this tool for their land management goals.

Sign up for the PBA email list here:

[Motherlode PBA \(Calaveras and Tuolumne counties\)](#)

[El Dorado/ Amador Counties PBA](#)



UCCE Central Sierra 4-H Youth Development Program

The 4-H Youth Development Program offers educational opportunities for children, teens, families, and adults. 4-H helps young people to reach their full potential as competent, confident, leaders of character who contribute and are connected to their communities.



Amador County Avian Bowl Team Wins 2022 Junior Championship

Saturday, February 26 marked the first time the California 4-H Avian Bowl hosted a team from Amador County. This event was created in 1989 and has been held nearly every year since, alongside a spectacular poultry show in Fresno, CA. Amador County was well represented by their junior team, **High Eggspectations**, consisting of Cecilia O'Geen (Mountain

Ranch 4-H Club), Lexi Himmel and Lily Himmel (both of Blue Ribbon 4-H Club) and coach Dr. Kelsi Williams.

This fast-paced, intense competition required months of game preparation through studying poultry terminology, diseases, breeds and much more. **High Eggspectations** won each of their four rounds leading them to become the 2022 California State Avian Bowl Junior Champions! The senior champion team will go on to represent California at the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference in Louisville, Kentucky this summer.

If you know youth that love chickens, ducks, geese, turkeys or game birds and would be interested in being a part of this and other wonderful poultry events please see the [Amador County 4-H website](#) for details on joining today.



National 4-H Shooting Sports Workshop May 2-5, 2022 | Winton, CA

Registration Deadline: March 21, 2022

The National 4-H Shooting Sports Workshop will be hosted by California 4-H and held in Merced County. This is only the second time a national workshop has been held in California, so be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to attend a national level training, here in our own state! This

workshop will certify adult participants as state instructors for the following discipline of their choice:

- Archery
- Coordinator
- Hunting
- Muzzle loading
- Pistol
- Rifle
- Shotgun
- Western Heritage

Registration cost of \$200 covers meals and course materials. See the [National 4-H Shooting Sports Workshop event site](#) for more information on registration requirements. Contact Nate Caeton (nwcaeton@ucanr.edu) or Russ Hill (rdhill@ucanr.edu) with questions.



It's never too late to join 4-H!



UCCE Master Gardeners of Central Sierra

UCCE Master Gardeners are community members who have been trained under the direction of the University of California Cooperative Extension. Each volunteer has completed more than 50 hours of formal classroom training to provide practical scientific gardening information to the home gardeners.



Staff Spotlight: Debbie Powell, Master Gardener Program Coordinator, Calaveras/Tuolumne



The Magic of Gardening: Enriching lives and forging connections with family, neighbors, and communities

Susan Price, Master Gardener

Unlike politics, the shared love of gardening brings people together. It is a universal language that unites people of different ages and backgrounds. Its magical powers extend to your over-all health, with improved well-being just one of the many benefits of social gardening. If Covid has taught us anything over the last two years, it is that humans are

social beings. Simply put, we need each other to thrive. Neighbors and acquaintances often become friends when sharing seeds, cuttings, plant divisions, and crops. How good do we feel when we give or receive home-grown tomatoes or bags full of freshly picked peaches? What could be more appreciated than a jar of homemade salsa or jam? These gifts often come with recipes and advice, ideas and inspiration, many times leading to lasting friendships. There are countless examples of neighbors extending their generosity to help their fellow gardeners. For example, a group of neighbors with limited space for growing vegetables might allocate different crops with the idea of sharing the bounty. Likewise, one person might grow a particular fruit tree that's necessary to pollinate a nearby neighbor's tree. This level of sharing and cooperation is not hard to find amongst neighbors with a strong sense of community and a passion for gardening. [Read More](#)

**Questions about your home garden or landscape?
Interested in upcoming classes and events?**

Visit the [UCCE Central Sierra Master Gardeners Websites](#)



UCCE Master Gardeners are available to answer your questions!

Mark your calendars for Spring Plant Sales!



Saturday, April 16, 2022



Saturday, April 30, 2022



Saturday, May 7, 2022

8:00AM - 2:00PM

Edible Plants

Sherwood Demonstration Garden
Placerville, CA

8:00AM - 2:00PM

Ornamental Plants

Sherwood Demonstration Garden
Placerville, CA

9:00AM - 3:00PM

All Plants

ACRA Community Garden
Jackson, CA

UC Master Food Preservers of Central Sierra

The UCCE Master Food Preserver program trains dedicated volunteers to assist the county UC Cooperative Extension staff provide up-to-date food preservation information. Our current program is active in El Dorado, Amador, Tuolumne, and Calaveras counties.

Staff Spotlight: Sue Mosbacher, UCCE Master Food Preserver Program Coordinator



Make & Take Cheese Workshop
Saturday, March 19, 2022 | 10:00AM - 12:00PM
Registration Deadline: Tuesday, March 16, 2022

In this Make and Take workshop you will learn how to make Mozzarella cheese. It is an easy process once you understand the basics. You'll leave with fresh mozzarella cheese and recipes. All materials provided with \$25

registration fee. Class is limited to nine (9) participants. Class is hosted by UC Master Food Preservers of Amador and Calaveras counties and will be held in San Andreas. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Ask a
UC Master
Food Preserver
Central Sierra



Questions About Food Preservation?

Ask a UC Master Food Preserver online, any time!

Plus sign up to get e-news, event updates and free class schedules delivered to your inbox each month. [Subscribe Here](#)



[Amador / Calaveras County Website](#)



[El Dorado County Website](#)



UCCE Central Sierra Community Nutrition

Through the CalFresh Healthy Living (CFHL) UCCE Central Sierra program, we teach free classes in local schools, community centers, libraries, and other public locations. Our classes show people how to choose, grow, cook, and enjoy affordable healthy foods, and how to make physical activity a regular and fun part of life. We also work to create environments where it's easier for people to make healthy choices, by supporting school wellness policies, community and school gardens, walking clubs, and more.

Staff Spotlight: Alejandra Giron, UC CalFresh Nutrition Educator



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Harvest of the Month: Radishes

Root vegetables are grown underground,

and come in a variety of shades of red, orange, yellow, and white. Radishes have a spicy flavor while beets have a mild taste. Buy radishes that are crisp and firm (not easily bendable). Remove any greens attached and store them in the refrigerator in produce drawer for up to 2 weeks or on the countertop for 1-2 days. Eat radishes cooked or raw alone or with hummus or yogurt dip. Slice or shred them for slaws or salads. Radishes are great because they contain vitamins A, C, and K, plus fiber and potassium. Give radishes a try with this simple recipe for [Roasted Radishes](#).



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More UCCE Central Sierra Programs



[Living with Fire](#)



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[UC California Naturalist Program](#)



#NeighborCA

UC ANR [Coronavirus and COVID-19](#)



California is reopening all activities statewide, but it is important to remember that the pandemic is not over and COVID-19 remains a health threat. As we plan and implement a return to in-

- [Public Health Order](#)
- [Beyond the Blueprint](#)
- [Tracking COVID-19 in California](#)
- [COVID-19 Dashboards and Data](#)
- [Get Local Information](#)
- [COVID-19 Case Map](#)

person ANR programs, we should stay informed about COVID-19 trends statewide and in our communities. Here are a few resources from the CDPH and other trusted sources.



530-621-5502 | 888-764-9669 | cecentralsierra@ucdavis.edu | cecentralsierra.ucanr.edu



Accessibility: Should you need assistance or require special accommodations for any of our educational programs, please contact us at 530-621-5502.

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