



Fresno County
Farm Bureau

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Ryan Jacobsen, (559) 237-0263
Cell, (559) 696-0932
Liz Hudson, (559) 237-0263
Cell, (559) 779-1569

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 3, 2007

Applications are now being accepted for FACT Leadership Development Program

August 31 is application deadline

Fresno County Farm Bureau's Leadership Development Program is accepting applications to be part of the 2007-08 Class V. The deadline to apply is Friday, August 31.

The Future Advocates for Agriculture Concerned about Tomorrow (FACT) Leadership Development Program provides community leaders with a comprehensive eight-month program highlighting specific issue areas in agriculture. Both agricultural and non-agricultural, community-minded people are encouraged to apply.

Beginning on Oct. 8, class participants will meet once-a-month for a day-long seminar to discuss current issues in food and fiber production. The Class will meet one day a month (on Mondays) from October through June (excluding December.)

As part of the curriculum, FACT offers a balanced, factual presentation of several issue areas specific to agriculture, such as air quality, land use planning and urban encroachment, water quality regulations and water supply development, organic farming, biotechnology crops, international trade, agricultural labor issues and the economic viability of agriculture. The class sessions use a combination of lectures by noted experts and field trips.

"Each month, class members are given a chance to look very intensively at the major issues in agriculture," said Ken Tatami, FCFB Agricultural Education Committee and FACT Program Chair. Tuition for the program is \$300 per person. Scholarships may be available. The deadline to submit an application is Aug. 31. Applications are available online at: www.fcfb.org or by calling (559) 237-0263.

Fresno County Farm Bureau represents more than 5,000 members on air quality, trade, land use, water, labor and agricultural related issues. Fresno County produces more than 350 commercial crops annually, totaling more than \$4.8 billion dollars in gross production value.

-end-