



for its high-quality delicious milk. The invention of the milk bottle in 1884 made handling and distribution of milk much easier. The California Cooperative Creamery was established in 1913 by local milk producers to process and distribute the milk products (milk, butter, cheese). Today most Marin milk is transported in trucks to the creamery in Petaluma.

By the 1920s U.C. Berkeley, a land-grant university, was sending agricultural agents out to ranchers to spread new information and methods. M.B. Boissevain was the first farm advisor in Marin County.

By 1930 most ranches on the Point Reyes Peninsula were independently owned. Six dairy ranchers continue their operations as part of the Point Reyes National Seashore, a national park.

PRESERVING AGRICULTURE

Between 1949 and 1982 about 783,000 acres, or roughly one-quarter of the Bay Area's farmland, was lost. Since 1959 Marin has lost 32,000 acres of agricultural lands. (1944 census figures show 1,800 ranches, as compared to 276 today.)

In the early 1970s, Marin's agriculture was threatened when plans for major highway extensions to the coast were developed. The county was rezoned to include three major planning corridors, of which two – the coastal recreation and inland rural corridors – contain most of the agriculture in Marin today. They are protected by A-60 zoning, which allows no more than one house per 60 acres.

In 1950 there were 200 dairy ranches in Marin. There were 150 in 1960 and fewer than 100 in 1972. A group of ranchers and local environmentalists came together to create the Marin Agricultural Land Trust as a way of preserving agricultural lands. Since MALT's

beginning in 1980, it has acquired easements on 30,000 acres, protecting and keeping those lands forever in agriculture.

*Revised by Ellie Rilla
U.C. Cooperative Extension, January 2000*





Activity Evaluation

Please return evaluation form(s) to:

U.C. Cooperative Extension
1682 Novato Blvd., Suite 150B
Novato, CA 94947
415-499-4204

Name _____ School _____

Address _____

County _____ Phone Number _____ Grade Level _____

Secondary grade subject area(s) _____

Title of activity _____

Your class's grade level _____ Subject area _____

Number of students _____

1. Is the activity practical, i.e., can it be done effectively in a classroom?

2. Is the activity's stated grade level appropriate? (3-6)

3. Did the activity's learning procedure lead to the learning outcome?

