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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Countywide Farm and Nutrition Day planned for March 20, 2009

Registration for schools opens Nov. 3

Fresno County schools can register for the fourth annual Fresno County Farm and Nutrition Day, which will be held for third-graders from throughout Fresno County on Friday, March 20, 2009.

The annual agricultural and food-related field trip is organized by the Fresno County Farm Bureau, Fresno County Office of Education and Big Fresno Fair. The event will be held at the Fresno Fairgrounds from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, March 20.

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration is available on-line at www.fcb.org beginning Monday, Nov. 3. Participating classes will be notified in the middle of December if they are accepted. Last year, more than 2,100 students attended.

The theme of the Farm and Nutrition Day is "Planting a seed for the future...while growing a healthy community one at a time." The day will provide facts about food and fiber production in Fresno County, with a focus on good nutrition and healthy eating. Farm and Nutrition Day will provide students and teachers with the opportunity to become familiar with food, fiber and animal production, meeting one-on-one with farmers and ranchers, resource managers, and food and agricultural industry representatives. Hands-on activities, presentations and demonstrations are planned.

A big focus of this special event is the importance of making healthy food choices and good nutrition, much of which is provided on a daily basis by the bounty of diversified "food pyramid" crops and products produced in Fresno County.

(more)

Because of the high costs of transportation, financial assistance may be provided to those schools that apply. For additional details about the event, please contact Tami Farris at the Farm Bureau at (559) 237-0263 or via email: tami@fcb.org.

Fresno County is the nation's number one agricultural county, producing more than 350 commercial crops annually, totaling more than \$5.3 billion dollars in gross production value in 2007.

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