

UC ANR Mission

UC ANR cultivates thriving communities, sustainable agriculture, resilient ecosystems, and economic prosperity in California through development and sharing of equitable and collaborative science-based solutions that have national and global impact.

CalFresh Healthy Living

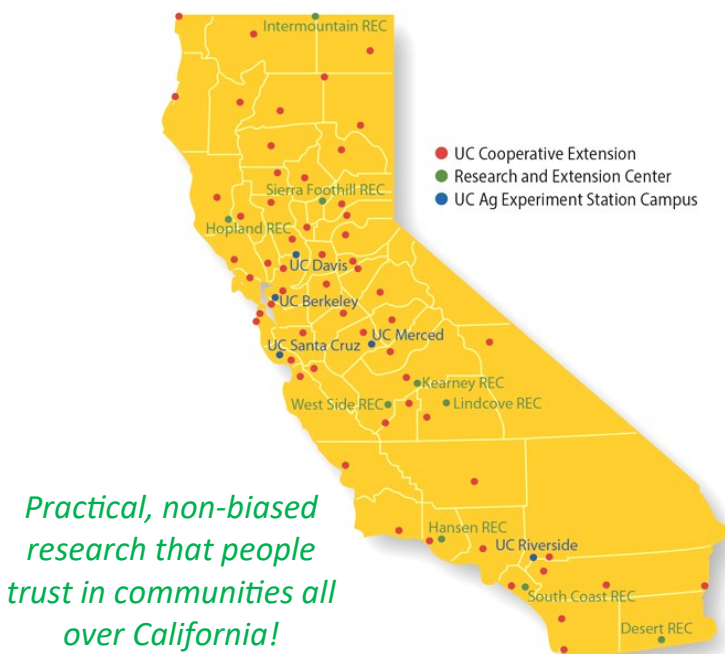
Since the beginning of this school year, the CalFresh Healthy Living, University of California Cooperative Extension (CFHL, UCCE) program in Sutter and Yuba Counties has provided nutrition, gardening, and physical activity education to over 7,000 elementary students across 30 schools - serving families with low incomes.

For more than a decade, CFHL, UCCE has earned the trust of hundreds of teachers and community partners by delivering high-quality, evidence-based health education. The program also supports school wellness policies by collaborating with food service staff, PE specialists, and administrators.

According to USDA data, every \$1 invested in nutrition education saves over \$9 in future healthcare costs. Despite this, funding for all Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Education programs is set to be eliminated with the passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act on July 4, 2025 - which could hinder the long-standing positive impact that CFHL, UCCE has had on families in Sutter and Yuba Counties.



Healthy Me Jubilee
King Ave Elementary School



15,336
Educational
Interactions

76
Academic-led
Workshops/
Field Days

21,486
Volunteer
Hours

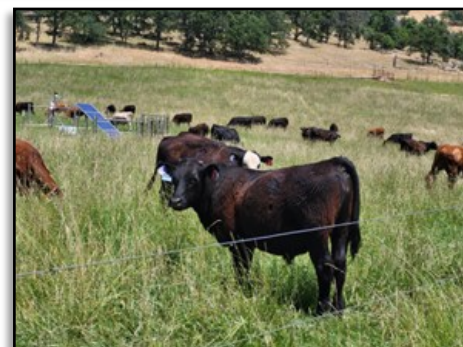
Livestock & Natural Resources

Andrea supports local livestock producers through farm visits, workshops, field days, research, and newsletters. She primarily focuses on beef cattle, small ruminants, and rangeland management. In May, she hosted a Beef Cattle Field Day at the UC Sierra Foothill Research and Extension Center, where over thirty producers attended to learn from veterinarians and extension advisors about pinkeye prevention, rangeland management, virtual fencing, and wildfire preparedness.

Recently, Andrea has also partnered with Yuba County ranchers for on-farm research trials, including one study looking into the effects of fertilizer application on annual rangeland. At peak forage growth, she assessed forage yield, nutritional quality, and performed a cost analysis comparing the additional forage growth from fertilizer application to not fertilizing and purchasing hay for cattle when forage runs low. These efforts helped the producer make informed, cost-effective decisions for their operation.



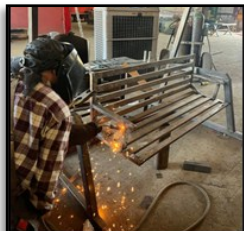
Dr. Gaby Maier talks with local livestock producers about animal health at Beef Field Day



Steers on a research trial at SFREC investigating the efficacy of fly repellent products – Spring 2025

New Vocational Project = Big Wins!

When the poultry show was canceled, Sutter Buttes 4-H launched a Welding Project. Youth jumped in, learning welding skills and working hard. Every member made the auction, earned 1st place ribbons, and one took Best of Show! This project lit a new spark—igniting creativity, resilience, and hands-on learning. Thank you to our amazing supporters!



Master Gardeners

The University of California Master Gardener program of Sutter-Yuba Counties is a group of 47 trained, dedicated, and passionate volunteers whose primary responsibility is disseminating horticultural information to home gardeners in the community. In the 2024-25 program year, Master Gardener volunteers contributed 7,337 hours, contacted 4,392 community members regarding gardening questions, and were present at 92 community events.

Office Hours

Tuesdays: 9am - 12pm

Thursdays: 1pm - 4pm



Advice to Grow By . . . Ask Us!



CDFA & Local Climate Smart Agriculture Program Support

During 2024–2025, Heather Montgomery provided technical assistance to Yuba-Sutter farmers and ranchers for the California Department of Food and Agriculture's \$30 million Incentive and Block Grant Pilot Programs:

- Healthy Soils (HSP)
- State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP)

She also launched a new biannual event - the Technical Assistance Provider (TAP) Networking Workshop - bringing professionals together who support local farmers and ranchers. Heather believes in the power of collaboration:

Together, we are better!



Agriculture professionals at the Spring 2025 TAP Networking Workshop

Advisors Working in Our Community

Rice and Wild Rice - Whitney Brim-DeForest

Rice and wild rice production generated \$742 million in economic activity in Sutter and Yuba Counties in 2023. Whitney supports rice and wild rice growers through field visits, newsletters, blog posts, and field days and workshops, with a focus on weed management issues. In 2025, she is focusing her research on alternatives to double propanil applications for watergrass management, as well as emerging weed species in rice.

Orchard Systems - Clarissa Reyes, Franz Niederholzer

Orchard production generated \$1.25 B in economic activity in Sutter and Yuba Counties in 2023. Clarissa and Franz support and sustain this key economic activity through applied research (testing new rootstocks, varieties, pest management, orchard nutrition, etc.) and education (hosting indoor and field meetings, publishing quarterly newsletters, and posting internet resources to SacValleyOrchards.com).

Agronomy/Field Crops - Sarah Light

Sarah supports field crop production through field visits, newsletters, field days and workshops, and presentations. Her research program includes regional varietal improvement trials for blackeye beans and garbanzos as part of the statewide bean breeding program, projects related to nitrogen use efficiency and optimizing nitrogen application, as well as projects related to cover crops, livestock integration, and the application of almond shell mulch to established alfalfa fields.

Forestry - Ricky Satomi

Ricky works with residents and resource managers to improve the production, health, resilience and management of local forestlands. He focuses on forest products, workforce training, community hardening, and reforestation planning to support cost-effective landowner management. His research explores the intersection of forest ecology and management to improve forest resilience to disturbance.

4-H Youth Development - Mathew Rodriguez

Sutter-Yuba 4-H partnered with local educators with in-school and after-school enrichment programs to served 4,612 youth (K to 12th grade). Teachers strongly agree that youth were excited to participate in the 4-H science lessons and learned something new about science.

Dairy - Betsy Karle

The dairy program focuses on animal health and environmental stewardship. Research projects have investigated methods to control external parasites and strategies to improve calf health, with the goal of improving efficiency and productivity. Research evaluating manure management practices indicates that efforts to mitigate methane production on dairies are effective.

Integrated Pest Management - Sudan Gyawaly

Sudan conducts research and outreach to support growers, pest control advisers, and others on pest management issues. In 2025, his work focused on surveying the invasive carpophilus beetle in Sacramento Valley nut crops and evaluating new management strategies for olive fruit fly.