



Fresno County Farm Bureau

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October 30, 2009

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Annual Ag Awards recipients announced on Tuesday; Luncheon will be held Nov. 18

Two Fresno County Farm Bureau leaders will be recognized for their contributions to agriculture at the Annual Agricultural Awards on Nov. 18 in downtown Fresno.

FCFB Past President, Easton area farmer and former dairyman Fred Machado was selected as the 2009 Agriculturist of the Year by the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce. Likewise, the 2009 Baker, Peterson & Franklin Ag Business Award will be presented to the Riverdale-based Errotabere Ranches, with current FCFB President Dan Errotabere accepting the announcement at a news conference on Tuesday.

Since emigrating with his family from the Azores (Portugal) in 1932, Machado has been involved with farming and dairy production. He started his farm on just 20 acres after leaving the Navy in 1955. Today the family farms about 800 acres of almonds, grapes, orchards and feed crops. Until this year, Machado also was a dairy producer.

Machado has been an active member of FCFB for more than 50 years, serving in several leadership positions, including president. He also has served on the boards of directors of the National Milk Producers Federation, Challenge Dairy and Danish Creamery, and numerous community organizations.

Recognized for its leadership and entrepreneurship, Errotabere Ranches was selected for the achievements of its management team and contributions to the agricultural industry. The diversified family farm dates back to 1920s in the Riverdale area. Upon their father Jean's death, brothers Dan, Jean Jr. and Remi took over the then-800-acre cotton farming operation in 1979. Today, the brother team runs a 6,000-acre diversified farming operation which includes pima cotton, almonds, pistachios, tomatoes, garlic, onions, alfalfa seed, wheat, lettuce and cantaloupes in the Riverdale and Five Points areas. They have progressively applied water efficiencies and technology to better utilize the scarce resource of water. The brothers are each responsible for a specific facet of the business – finances, crop production and farm equipment.

The Errotaberes have held leadership roles in the agricultural industry and in community organizations. Dan has been an advocate for agricultural water issues and has served on several water-related boards. The three brothers are actively involved in Riverdale schools and Fresno State's Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. They support Community Medical Centers, Children's Hospital of Central California, and have been active in the local United Cerebral Palsy Association.

Machado and Errotabere Ranches will be honored at the Ag Awards Luncheon at noon on Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at the Holiday Inn Downtown in Fresno. Tickets are \$40 and tables of eight are \$320. For tickets contact the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce at (559) 495-4800.

Air Quality Workshop to be held Nov. 3 in Reedley

An air quality workshop will be held next Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 1:30 p.m. at the Reedley Community Center, Redwood Room, 100 N. East Ave, Reedley. The workshop will update farmers and ranchers on the internal combustion (IC) engine Rule 4702, the Conservation Management Practices (CMP) Plans program and the permitting program for internal combustion engines. Also, air district representatives will be on-hand to answer questions about agricultural burning regulations.

At the workshops, representatives from the San Joaquin Valley Air District, USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service and agricultural organizations will provide information about the engine rule and permitting requirements, as well as updated CMP plans. Rule 4702 requires non-emergency, non-certified (Tier 0) diesel engines greater than 50 horsepower to no longer be used in the San Joaquin Valley as of Jan. 1, 2010. The Rule states that both stationary and transportable Tier 0 engines shall be replaced with Tier 3 engines

The free workshop is sponsored by Agricultural Improving Resources coalition. Reservations are requested and can be made by calling FCFB at (559) 237-0263 or email: info@fcfb.org. Participants are asked to bring to the workshops the number of IC engines, the horsepower and year models of each engine and number of hours operated per year for each engine; the number of miles of unpaved roads and the dust control treatments used on those unpaved roads and equipment yards; the number of acres grown per crop; and a general site map of operation including all parcels.

Additional workshops are scheduled for Stockton, Modesto, Merced, Madera, Tulare and Bakersfield. For dates, times and locations of the other workshops, contact FCFB at (559) 237-0263.

Reedley Coffee Talk meeting will be held next Wednesday

Fresno County Farm Bureau is hosting a Coffee Talk meeting with Supervisor Judy Case on Wednesday, Nov. 4 at 7 a.m. at Main Street Café, 1052 G Street, in Reedley. Also attending will be Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mims.

The informal Coffee Talk meetings provide Farm Bureau members and others a chance to get up-to-speed on current local issues. Refreshments will be provided.

There is no cost to attend. To RSVP or for additional details, contact FCFB at (559) 237-0263 or email: info@fcfb.org.

Farm Water Coalition recognizes charter director

The California Farm Water Coalition on Monday recognized one of its charter board members for his long-time service to the Coalition, Jack Stone, a diversified west side farmer and noted advocate for irrigated agriculture.

Stone, who recently retired from the Coalition board, was recognized at the board meeting held at Harris Ranch. Coalition Executive Director Mike Wade and the Board of Directors presented Stone with a special resolution, which noted Stone's long-time efforts to promote agriculture and his service on the Coalition board of directors since its beginning, more than 20 years ago.

"We've appreciated Jack's commitment to serve agriculture and it has been a privilege to serve on the Coalition board with him," said Don Cecil, a Willows rice farmer and Coalition board member.

The Coalition is a statewide non-profit, education organization formed in 1989 to increase public awareness about farm water use in California. The organization represents a cross-section of the agriculture industry with members that include individual farmers, agricultural water districts and agencies, agri-business representatives and other farm-based organizations.

Information about the organization's programs and activities, including fact sheets, informational videos and educator resources, can be found on the CFWC web site at www.farmwater.org.

Free safety course offered in Mendota on Nov. 4-6

A free three-day interactive health and safety training course for employees who want to become a Worker Occupational Safety and Health (WOSH) specialist will be held on Nov. 4 – 6 in Mendota.

The "hands-on" course will help cover workplace injury and illness prevention programs, identifying and controlling hazards, Cal/OSHA and safety rights and responsibilities, Workers' Compensation and return-to-work, ergonomics, preventing workplace violence, effective health and safety committees, roles of a WOSH specialist, and strategies for taking action. Instructors are from the Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety Labor Occupational Health Program, U.C. Berkeley and Davis.

Participants will receive a free health and safety course binder with resource tools and materials and a certificate of completion as a WOSH specialist. To register contact Teresa Andrews at (530) 754-8678; email: terandrews@ucdavis.edu.

European buying mission will stop in Fresno on Nov. 4-5

The CA Centers for International Trade Development and CA Department of Food and Agriculture are hosting a European food buyer trade mission in early November. The buyers will be in the Fresno area on Nov. 4- 5 to meet with prospective food exporters.

The WUSATA-sponsored buyers' mission is an excellent opportunity to meet qualified buyers of ingredient products. The participating European buyers are Daarnhouwer & Company B.V., Global Trading & Agency B.V., Somercom, Carl Wilhelm Clasen Gmsh, Kenkko Commodities PLC, MW Nuts International and Catz International B.V. The buyers are most interested in tree nuts, bakery mixes (bulk), bakery ingredients, dried fruits, fruits (IQF) and flavorings. Participating companies are encouraged to be export ready, bring samples and product lists, and be prepared to discuss pricing.

Direct questions to Alicia Rios, of the California Centers for International Trade Development, at (559) 324-6401, (888) 638-7888 or via email: alicia.rios@scccd.edu.

Annual Ag Business Conference is Nov. 10 in Fresno

The California Agricultural Issues and Outlook 28th Annual Agribusiness Management Conference will be held Tuesday, Nov. 10 at the Radisson Hotel Conference Center in downtown Fresno. The event gets underway with registration at 7:30 a.m. and will conclude following lunch.

The annual event, sponsored by the Center for Agricultural Business, Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology at California State University, Fresno, features noted industry experts to discuss water, climate change, invasive species issues, as well as to provide economic outlooks for Valley agriculture and crop-specific updates.

Scheduled to speak are John B. Penson, Jr., Ph.D., of Texas A&M University; Robert Leavitt, of the CDFA Pest Prevention Services Division; Timothy D. Paine, of Agricultural Policy and Pest Management - U.C. Riverside; David Zoldoske, of Fresno State's Center for Irrigation Technology; Jonas Minton, of the Planning and Conservation League; Richard Howitt, of the Agricultural and Resource Economics --U.C. Davis; Brent Walthall, of Kern County Water Agency; Paul Wenger, of California Farm Bureau Federation; Don Hofstrand, of the Agricultural Marketing Resource Center of Iowa State University; Cathleen Enright, of Western Growers Association; and Mechel S. Paggi, Ph.D., of Fresno State's Center for Agricultural Business.

The cost of the conference is \$100 per person if before Nov. 4; \$125 per person later registration. On-line registration is available at <http://cati.csufresno.edu/cab>. Direct questions to (559) 278-4405.

Sexual Harassment Prevention Training to be held Nov. 12

Fresno County Farm Bureau and the Nisei Farmers League are sponsoring a free sexual harassment prevention training session for supervisors on Thursday, Nov. 12 at 10 a.m. at the FCFB office, 1274 W. Hedges Ave., Fresno.

Supervisors are required to take harassment prevention training every two years from a certified trainer. Seating is limited and will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. To RSVP, call FCFB at (559) 237-0263 or email: info@fcb.org.

Private Applicator Classes offered

FCFB and the Fresno County Department of Agriculture will hold Continuing Education Applicator Classes on:

- Friday, Nov. 13, FCFB, 1274 W. Hedges Ave., 8 a.m. to noon
- Friday, Dec. 4, FCFB, 1274 W. Hedges Ave., 8 a.m. to noon

The program is free for FCFB members. The cost for non-members is \$10 per hour of education needed. (Membership applications will be available at the meeting.) Each class will provide three hours of continuing education hours toward the Private Applicator license. To register, contact FCFB at (559) 237-0263 or via email at info@fcb.org.

Did you know???

It's that time again to "spring forward, fall back." Yes, Daylight Saving Time comes to a close this coming Sunday, Nov. 1 – officially at 2 a.m. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour when you retire on Saturday night.

In the U.S., Daylight Saving Time begins on the second Sunday of March and ends on the first Sunday of November. Time moves ahead one hour in March, and moves back one hour in November (hence the saying "Spring forward, Fall back").

Smile for the Week

With Halloween just around the corner, this week's "smile" from Jay Leno seems very appropriate!

"A chilly, damp summer in the Midwest and Northeast has hurt the pumpkin crop this year. They say large pumpkins are going to be hard to find this Halloween.

Isn't that unbelievable? Our pumpkins are getting smaller and thinner, and our trick-or-treaters are getting bigger and fatter." Jay Leno

Calendar of Upcoming Events & Meetings

Oct. 30 Fresno Ag Roundtable, 7 a.m., Marie Calendar's Restaurant, Cedar and Shaw avenues

Oct. 31 Happy Halloween—beware of trick-or-treaters!

Nov. 3 A.I.R Workshop, 1:30 p.m., Reedley Community Center, Redwood Room, 100 N. East Ave, Reedley

Nov. 4 FCFB Coffee Talk meeting, 7 a.m., Main Street Café, 1052 G Street, Reedley.

Nov. 5 FCFB Board of Directors meeting, 6 p.m., FCFB Conference Room, 1274 W. Hedges Ave., Fresno

Nov. 9 FAACT Class Session on land use planning, 8 a.m., FCFB office

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