

UC Cooperative Extension Glenn County 2021 Program Update



Dairy Advisor & County Director: *Betsy Karle*

The dairy program serves producers and allied industry by conducting research activities to guide on-farm management decisions. Research projects include evaluating the effects of milk quality on shelf life, housing practices for dairy calves, managing manure and compost for environmental quality and regulatory compliance, and researching antibiotic use and stewardship practices. Extension activities include serving as co-chair of the Golden State Dairy Management Conference and providing virtual presentations to share research results with dairy clientele. The implementation of a patent pending risk assessment tool to prevent respiratory disease in dairy calves has been a focus in 2021.

Irrigation & Water Resources Advisor: *Curt Pierce*

In 2021 we welcomed our newest team member, Curt Pierce, as the Irrigation and Water Resources Advisor. The Irrigation and Water Resources program works with producers, agricultural water districts, environmental groups, and natural resource professionals across Glenn, Tehama, Colusa, and Shasta Counties. Its focus is to research and educate in ways to improve on-farm irrigation productivity and efficiency, develop sustainable integrated management of surface and groundwater sources, and protect agricultural water quality.



4-H Youth Development Community Education Specialist: *Christine Kampmann*

In 2021, Glenn County 4-H was motivated by over 250 youth, guided by approximately 70 adult volunteers, and supported by an amazing community! With more than 450 hours poured into the hands-on project opportunities that our volunteers provided, our youth members have been able to focus on leadership and confidence in their project skills with specific interests including, but not limited to, raising livestock, sewing, arts and crafts, horticulture, and STEM projects. Glenn County 4-H was awarded a Barceloux-Tibessart Foundation grant this year for 4-H curriculum that was implemented this summer at the Glenn County Office of Education Summer Camp and will be utilized in classrooms and afterschool programs in Glenn County. 4-H has built a partnership with the Orland Library and will be delivering STEM activities and guest presentations in the future. Glenn County 4-H is excited for the new year and all of the learning and growth opportunities ahead!



Climate Smart Agriculture Community Education Specialist: *Dana Brady*

Dana is one of a cohort of ten Climate Smart Agriculture educators across California that provide technical assistance on climate smart farming and ranching practices to local farmers. The Climate Smart Agriculture team, funded by the Strategic Growth Council and California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), works on and promotes three different CDFA grant programs: Healthy Soils Program (HSP), State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEET) and the Alternative Manure Management Program (AMMP). Dana works to promote these programs through blog posts, local workshops and presentations at various meetings and provides technical assistance to farmers with grant applications and practice implementation. In 2021, the team has been supporting applications, completing case studies, and conducting farmer interviews to promote climate smart agriculture practices.



Master Gardener Program Volunteers

The Master Gardener Mission is “to extend research-based knowledge and information on home horticulture, pest management, and sustainable landscaping practices to the residents of California.” With that mission statement in mind, the UCCE Glenn County Master Gardener volunteers worked on developing a demonstration garden at the UCCE Office in Orland. The three existing beds were tilled, and fresh soil was added to the beds. The garden is used to demonstrate how vegetables can be grown in raised beds. They have since added a bee pollinator garden to their demonstration garden, as well. The value of Master Gardener volunteer hours in Glenn County is estimated at more than \$14,500 annually.



Orchard Systems Advisor: *Luke Milliron (Butte County)*

Orchard education and research plows forward. Walnut freeze mitigation and recovery has been a major focus this year after a sudden autumn freeze hit some walnut growers for a third year in a row in November 2020. Several walnut growers whose orchards were severely damaged in previous years and who have since adopted the UC recommended practices of maintaining soil moisture in November, reported that their fields survived the 2020 freeze largely unscathed. In the midst of drought, the irrigation management approach of “listening” to the tree’s water needs with a plant-based approach like the pressure chamber technique continues to be a major focus of research and grower education, leading to water and electricity savings while benefiting tree health and longevity.



Rice Farming Systems Advisor: *Luis Espino (Butte County)*



During 2021, the rice project continued research and outreach focused on arthropods, diseases, and weeds of rice. We started the year with our first-ever virtual winter meeting, with more than 150 participants. The valley-wide monitoring of armyworms and blast showed that pressure of these pests was very low; similarly, kernel smut was not a problem this year. Two trials were conducted to test the response of current varieties to aggregate sheath spot and stem rot. Weedy rice continues to pop its ugly head, with a few new finds. We were able to conduct an in-person weedy rice workshop this summer, where 40 attendees were updated on the weedy rice situation and the latest research.

Livestock, Pasture, Range and Natural Resources Advisor: *Josh Davy (Tehama County)*

Josh’s program conducts research on livestock health and production along with pasture and rangeland health. The diverse program provides sound science to managers so that management can benefit both food production and protection of the natural resources grazed by livestock. Following recent fires in our communities, Josh Davy spearheaded a new Disaster Livestock Ag Pass Program in Glenn County and surrounding counties in 2021, along with partner agencies. The program provides options for commercial livestock operators to access restricted areas following a natural disaster in order to provide care for livestock. Current and future projects work to keep production agriculture and natural resources healthy and sustainable.



Nutrition Education Program: *Jona Pressman & Samantha Macomber (Butte County)*

The CalFresh Healthy Living, UC Program and the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program are reaching school-age students and adults in-person and virtually. This year nutrition staff will be engaging teachers and students in school-wide Carrot Walks, a healthy version of the beloved Cake Walk at elementary school playgrounds throughout counties. Other outdoor activities will include reinvigorating edible school gardens. More virtual and in-person classes will be scheduled to explore ways to prepare food fresh from the garden and local markets.



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