

UC Cooperative Extension Glenn County

2022 Program Update



Dairy Advisor & County Director: *Betsy Karle*

The dairy program has focused on antimicrobial stewardship, animal health and well-being, and environmental stewardship in 2022. Research activities include building communities of practice on dairies, improving on-farm milk quality, managing arthropod pests, adoption of manure management practices, and decreasing antibiotic resistance. Results from studies were presented at the Golden State Dairy Management Conference, World Ag Expo, and in various industry and scientific publications.

Irrigation & Water Resources Advisor: *Curt Pierce*

In the first full year of the new irrigation and water resources program, extension activities have taken place throughout the area. Meetings were held with community groups, advisory panels, research teams, and individual growers alike. It was another challenging water year across the region, so continued training efforts on improved scheduling and additional precision irrigation techniques to help producers maximize their water supplies have remained a focus. Moving into 2023, Curt is working to further develop and expand the educational offerings with additional workshops, CEU, and certification opportunities. Additionally, Curt is seeking to enable new research into root dynamics that could inform more efficient irrigation practices in the future.



Nutrition Community Education Specialist: *Joanna Aguiar*

The CalFresh Healthy Living, UC Program- Glenn County is working with students in elementary schools and its first participating high school, Princeton High School. Nutrition Educator, Joanna will be offering nutrition, physical activity, and gardening education, along with monthly tastings to expose students to new and healthy foods. The CalFresh Healthy Living, UC Program will be hosting its "Carrot Bunch Kick Off" at elementary schools to start the school year and engage students to play a structured physical activity game during their lunch recess. Projects our participating schools can look forward to are reinvigorating edible school gardens and enhancing school playgrounds with blacktop stencil projects.



Climate Smart Agriculture Community Education Specialist: *Lizzeth Mendoza*

The Climate Smart Agriculture team, funded through the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), focuses on management practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, promote sustainable land practices, increase soil carbon, and much more by providing technical assistance to local farmers and ranchers that are interested in applying for the CDFA Healthy Soils Program (HSP), Alternative Manure Management Program (AMMP) and State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP). In 2022, the team started a case study with 2017 HSP awardees to evaluate changes in soil organic matter since implementing their HSP project in 2017.



4-H Youth Development Community Education Specialist: *Christine Kampmann* & 4-H Youth Development Advisor: *Nicole Marshall*

The program year is off to a great start with a significant increase in enrollment over last year. Along with youth enrollment, hands-on learning opportunities are growing too. Glenn County 4-H has provided curriculum to local libraries in Willows and Orland, and the Willows Summer Camp. Thanks to the Barceloux-Tibessart Foundation, the program was able to purchase the Water Wizards curriculum that is currently being implemented in classrooms. Christine is building collaborative relationships with various programs in Glenn County and providing more opportunities for the youth in our community. The program is grateful to have so much support from the volunteers, families, and members of our community. Glenn County 4-H wouldn't be successful without our community support.



Additionally, our program staff grew as 4-H welcomed Nicole Marshall-Wheeler as the Glenn County 4-H Youth Development Advisor. Nicole will evaluate 4-H program outcomes and direct youth development research in Glenn, Butte, and Colusa Counties. In 2021, Nicole's research focus was on the 4-H program's influence on youth's public speaking self-confidence, as well as developing leadership programming.

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 this mission in mind, the UCCE Glenn County Master Gardener program continues to develop its demonstration garden located at the UCCE Office in Orland to attract pollinators and Monarch butterflies. Weekly Plant Clinics are open to the public. Volunteers continue to seek opportunities to collaborate with other community entities such as 4-H, County Fairgrounds, Library, and public events to share the knowledge of research-based home gardening practices and information.

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

Orchard research and education efforts remain strong. This was the most active summer field meeting season in recent memory, with topics including new almond varieties being tested at the Chico State Farm, walnut rootstocks being tested in Glenn County, and hands-on pressure chamber trainings for growers. Amid drought, the irrigation management approach of “listening” to the tree’s water needs with a plant-based approach like the pressure chamber is leading to water and electricity savings while benefiting tree health and longevity. Walnut freeze continues to be a major focus, with a spring frost this year, and sudden autumn freeze damage from three of the four previous years. More and more growers are following the UC recommended practice of maintaining soil moisture in November, and actively irrigating to provide frost protection if their system allows.



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

The drought drastically reduced rice acreage in 2022. Statewide, only half the rice acreage was planted. The west side of the Sacramento Valley was where most of the cuts were made. Glenn County only planted 20% of their acres, while Butte County fared a little better with an estimated 75% planted. Overall, 2022 was a year of extremes. A cold spell experienced early in the season slowed down rice growth and resulted in some challenges with weed management and a slight delay in harvest. Later, we experience a hot spell during grain fill; hopefully grain quality will not be affected. The rice program continued research projects on management of tadpole shrimp, armyworms, stem rot, aggregate sheath spot, and weedy rice.



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

Research in the livestock program targeted animal health and the production of rangeland, cattle, and pasture. Highlights of animal health projects include research on pink eye, deworming, supplementation, and anaplasmosis in cattle. Pink eye projects focused on potential prevention through a novel vaccine and also treatment by evaluating methods to speed corneal ulcer healing of infected cattle. One dewormer project evaluated parasite resistance to commercial dewormers, while others seeks to mitigate resistance and track subsequent cattle performance of dewormer strategies. Anaplasmosis research tracks the amount of natural immunity present and current market vaccine applicability. Mineral and ionophore research targets animal health and economic cattle weight gain. Range and pasture studies evaluate grazing management, optimal forage species, and novel management ideas.



Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Advisor: *Sudan Gyawaly (Butte County)*

The area-integrated pest management (IPM) program strives to implement an innovative extension education and applied problem-solving research program in the Sacramento Valley. During 2022, as a new IPM advisor, Gyawaly has been meeting and talking with growers and other stakeholders to learn about crops and pests in the region. The information collected during this period is crucial as he develops a need-based applied IPM research and outreach program for the major crops grown in the area. In the meantime, Gyawaly has been delivering IPM information using personal consultations and print publications.



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