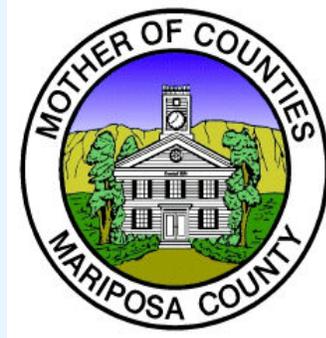


Cooperative Extension



County of Mariposa

I am pleased to be entering my second year as Interim Farm Advisor and County Director. I have greatly enjoyed working with the County of Mariposa and assisting the citizens here. I had the opportunity to provide technical assistance to people coming into the office, calling on the phone, and sending in e-mail questions. Especially fun was visiting land-owners at their farms to discuss solutions to their problems.

Cooperative Extension worked closely with the County Ag Commissioner to produce an **invasive weed management workshop** which had excellent attendance. The participants left with the tools to better manage both invasive and native weeds on private and public lands. We have another planned for 2010. Also planned is a workshop on managing vertebrate pests.

I conducted a demonstration trial on how to safely apply herbicides to **control invasive weed trees** (such as tree of heaven) with out spraying. This is especially important to residents who need to control woody species near streams and ponds and do not want to risk contaminating the water.

2010 is already turning out to be a busy & productive year.

Maxwell Norton

Workshops and Events held in 2009

- Garden Tours
- Safe at Home
- Master Gardeners Annual Plant Sale
- Integrated Vegetation Management Seminar
- Tree/Grape Pruning Class
- Victory Garden Workshop
- Vegetable Preservation Class
- Mistletoe & Bark Beetle Workshop
- Mistletoe Workshop
- Ornamental Grasses Workshop
- Winter Garden Workshop
- IPM Bark Beetle Seminar



Our Mission And Goals

Cooperative Extension's mission is to serve California through the creation, development, and application of knowledge in the areas of horticultural crops, home gardens and orchards, natural resources, home economics, and 4-H youth development. Our goals include working to carry out educational and research programs that are directed by the needs and concerns of the community, investigating and presenting information to the public concerning alternative and niche crops, and strengthening community development and leadership skills in our youth and adults. In Mariposa County we are also known as the Farm Advisor's office.

ANNUAL REPORT
January, 2009

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Master Gardener Program

The MGs had huge year in 2009:

From January through May one day a week, our team conducted MG **Training Classes** for Merced and Mariposa at Mc Cay Hall in Catheys Valley. We also held two **fruit tree pruning workshops** – near Greeley Hill and one near Mariposa. In April we held a **vegetable garden workshop** and also a **grape pruning workshop**.

In May we hosted kindergarten kids on a **field trip** to Mariposa Creek Demonstration Garden. From May through October, you can find an **educational booth** at the Mariposa Farmers Market answering the public's questions about growing your own food and healthy eating. The Annual **Plant Sale** during Butterfly Days is a popular event.



From May through October our **Greeley Hill MG office** is open Saturdays to provide assistance to our North County Residents. They are also available by appointment the rest of the year. Our **Mariposa office** is staffed two days/week year round and the public can leave questions on our hot line any time.

During the summer we gave a weekly educational presentation at the **kid's summer day camp** in Mariposa while it was running. A **workshop on bark beetle diagnosis and mistletoe control** was held in Mid-pines.

September was filled with preparing for and participating in the **County Fair**. We decorated the Horticulture Building, we provided trained docents for the Horticulture Building, and we had an electronic Kiosk available for printing out answers to questions. The MGs also sponsored the Fast food for the garden entries with prizes.

Fall featured another mistletoe and **bark beetles workshop** in Hornitos as well as an **Ornamental Grass Workshop**. In December members attended **advanced IPM training** workshops to increase their ability to provide technical assistance.

MG educational materials can be found in the **Greeley Hill and Mariposa libraries**. Visitors can stroll along our Mariposa Creek **native plant demonstration garden** any time. We find this is a popular stop for **tourists**. You will find MGs participating in the County **Agri-Nature tour** weekends. We have a **speaker's bureau** and can provide presentations for your organization.

Master Gardener Training



Nutrition, Family and Consumer Science Program

The Mission of the Nutrition, Family and Consumer Sciences program is to make a difference in the lives and health of individuals, families and the communities of Mariposa County.

Food Safety:

The Nutrition, Family and Consumer Sciences Advisor for Tuolumne and Mariposa Counties, Margaret Collins, conducted several food safety classes in 2009 for 4-H club members, and trained 22 individuals.

In September a pressure canning workshop was conducted for over 15 individuals in Mariposa County.

Nutrition:

The partnership with Mariposa Safe Families continued in 2009 with a series of menu planning and food budgeting classes offered in both Mariposa and Coulterville. Margaret was also part of the Mariposa/Coulterville Safe At Home Days planning committees, assisted with menu planning and food preparation for over 300 people at the event in Mariposa, and had an information booth at both the Mariposa and Coulterville 2009 events.

Margaret conducted food demonstrations at the Mariposa Farmers Market and provided healthy recipes and food safety information. Over 700 healthy recipes were distributed at the 2009 Mariposa County Fair.

Food Security/Access:

Margaret spoke to the Manna House Food Bank Board about UCCE Mariposa Nutrition Services, and met with the volunteers at Manna House to discuss nutrition and food safety issues. Margaret also did a presentation on Food Security and Container Gardening for the Mariposa Master Gardeners, and provided technical support in the area of Food Security/Access issues in rural areas for a meeting during the development of the Manna House Garden.

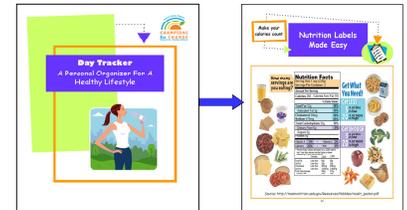
Menu Planning for Childcare Providers:

A successful partnership was forged with UCCE and ICES (Infant Child Enrichment Services) in Mariposa County. A presentation was made by Margaret and Donna in April 2009 to ICES about UCCE services. This resulted in a successful workshop on nutrition and menu planning with over 15 childcare providers in Mariposa County.

Network for a Healthy California Statewide Conference:

Margaret was awarded a grant for Mariposa County in 2008 to develop nutrition curriculum for Mariposa County. Over 40 low income families were trained using the curriculum in 2008-2009 and the results were presented at the 2009 Network for a Healthy California Statewide Conference. See across for an example of the client materials that were developed with the grant.

Personal Day Tracker



4-H Youth Development Program



Canoeing at Camp Tweety

Mariposa County 4-H Youth Development Program offers a wide variety of projects, and activities to help our local youth to become responsible, self-directed, and productive members of our community. The program delivery modes are clubs, special projects from rocketry, cake decorating, and fly fishing to livestock, 4-H Camp Tweety, and the school enrichment program, Ag in the Classroom. Providing the "learn-by-doing" educational experience develops skills that will benefit youth throughout their life. 4-H provides a healthy and educational environment for the county's youth to develop into capable young adults.



C.T. Luan Pool Party

Here is a sample of highlights from our busy year working with the youth of Mariposa County:

Safe at Home was a community event featuring booths dealing with the theme of recycling. Used recycled paper and other items to create cards, puppets etc. Approximately 300+ youth and adults attended this event.



Mariposa County Pow Wow - 4-H, MGs and our Nutritional Consumer Science Advisor all teamed up with an informational booth about local programs. 4-H had a food booth with 20+ 4-Hers and 10+ 4-H leaders working. Over the two days there were approximately 1000 in attendance.

Relay for Life- 4-H team with 2 leaders and 10 members on our team. There may have been other leaders and members on other teams sharing and supporting the ones who have cancer or have lost ones from this disease. Members and leaders spent the night and did the relay walk. Hundreds of people attended.

Camp Tweety - 4-H camp that is an outreach camp for non-4H members and homeless. There were 55 campers plus 10 chaperones and 3 helpers. **Not quite half of the campers were non-4-H members, which underscores that our programs are available to the whole community.**



60 yrs. of 4H Fair Booth



B.O.S. present Proclamation

Ah ... then there is the drive
Hwy 140



Controlling Invasive Weeds



The Back Page



Located at the Fairgrounds



Research in Action

Diagnosing a Vineyard Problem



Did You Know?



The three tallest waterfalls in North America:
Yosemite Falls 2,425 feet
Sentinel Fall 2,000 feet
Ribbon Fall 1,612 feet

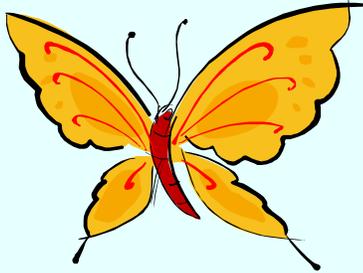
Hite's Cove Trail is known by flower experts to be the best place for wildflower viewing in the United States.



Most number of wildlife species:
Mammals - 80
Birds - 247
Amphibians and Reptiles - 24
Fish (6 species) - 10



Oldest roses - Heritage Roses - so called because they were in existence before 1867. Located in Coulterville.



Only County named after an insect - Mariposa - Spanish for butterfly.



Come and visit us!

