

Board Member Profile: Michael Bliss

Michael Bliss brings both deep agricultural roots and a diverse off-the-farm perspective to the FCFB Board. Raised on his family's farm in Merced County, Michael is part of a proud legacy dating back to the late 1800s, when his ancestors first settled the area as cattle ranchers. Over the generations, the operation evolved into a diversified farming enterprise producing almonds, cotton, corn, wheat and alfalfa. While his brother continues to manage day-to-day operations, Michael remains closely involved with the family business.

A 2018 graduate of Fresno State, Michael earned a degree in business administration with an emphasis in marketing. During his time at the university, he worked in the athletics department and served as president of the Catholic Student Association, demonstrating early leadership and a strong commitment to community. His professional journey began in collegiate athletics at Murray State University in Kentucky, but the pull of agriculture eventually led him back to California.

Today, Michael works as a real estate agent with Schuil Ag Real Estate, where he helps clients buy their first farms or expand existing operations. He is passionate about guiding both new and seasoned growers through major investments that shape their agricultural futures.

Michael joined the Merced County Farm Bureau in 2020 and became active in the Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) program. After moving his membership to Fresno County in 2023, he was elected YF&R Chair in 2024. In this role, he actively encourages the next generation of agricultural leaders to get involved and build strong connections within the industry.

Outside of his professional life, Michael enjoys gardening, watching football, managing his fantasy football league, and spending time with family and friends. He is married to Elizabeth, an optometrist from Selma. The couple welcomed their first child, Michael IV, in 2024. Whether he's working alongside his mom and brother on the family farm or welcoming new members to Farm Bureau events, Michael continues to blend tradition with a passion for progress in California agriculture.