

February 2020

UC Cooperative Extension
Central Sierra News

University of California
Agriculture and Natural Resources

PRACTICAL • CONNECTED • TRUSTED

Serving Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado & Tuolumne counties

Your monthly news & event announcements

Join our mailing list.

Greetings!

February is here, and we have packed as much as we can into this short month! Master Gardeners are readying the demonstration gardens and training new volunteers. Master Food Preservers are teaching classes throughout the state - and also training new volunteers! CalFresh Healthy Living Educators are providing tastings of delicious winter harvest items, and 4-H clubs are doing events and fundraisers to help support the numerous youth development activities available to those hard working kids and volunteers. Forest Stewardship and Prescribed Fire on Private Lands workshops continue to provide education on forest and land management, as well as the use of prescribed burning and fire protection well ahead of fire season. And, as always, our Farm Advisors are providing consultation, classes and continuing to examine and research critical issues in our region; in this issue, there is important information about oak toxicity in cattle, as well as how to get rid of nasty star thistle and other noxious weeds. Use this month's extra "leap-day" to explore all that UCCE Central Sierra has to offer!

JoLynn Miller
Director and 4-H Youth Development Advisor
University of California Cooperative Extension Central Sierra

Visit our Website

UC
CE UC Cooperative Extension
Central Sierra on Facebook

Like

UCCE Central Sierra Multi-County Partnership

**Position Opening: Community Education Supervisor 2
Central Sierra MCP's CalFresh Healthy Living Program**

Date Posted: January 24, 2020

Closing Date: February 14, 2020

Under the general direction of the Nutrition, Family and Consumer Sciences (NFCS) Advisor, the Program Supervisor (Community Education Supervisor 2) is responsible for overseeing the design, delivery, management, and evaluation of the Central Sierra MCP's CalFresh Healthy Living Program for low income adults and youth (a SNAP-Ed program). The Central Sierra MCP includes El Dorado, Amador, Calaveras, and Tuolumne counties; this position will be based in either Amador (Jackson) or Tuolumne (Sonora).

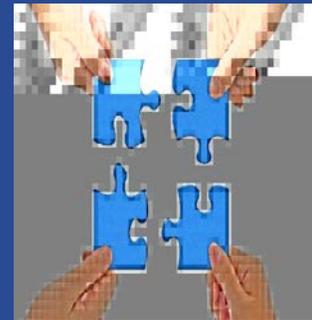


To support the program, the Program Supervisor (Community Education Supervisor 2) works with the NFCS Advisor, the Program Coordinator, and program staff to deliver high-quality nutrition education and programming. Responsibilities include supervising and training staff, overseeing annual budgets and expenditures, developing and implementing yearly work plans, tracking/evaluating work plan activities and objectives, and writing reports. This position ensures approved procedures are followed across the Central Sierra, serves as the primary point of contact with funding agencies, collaborates with other agencies providing related services in the Central Sierra, builds and maintains formal and informal coalitions of partners, supports nutrition education and other strategies to promote community nutrition, and maintains subject matter competence.

For more information or to apply for this position, visit:
<https://ucanr.edu/about/jobs/?jobnum=1657>

UCANR Knowledge Stream: Promoting economic prosperity in California **Chunking for impact**

We are increasingly drowning in a sea of information. In 2020, we will see more than 2 trillion web searches drawing on information from 1.7+ billion web sites. If the number of web sites is not staggering enough, we now also have a staggering 4+ million apps to choose from for our mobile devices. What's the hope of finding what we need?



And so here is where we introduce "chunking." Now, I admit my use of the term "Chunking" may not be strictly correct – but I really wanted to try and use it in an article. What is chunking? Strictly speaking, a "chunk" (in cognitive psychology) is "a collection of basic familiar units that have been grouped together and stored in a person's memory."

So – with a little stretch – we can (perhaps) think of similar information grouped in the same place (online) as a form of chunking?

Anyway, how does this relate to UC ANR? As an organization we (UC ANR) are information rich – especially in the area of practical "how to" information. However, our information is often scattered across literally hundreds of websites, newsletters and blogs. In our drive to better meet the needs of the people of California, we are striving for greater discoverability. This drive has led us to increasingly aim to group (or dare I say "chunk") our "how to" information into thematic sites.

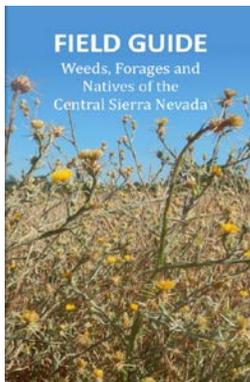
Now such collation of information is not entirely new. For example, our [UC integrated Pest Management \(UC IPM\) site](#) has been for some time a major "go to" site for literally millions of users.

People looking for practical how-to information to control pests around the home, on farms and in our natural ecosystems will invariably find credible, relevant and practical information that can help. We have other examples listed below. So while not new, it is an area of increasing focus. One recent example is our [Fire Resources and Information](#) site. Developed by our fire experts, the site has quickly become a major resource for those looking to prepare, deal with and recover from fire. Yet another fledgling example is our effort looking at [Healthy Soils for a Healthy California](#).

[Continue reading Chunking For Impact](#)

FREE UCCE Central Sierra Weed Guide

Spring is just around the corner and NOW is the time to identify and eradicate all those noxious, obnoxious weeds! Our FREE field guide assists with identification and describes when and how to best remove them - and keep them from returning.



Free copies are available now at our UCCE County offices. Or click image for eBook.

Amador Office - Monday - Friday, 8am - 5pm: 209-223-6482

Calaveras Office - Monday - Friday, 8am - 4:30pm: 209-754-6477

El Dorado Office - Monday - Friday, 8am - 5pm: 530-621-5502

Tuolumne Office - Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm: 209-533-5695

UCCE Central Sierra Agriculture

***** SAVE THE DATE *****

Foothill Grape Day 2020

March 17th

7:30am - 3:00pm

Amador County Fairgrounds



UCANR Knowledge Stream: Ranching in the Sierra Foothills

[52 Weeks of Livestock Guardian Dogs: A New Social Media Project](#)



Several years ago, I started a social media project I called Sheep 365. Every day for a full year, I posted a photo of something we were doing in our sheep operation. At first, I thought it would simply be a fun way to share my shepherding year with friends and family. I soon realized, however, that it could be a reasonably useful educational tool. I found that other small-scale producers were following along and asking questions. More importantly, perhaps, I found that I was able to share the ups and downs of livestock production with a public audience. I could talk about things like losing lambs to pneumonia or the importance of shearing sheep.

Last week, I attended the American Sheep Industry Association annual convention in Scottsdale, Arizona. During the Resource Management Council meeting, we had a lengthy conversation about public misperceptions about livestock guardian dogs. Oftentimes, it seems, the public doesn't understand the concept of a working dog - dogs are pets, and pets shouldn't sleep outside (or even be outside at all in inclement weather). These misperceptions could jeopardize our use of LGDs.

At the same time, I often get questions from producers who haven't used livestock guardian dogs. Where do I find a good dog? Should I buy an adult dog or a puppy? How do I make sure my dog will stay with my livestock? Will my liability insurance go up? How many dogs do I need?

Beginning on February 1, 2020, I am embarking on new social media project - 52 Weeks of Livestock Guardian Dogs....

Continue reading [52 Weeks of Livestock Guardian Dogs](#).

Principles of Fruit & Nut Tree Growth, Cropping & Management Registration is still open!

March 23 - April 2, 2020 - University of California, Davis campus



This course is very unique and perfect for new orchard farmers.

For more information, see the [online workshop brochure](#) or go to the [Principles of Fruit & Nut Tree Growth, Cropping & Management webpage](#).

Please address any questions to fruitsandnuts@ucdavis.edu

UCCE Central Sierra Forestry

Prescribed Fire on Private Lands - Spring 2020 Workshops

March 19th & 20th: Cathey's Valley (classroom day 3/19, burn day 3/20)

March 24th: Placerville, CA (burn day in Georgetown in April)

March 26th: Auburn, CA (burn day in Georgetown in April)

These workshops are designed for landowners and managers looking to gain skills in prescribed fire planning and implementation. The first day will consist of classroom lecture, instruction, and exercises. The second day will include a field trip to view lands actively managed with prescribed fire and take part in a prescribed fire, permit / weather allowing.

Registration with a fee of \$35 is required. Check <http://ucanr.edu/rxworkshop> for more information. [Download the workshop flyer.](#)

For questions, contact Susie Kocher, skocher@ucanr.edu or (530) 542-2571.



California Forest Stewardship - Spring 2020 Workshops

March 7th, 8th, 14th: Shasta College, Redding

April 25th, 26th, May 9th: Government Center, Mariposa

June 27th, 28th, July 11th: Blodgett Forest, Georgetown

[Register Now - workshops fill up quickly!!](#)

This workshop series will help landowners develop plans to improve and protect their forest lands in an ecologically and economically sustainable manner. The workshops will address management objectives and planning, forest restoration, fuels reduction, project development, permitting, and cost-share opportunities. Participants will connect with other landowners and learn how to collect information to develop their own management plans.

Visit the [UCANR Forest Stewardship Workshop page](#) for more information

[Download the workshop flyer.](#)



UCANR Blog: *Protecting California's natural resources* [Fostering forest stewardship](#)



Private forestland landowners have a unique opportunity to enjoy the economic, ecological and social benefits forests offer. The public also benefits from private forests as they play a critical role in the connectivity and functioning of the larger forest ecosystem.

According to the National Woodland Owner Survey, California family owned forest land covers 6.3 million acres with approximately 70% of owners living or working directly on this forest land. Owners cite the values of privacy and the physical beauty of the forest as the primary reasons for ownership.

The opportunity to preserve the health and diversity of their forests contributes to why landowners take action to protect their homes and forestlands with an eye to passing it on to future generations. Protection of forest resources through active management is what forest stewardship is all about.

A forest management plan is an owners guide to the what, where, why and how of active forest management. The plan clearly describes the current and desired conditions of the forest resources, what short and/or long-term goals the landowner has for the land, what management actions can be taken to achieve those goals, and what resources are needed for implementation.

Continue reading [Fostering Forest Stewardship.](#)

UCCE Central Sierra Livestock

UCCE Central Sierra Article: Livestock and Oak Rangeland

[Impacts of winter drought and oak toxicity to livestock](#)

Driving around the foothills the lack of winter rain is clearly evident from the extremely dry rangelands still brown and dry from summer to the obvious shortage of water in the lakes and reservoirs. The extremely dry winter is turning out to have a critical impact on our local ranchers. Many ranches have turned to buying hay, lots of hay, as they wait anxiously for green grass to grow. In addition to the lack of winter feed, another concern ranchers are dealing with is the potential for oak toxicity.



There are more than 50 common species of oak trees in California and all contain some levels of the toxic tannins and phenols that can cause problems in cattle. The buds, young leaves, and fresh acorns have the highest level of toxins. There is considerable variation in the concentration of toxins in the plant tissues and is dependent on (1) the species of oak trees, (2) the season of the year, and (3) the climate of the year in question.

Most California beef cattle spend at least part of the year in areas where oak trees abound. The problem with oaks is that they can be toxic to cattle. Disease problems due to ingestion of acorns or oak leaves are not an everyday problem; however, when problems do occur they can be catastrophic. Several years ago, in a few northern California counties, about 2,700 cattle died due to oak toxicity. Why are we concerned this year?

Continue reading [Impacts of winter drought and oak toxicity to livestock](#)

UCCE Central Sierra Master Food Preservers



Both the [Amador/Calaveras](#) and [El Dorado](#) programs are leading training programs for their counties early in 2020.

Visit our training website at http://ucanr.edu/be_mfp for details about upcoming training information meetings and to apply.

[Amador/Calaveras Master Food Preservers](#)

2-8: [Preserving Citrus](#)

2-27: [UCCE Master Food Preserver Training Information Meeting](#) (Burson)

2-27: [UCCE Master Food Preserver Training Information Meeting](#) (San Andreas)

2-28: [UCCE Master Food Preserver Training Information Meeting](#) (Jackson)

[El Dorado Master Food Preservers](#)

2-3: [UCCE Master Food Preserver Training Information Meeting](#) (Placerville)

2-7: [UCCE Master Food Preserver Training Information Meeting](#) (Cameron Park)

2-12: [Citrus: From Tree to Table](#)

2-13: [UCCE Master Food Preserver Training Information Meeting](#) (El Dorado Hills)

[Central Sierra Master Food Preservers](#)

2-5: [Citrus: Preserve it - Serve it](#) (Berkeley)

2-6: [Citrus: Preserve it - Serve it](#) (Concord)

**UCCE Master Food Preservers
of El Dorado County Present:**

**El Dorado County's
8TH ANNUAL
Jr's Jams & Jellies Class**

**Saturday, March 7, 2020
10am - 3pm**

- Kids under 18, learn to make jam & jelly; enter 2 jars in the fair that day!
- Bring the fruit you want to use (apple, grape, peach, or strawberry); everything else is provided. (Quantities given when registering online.)
- Pre-registration required at <http://ucce.edu/enf/jr-jams-jellies>. Sign up for one 30-minute session between 10am - 3pm; limit 5 kids per session, one session per child.
- For more information, contact Robin by phone at 530-621-5528 or by email at rickeland@ucce.edu.

Location: El Dorado County Fairgrounds, Marshall Building
Dainties courtesy of El Dorado Disposal & El Dorado County Fair



*****Save the Date!*****

March 7, 2020

**El Dorado County's
8th Annual Junior Jams & Jellies Class**

[Download Flyer](#)

[Register](#)

UCCE Central Sierra Master Gardeners

UCCE Central Sierra Master Gardeners

[Monthly Gardening Tips](#)
[Vegetable Planting Dates](#)

Amador Master Gardeners

[Master Gardener Articles](#)
2-1: [Introduction to Vegetable Gardening in the Foothills](#)
2-15: [Grafting Backyard Fruit Trees](#)

Calaveras Master Gardeners

[Master Gardener Articles](#)
2-8: [Bare Root Tree Class](#)

El Dorado Master Gardeners

[Master Gardener Articles](#)
2-1: [Garden Tour and Solar Viewing](#)
2-1: [Fire Wise Landscaping](#) (El Dorado Fairgrounds)
2-8: [Open Garden Day & Rose Pruning Demonstration](#)
2-12: [Citrus from Tree to Table](#)
2-22: [Planting for Pollinators](#)
2-29: [Propagation from Seed](#)

Lake Tahoe Master Gardeners

[Master Gardener articles](#)

Tuolumne Master Gardeners

[Master Gardener Articles](#)
[Master Gardener Radio Show](#)
2-1: [Open Garden](#)
2-4: [Mushrooms: The Good- The Bad & The Ugly](#)
2-22: [12 Annual Seed Share Event](#)



UCCE Central Sierra 4-H Youth Development

4-H Grows Here - Join us!



4-H in your community

Each of the foothill counties offer a variety of experiences. To find out what is going on in your 4-H community visit your county's 4-H Program page:

[Amador 4-H Program](#)

[Calaveras 4-H Program](#)

[El Dorado 4-H Program](#)

[South Lake Tahoe 4-H Program](#)

[Tuolumne 4-H Program](#)

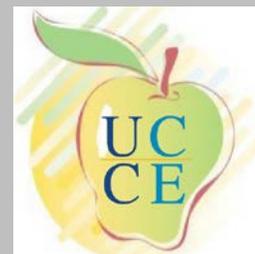


UCCE Central Sierra Community Health & Nutrition

Nutrition News for the Central Sierra

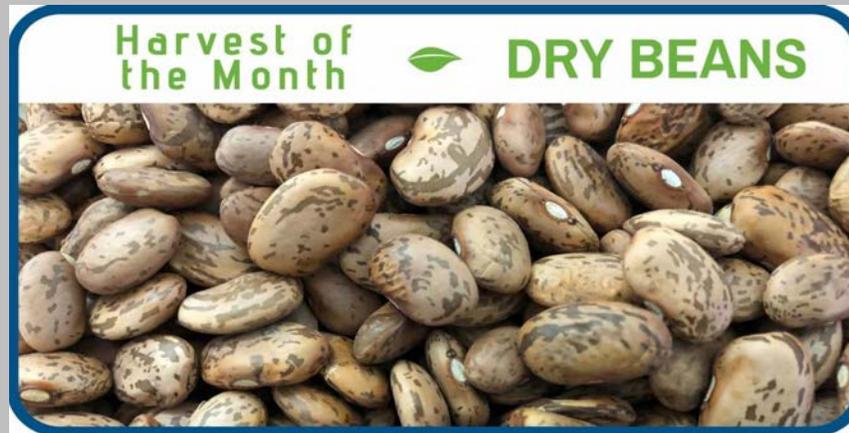
A monthly newsletter about food, nutrition, and healthy living in the Central Sierra.

Welcome to the Nutrition, Family and Consumer Sciences program of the University of California Cooperative Extension! To read [this quarter's newsletter](#), or peruse past issues, visit our [website](#), or click below to subscribe and never miss a quarterly issue!



[Click here to join the Nutrition Newsletter Mailing List.](#)

February's Harvest of the Month



In February when fewer fresh fruits and vegetables are available, eating dry beans is a good way to add variety to a winter diet. In addition to the common pinto, black, and kidney beans, dozens of types of heirloom beans are available in all different colors and sizes. Many kinds of dry beans can be substituted for one another in recipes, as long as they are similar in size, so try a new variety this February! Nutritionally, beans are one of the healthiest foods people can eat. They are excellent sources of protein and fiber, and good sources of iron. See below for healthy recipe ideas, or learn more about beans and view their nutrition facts at [Harvest of the Month](#).

Recipe Ideas:

[Black Bean and Vegetable Quesadillas](#)

[BBQ Baked Beans](#)

[White Chili](#)

[Black Bean Brownies](#)

UC Integrated Pest Management and more...

UCANR Blog: UC Master Gardeners- Diggin' It In SLO

Ticks

Common name: Ticks

Scientific name: Ticks are Arachnids in the Order Acari.

Size: Depending on species, sizes range from the size of the head of a pin, up to one inch.

Areas of county most prolific: Grasslands, chaparral, vegetative borders of hiking trails.

Season most active: March through July

There are hundreds of species of ticks nationwide. They are ectoparasites which live on the blood of mammals, birds, and occasionally of amphibians and reptiles. They are only second to mosquitos **as vectors of human diseases**. **Tick's are best known for transmission** of Lyme disease.



These blood-feeding parasites are often found at the tip of grass blades as they ready themselves to attach to a passing animal. They do not jump. Physical contact is the only means of attachment and transport.

Ticks have a harpoon-like mouth structure, a hypostome, that allows them to anchor firmly in place while feeding. They will drop off of the animal when full, which could take several days.

Common ticks include the American dog tick and the brown dog tick, also called kennel tick because it is mainly found in kennels and in homes with dogs. Both can live indoors in cracks in floors, in upholstery, and near heaters. The deer tick, or black-legged tick, transmits Lyme disease, but this species does not occur in California. However, the Western black legged tick occurs in 56 of the 58 counties in California and also transmits the bacterium that causes Lyme disease.

If you are camping or hiking where ticks will likely be, be diligent in preventing contact by dressing appropriately – long sleeve shirts, long pants, long socks, and tuck your shirt into your pants. Consider acaricides or repellants. Afterwards, perform tick checks on both yourself and your pets. Shower within two hours of possible exposure and wash and dry clothing using high heat to kill any undetected ticks

Use tweezers to remove ticks. Grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible and slowly pull straight out. Wash the wound with soap and water and follow with rubbing alcohol if available.

For more information on ticks and Lyme disease see the UC IPM Pest Notes on Lyme Disease in California - <http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PDF/PESTNOTES/pnlymedisease.pdf>.

UCANR Blog: Pests in the Urban Landscape

Winter pest prevention in the home

It's often easier to prevent pests before they become a problem than to try and get rid of them once they infest a home. While some pests can be active year-round, cooler temperatures trigger some pests to find shelter indoors.

Creatures such as rats or insects are typically looking for food, water, and shelter. Eliminate or reduce access to these resources to deter pests. There are a variety of tools that are readily available which can help block or limit a pest's entrance into the home.

Here are a few suggestions to prevent creatures from stirring in your home this season:

Continue reading [Winter pest prevention in the home](#)



[Plant problem diagnostic tool](#)

[Natural Enemies Gallery](#)

[Weed Identification and Photo Gallery](#)

[Seasonal IPM](#)

[Recent Updates at IPM](#)

[UCIPM Weather Models & Degree Days webpage](#)

Thank you for your continued interest in the UC Cooperative Extension Central Sierra's news, workshops, and events.

Sincerely,

JoLynn Miller
Director and 4-H Youth Development Advisor
University of California Cooperative Extension Central Sierra

530-621-5502 | 888-764-9669 | cecentralsierra@ucdavis.edu | cecentralsierra.ucanr.edu



Accessibility: Should you need assistance or require special accommodations for any of our educational programs, please contact us at 530-621-5502.

The University of California working in cooperation with County Government and the United States Department of Agriculture.

It is the policy of the University of California (UC) and the UC Division of Agriculture & Natural Resources not to engage in discrimination against or harassment of any person in any of its programs or activities. (Complete nondiscrimination policy statement can be found at <http://ucanr.edu/sites/anrstaff/files/215244.pdf>). Inquiries regarding ANR's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to UCANR, Affirmative Action Compliance & Title IX Officer, University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2801 Second Street, Davis, CA 95618, (530) 750-1397.

Quick Links...

[Our Website](#)

[Events & Workshops](#)

[Archived Newsletters](#)

UC Cooperative Extension Central Sierra | 311 Fair Lane, Placerville, CA 95667

[Unsubscribe rkcleveland@ucanr.edu](mailto:rkcleveland@ucanr.edu)

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by rkcleveland@ucanr.edu in collaboration with



Try email marketing for free today!