

Fresno County Farm Bureau

Friends of the Family Farm Sponsor

Golden State Farm Credit

Offering agricultural financing for over 90 years

While the name may be new, Golden State Farm Credit, previously known as Federal Land Bank Association of Kingsburg, has been serving the agriculture industry for more than 90 years. Local branches are located in Kingsburg and Hanford.

At the beginning of 2014, Chico-based Northern California Farm Credit and Federal Land Bank Association of Kingsburg merged to form Golden State Farm Credit. The union allowed the organizations to spread the risk across more commodity groups and increase services to members.

“Farmers’ needs are ever changing, so we evolve to meet those expectations,” said Golden State Farm Credit Assistant Vice President John Lehrman.

Before the merger, Federal Land Bank Association of Kingsburg was limited to making long-term real estate loans.

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Now, as Golden State Farm Credit, they’ve increased services to include real estate loans, equipment leasing,

equipment loans, operating loans and real estate equity lines of credit. The company also provides cash management support.

Golden State Farm Credit became a *Friends of the Family Farm* sponsor because the company believes Farm Bureau does well advocating on behalf of farmers and ranchers and keeps members informed of what’s coming their way.

“As an ag lender, it’s prudent to be an advocate for



legislation that benefits farmers,” said Lehrman. “When you’re on the front lines, it’s hard to keep up on what’s going on.”

Golden State Farm Credit serves people involved in the business of agriculture, including: farmers; ranchers; forest product businesses; young, beginning farmers; part-time farmers; and agribusinesses. The company helps their clients expand to the size they’d like to; be more efficient; and help them through generational planning.

Golden State Farm Credit is unique because employees are very experienced and know their customers and the area well. They are able to make quick decisions when necessary. Additionally, they have their own appraisal staff.

Another unique fact about Golden State Farm Credit is that they have been paying dividends for over 10 years. Dividends have averaged 1 percent over the last four years, which is the highest of any of the local farm credit offices, explained Lehrman.

Golden State Farm Credit’s territory ranges from southern Fresno County, Kings County, and a portion of Tulare County, as well as Butte, Glenn, Shasta, Tehama, and Trinity counties in Northern California. Approximately 20 people are employed in the Kingsburg and Hanford area branches.

To learn more, contact 559-897-5814 (Kingsburg) or 559-584-5401 (Hanford), or visit www.goldenstatefarmcredit.com.