



Riverside County

# AGRICULTURE

The official publication of Riverside County Farm Bureau, Inc.

A private, nonprofit organization serving farmers throughout Riverside County since 1917

## BUSINESS REGISTRATION AND LICENSING PROGRAM

According to officials in Riverside County, “In November 2006, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors approved Ordinance Number 857 creating a Business Registration and Licensing Program. The ordinance requires that businesses within the unincorporated area of Riverside County obtain a business license. The ordinance includes information regarding the contents of the application form, license issuance protocol, description of license fee, license inspections, water quality inspections and enforcement, and business license enforcement procedures.

The ordinance requires all businesses to register. Some businesses, however, are exempt from paying fees. Fee exemptions will be granted for various agricultural activities, certain residential businesses, places of worship, specific non-profit, and any business exempt by virtue of constitutional law.

Business license fees will not exceed the reasonable cost of providing an inventory of county businesses and the required registration information. No business license fee charged under the provisions of this ordinance shall be construed as a business license tax.

A business registration form designed to ascertain pertinent information regarding the business will be mailed to every known business within unincorporated areas of Riverside County.” The current charges for a business license are: license fee (first year), \$45; annual renewal fee, \$30; change of name/location, \$30; duplicate license, \$30.

Even though agriculture is exempt from the fees listed above, it is not exempt from the registration process. Farmers must still complete the registration form; check the “Agriculture” box on the back of the application (if applicable), and return the completed application to the county.

Once again, officials in Riverside County state there are two major benefits to the business community and general public from the business registration program. First, “The program gives county law enforcement and fire personnel a better understanding of the business community and its process and alerts them to potential hazards, making them more effective responding to protect residents and property.” Second, “The business registration program requires that specific business types be identified, prioritized and inspected for storm water management requirements. It will ensure that those businesses have implemented best management practices to prevent illicit discharges into the storm water system that could ultimately harm water quality.”

For more information on Ordinance 857 and the new business licensing program, contact the Business Registration and License Program office at 951.955.1400 or on their website at [www.rctlma.org.buslic](http://www.rctlma.org.buslic).

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## **Welcome New Members**

**We would like to "Thank You" for becoming part of the Farm Bureau Family.**

### **New CFBF Field Representative for Region I Announced**

We are pleased to announce that Rachael Scott Johnson will be the new California Farm Bureau Field Representative for Region I. Rachael began her Farm Bureau career in 1997, as the office manager in the Riverside County Farm Bureau. She became the Executive Director of San Bernardino County Farm Bureau in March 2000 and has been directing the day-to-day activities of the Farm Bureau in a county dealing with urban encroachment. She received her Bachelor of Science in Business and Management from the University of Redlands. Rachael is a Past-President of the Inland Empire Chapter of the California Women for Agriculture and continues to play an active role in that organization. As a Field Representative, Rachael is a resource to our county Farm Bureau. The Riverside County Farm Bureau welcomes Rachael Scott Johnson as our new Field Representative.

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\*Contact: Gary Troester at FSA, 82901 Bliss Ave, Indio, CA 92201; or phone: 760-347-3675 ext 106; or email: [gary.troester@ca.usda.gov](mailto:gary.troester@ca.usda.gov); or FSA website: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/daf/>.

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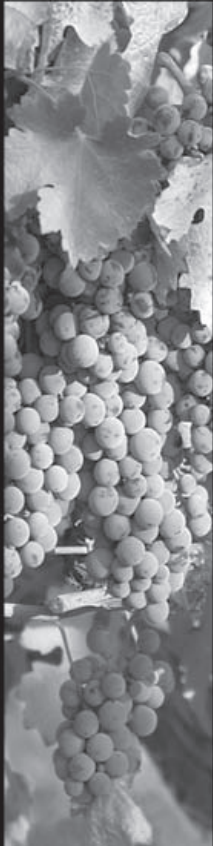
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## ALEJANDRO (ALEX) SANCHEZ



The newest director of the Riverside County Farm Bureau's Board of Directors is Alejandro (Alex) Sanchez. Alex was born in Sonora, Mexico and raised in Yuma, Arizona.

Alex began his agricultural career working in a nursery as a general laborer. Later, Alex went to work for Gowan Chemical Company as a product coordinator assistant and as a laboratory technologist. He eventually went to work in product development for the Select Seed Company.

Alex graduated from the University of Arizona (U of A) in Tucson where he served as the vice president of the Soils, Water and Environmental Club and as president of the Horticulture Club. At the U of A, Alex majored in Plant Science and Crop Production but also had internships with Plant Genome and Hydroponics Production Projects.

Upon graduating from the U of A, Alex began working as a farm technician and later as the farm manager for Ocean Mist (Desert Mist) Farms growing vegetables in the Coachella Valley. While at Ocean Mist Farms, Alex grew artichokes and a variety of winter and summer crops.

Currently, Alex works for Grimmway Farms/Cal Organics as a farm manager. He grows organic vegetables along with conventionally grown carrots in the Coachella and Imperial Valleys.

Alex and his wife, Alma, have two sons, Tenoch, 5 years old, and Tonalli, 3 months old.

## Essie Bootsma elected to CMAB Executive Committee



MODESTO, CA  
- January 31,  
2007 - Essie  
Bootsma has  
been elected to  
serve on the  
Executive  
Committee for

the California Milk Advisory Board (CMAB), the promotional arm for the state's dairy farmers.

A dairy farmer since 1979, Bootsma milks 2,000 Holsteins with her family at the John Bootsma Dairy in Lakeview. She is a member of a variety of community groups including the Riverside County Farm Bureau, Western Riverside Ag Coalition and the Eastern Municipal Water District Advisory Committee.

California is the nation's leading milk producer and also produces more butter, ice cream, yogurt and nonfat dry milk than any other state. The state is the second-largest producer of cheese, which is available nationally under the Real California Cheese seal.



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## Vineyard Removal Guidance for Coachella Valley Growers – February 2007

Growers are advised to do the following to minimize their liability and eliminate possible future cleanup cost associated with mismanagement of Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA) grape stakes.

### Plan your removal to evaluate your disposal options and avoid unnecessary delays

1) Ensure that the disposal site or transfer station have confirmed that your grapes stakes are acceptable at their facility. Not all facilities will be accepting CCA grape stakes, so you will want to plan on where to send them.

### Removal Operations

2) As required to comply with **Treated Wood Waste (TWW)** Emergency Regulations, ensure that your accumulation of the grape stakes is not in contact with the ground. Placement of grape stakes on blocks, hard surfaces, or containers and covered during inclement weather complies with the hazardous waste laws. Bailing the stakes facilitates movement by forklifts onto transport vehicles.

3) Accumulate stakes away from public access. Allowing scavenging is prohibited. To prevent scavenging, access control needs to be implemented.

4) Do not burn, recycle or reuse grape stakes unless in accordance with existing hazardous waste laws.

5) Do not store grape stakes for more than 90 days and do not mix the stakes with other wood waste prior to disposal.

6) The following label information should be placed on each bundled stakes to facilitate the proper handling of the material:

TREATED WOOD WASTE –Do not burn or scavenge.

TWW Handler Name and Address:

Accumulation Date:

7) Records need to be kept to ensure that your grape stakes were properly disposed.

Records should include (1) name and address of the TWW facility to which the TWW was sent; (2) the estimated weight of TWW, or the weight of the TWW as measured by the receiving TWW facility (3) date the shipment of TWW.

### Disposal Activity

8) Disposal of grape stakes is allowed at a hazardous waste landfill or a qualified solid waste landfill. From the Coachella Valley Area, the nearest facilities are:

Lamb Canyon Landfill  
16411 Lamb Canyon Rd., Beaumont, CA  
(951) 486-3200

Badlands Landfill  
31125 Ironwood Ave., Moreno Valley, CA  
(951) 486-3200

Clean Harbors – Westmorland Landfill  
5295 South Garvey Road, Westmorland, CA (760) 344-9400

Please contact the landfill to obtain disposal & fee costs, as they may be adjustable based on volume.

If you have questions on this Guidance, please contact Edward Nieto at (916) 322-7893.



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# Practice safety when using farm chemicals

By Brian Watson, Farm Bureau Group Manager

Most farmers and ranchers in California routinely use agricultural chemicals as part of their farming practices. There has been considerable progress made by manufacturers to develop safer, softer chemicals and farmers have been opting for those more environmentally friendly products in a big way.

That doesn't mean, however, that users of ag chemicals should become lax in either the application or storage of these materials. With all ag chemicals, and this includes fertilizers and amendments, there are some basic safety precautions that everyone should take.

No one should work with or around chemicals such as pesticides without proper training in their application as well as safety requirements. First, it is important to read and understand the product label. Labels are required to clearly state the hazards in using the contents and describe the precautions to take for their safe use.

Another important piece of information of the product label is instructions on what to do in case of accidental exposure or injury. The label is there for everyone's protection, so be guided by its instructions.

Depending on the toxicity of each product, protective clothing, such as safety glasses, gloves or respirator, may be required. The label may also specify a period of time that must elapse before reentering the area where the application was made.

There are some basic guidelines that should be followed when working with or around farm chemicals. For example, never take food into the work area and always wash your hands thoroughly before eating.

Properly discard clothing that is heavily contaminated with toxic ag chemicals. As the concentration of the chemicals increase, the ability to launder and remove the residue decreases. It is not a good idea to take contaminated clothing home to be laundered because you could inadvertently expose your family to the contaminant. Clothing soiled with low toxicity products can be laundered safely and effectively even if large areas are soiled. If necessary, it is a smart practice to shower and change clothing before going home.

Store chemicals according to label directions. If there is a leak or spill, keep away from it unless you know what it is and how to clean it up safely. Be sure to dispose of contaminated material properly. All workers should be trained in proper chemical storage and disposal procedures and know what to do for first aid and emergencies.

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A private, nonprofit organization serving farmers throughout Riverside County since 1917

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| Contact Agency | Type of Damage                    | Location                                       | Phone  |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| USDA - FSA     | Commodity Losses                  | Indio  | 760/347-3675   |
| USSBA          | Business Losses<br>Packing houses | Riverside<br>Indio                             | 800/659-2955   |
| RC Assessor    | Permanent Crop<br>Losses          | Riverside<br>Hemet<br>Temecula<br>Indio/Blythe | 951/486-6777<br>951/766-2527<br>951/600-6248<br>760/863-8718 |

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