



Riverside County

AGRICULTURE

The official publication of Riverside County Farm Bureau, Inc.

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



2007 Jr. Livestock Auction



Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival



The Farm Bureau would like to give many thanks to the members who have contributed to the Auction Support Fund.

With your contributions you have helped these young people continue in learning important life skills, including time management and financial responsibility. We hope that you will continue to support these great organizations with the choices that children have today. FFA, 4-H, and Grange are worth supporting.

These photos are of young people that the Farm Bureau and members like you helped support this year.

Please know your dollars are working to teach a young person the skills necessary to become a responsible adult.

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

Working with large animals can be hazardous

By Brian Watson, Farm Bureau Group Manager

Many people in agriculture work with livestock, and because of the unpredictability of these animals, accidents can occur without warning. Experience with animals is a good teacher, but even the most experienced animal handlers must guard against becoming too complacent.

The types of animals vary from the very large (cattle and horses) to the small (chickens and turkeys) and each presents its own challenges. It is important that everyone who handles livestock receive proper training on the potential hazards and safe handling techniques. Hazards include sudden animal movements, bites or pecks, kicks, scratches, and diseases carried by animals.

To handle an animal safely, one must first have knowledge of the animal's typical behavior. Proper handling techniques should be clearly explained and demonstrated to inexperienced handlers. Be sure to emphasize to everyone who comes near these animals that "typical behavior" is no guarantee. It is the untypical behavior that causes most injuries.

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As a first rule of thumb, remember that slow and deliberate movements help to keep an animal at ease. Avoid sudden, jerky movements that may startle the animal. As a general rule, workers should approach an animal from the

Cont. on page 5....

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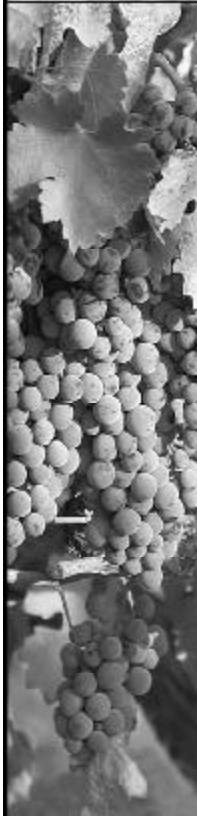


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JOHN DEMLER



Each month, the Riverside County Farm Bureau (RCFB) newsletter introduces a member of the Board of Directors. It is very important that all Farm Bureau members get to know their representatives, including the Board member's farming background, interests, and family.

In this month's issue, we would like to introduce Director John Demler. John has been a director of the RCFB for many years. He was re-elected to the board last November.

John was raised in Anaheim on his father's chicken ranch that was founded in 1948. In 1965, John married his wife, Linda, and began working in the family business. In 1971, John and Linda moved to Riverside County where John managed a hatchery breeder farm. The Demlers moved to San Jacinto in 1980 where John is the managing partner of the Demler Egg Ranch.

John and Linda have four grown children, three daughters and one son and seven grandchildren. They are expecting their eighth grandchild shortly.



APRIL

2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

🌀 April 6th - The RCFB office will close at 12 noon to observe Good Friday..

🌀 April 11th - RCFB Board meeting - 6:30 pm at Carrow's Restaurant, Banning.

🌀 April 12th - Poultry Health Symposium, 8am at the Ontario Airport Marriott. RSVP at 530.752.1524.

🌀 April 21st - UCR Citrus Open House, Lot #3, 10 am to 5 pm. The RCFB will have a booth available.

Corn Fun Facts

- One bushel of corn will sweeten more than 400 cans of pop.
- There are about 600 kernels on each ear of corn.
- Farmers grow corn on every continent except Antarctica.
- Each tassel on a corn plant releases as many as 5 million grains of pollen.



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Allied's Crime Prevention Program – Up to a \$1,000 Reward

My introduction to Allied's ag crime reward program was seven years ago. A rancher who was a Farm Bureau member encountered a stranger on his land who had shot one of his calves and was in the process of butchering the carcass. The Farm Bureau member – in my mind a very brave man – confronted the stranger and called 911. The stranger was later convicted. I had the privilege of giving this rancher a \$1,000 reward from Allied.

Allied Insurance is committed to helping stop ag crimes. It's part of the *On Your Side*® promise we make to our customers.

Allied's Ag Crime Prevention program pays a reward of up to \$1,000 that leads to:

- The arrest and conviction of those involved in theft of property from an Allied policyholder or a Farm Bureau member; or
- The recovery of property stolen from an Allied policyholder or a Farm Bureau member.

A reward from \$250 to \$1,000 will be paid depending on type of crime or the value of the stolen property.

In cooperation with the local county Farm Bureau, Allied provides signs to post on your property stating a reward is offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those involved in a theft of property or the recovery of property stolen from a Farm Bureau member.

If you are interested in reward program signs, contact the California Farm Bureau at (800) 698-3276.

If you have information about an ag-related theft, contact Allied Insurance at 800-552-2437, x7732.

.....Cont. from Page 2. Working with large animals can be hazardous.

front and avoid its blind spots as well as the "kick zone" behind cattle and horses. Emphasize to livestock handlers that they should avoid cornering, teasing or poking animals.

There are warning signs to watch for that may indicate animal aggressiveness or fear. These indicators vary among the various types of livestock, but can include such things as raised fur or hair, flattened ears, twitching tails, or bared teeth. Whenever possible, avoid approaching these animals until they are in a calmer state. Handlers should be especially alert when dealing with sick or injured animals or new mothers. Also keep in mind that many herd animals are calmer when handled in small groups.

It is also advisable to keep an open route of escape when working with livestock. For added protection, aggressive animals should be placed in separate pens that are clearly labeled with warning signs.

When handling livestock, workers should wear protective footwear with non-slip soles, sturdy clothing and gloves. Dirty hands or inhalation of contaminated dusts increases the potential for contracting diseases carried by animals. Frequent hand washing is the best defense against diseases caused by touching animal saliva or wastes.

As with all areas of agriculture, knowledge and training are the best ways to reduce the risk of an accident.



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**Riverside County
AGRICULTURE**

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

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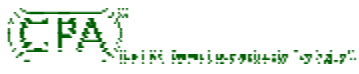
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