

ANR REPORT

University of California ■ Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

- **Jury wins top USDA award p. 3**
- **On the road with VP Gomes p. 5**
- **Oakland 4-H ASAP celebrates its first three years p. 6**

April 19-May 24, 1999

Gomes names new regional directors

Vice President *Gomes* has appointed *Charlie Crabb*, *Kim Rodrigues* and *Susan Laughlin* as DANR regional directors.

The three regional director positions, which have been restructured and consolidated under the new mission-based structure, will provide administrative leadership for research and extension programs delivered through CE offices in their region.

- **NORTH COAST AND MOUNTAIN REGION DIRECTOR: *Kim Rodrigues***

Rodrigues has been the CE county director and forest advisor in Humboldt County since 1991. She also served as interim regional director of the North Region during *Terry Salmon's* sabbatical in 1996-97.

Prior to joining the University, *Rodrigues* was a tree improvement specialist for the Simpson Timber Company in Korb, Calif., from 1985 to 1991. Before that, she was chief forester for Applied

continued on p. 4

Gomes announces the selection of DANR's four program leaders

Vice President *Gomes* has named *Bill Frost*, *Joseph Morse*, *Michael Reid*, and *Karen Varcoe* as program leaders for the Division.

These are new positions, created for the program-matically based organization now being put into place.

The primary responsibility of the program leaders is to bring together Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension academics and other involved parties in workgroups to plan and conduct programs that address high priority needs. Each program leader is responsible for one of four broad programmatic areas.

"Each of the successful candidates for program

leader and regional director is representative of the many talented individuals from the Division who were carefully considered for these important positions in the new structure," *Gomes* said.

"Selection of these individuals takes us closer to our goal of implementation on July 1."

- **AGRICULTURAL POLICY AND PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM LEADER: *Joseph Morse***

Morse is a professor of entomology and entomologist at UC Riverside and director of the UC Center for Exotic Pest Research.

His research program covers both applied and fun-

damental research in the management of pests of subtropical crops, particularly pests of citrus; biological control; pesticide effects on natural enemies; resistance management and applied insect ecology. Over the past 18 years, his lab has contributed to the development of a more integrated approach to citrus pest management.

In 1993, *Morse* was given the Entomological Society of America Recognition Award in Entomology for outstanding contributions to U.S. agriculture.

Morse holds a BS degree in electrical engineering from Cornell University, and an MS degree in systems science, an MS degree in entomology and a PhD degree in entomology from Michigan State University. He joined UC in 1981.

Before being named head of the Exotic Pest Research Center in 1996, *Morse* was

continued on p. 2

Natural resources conference highlights local efforts to restore salmon

By *John Stumbos*

Extension educators from Oregon and Washington joined their California colleagues at the Bodega Marine Laboratory March 9-11 to exchange information about local efforts to save imperiled runs of salmon and steelhead.

About 60 people—university scientists, Cooperative Extension and Sea Grant specialists and advisors, industry and conservation

continued on p. 3



Participants of the 1999 Natural Resources Continuing Conference toured Spud Point Marina at Bodega Bay. Local commercial fisherman George Boos (center) discussed issues such as the types of fisheries operating out of the Sonoma County port, technology used by fishermen to prevent catching undersized fish, fish depredation from sea lions; and the dangerous "derby" opening of crab season.

John Stumbos

Program leaders (from p. 1)

vice-chair of the UCR entomology department.

■ AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY PROGRAM LEADER:

Michael Reid

Reid has been associate dean for the Division of the Environment in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at UC Davis since 1994. He previously served in other administrative posts, including as the college's statewide associate dean and its associate dean for Cooperative Extension.

Reid joined the UC Davis faculty in 1979. He is a professor in the department of environmental horticulture and an expert in postharvest handling of tropical fruits and flowers.

A native of Auckland, New Zealand, Reid originally came to Davis in 1968 as a Fulbright Fellow. From 1966 to 1978, he was a research scientist in the New Zealand Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

Reid holds a BS degree in botany, an MS degree in microbiology, a PhD degree in cell biology and a DSc degree from Auckland University.

He has been editor-in-chief of the journal *Scientia Horticulturae* since 1989.

■ HUMAN RESOURCES PROGRAM LEADER: *Karen Varcoe*

Varcoe moves into her new role after notable success as a UC Riverside-based Cooperative Extension consumer economics/management specialist, a position she has held since 1981. Her extension programs have emphasized teaching limited-resource families and individuals throughout California to become financially self-sufficient.

Most recently, she coordinated the development and implementation of the successful *Gateway To A Better Life* curriculum, now being used in California and several other states.

Varcoe has received numerous awards during her Extension career, including the USDA Outstanding Achievement Award, and the Outstanding Consumer Education Award from the American Council on Consumer Interest.

She was a participant in the National Extension Leadership Development

(NELD) Program in 1993 and 1994. She has also been a Kellogg Fellow with the National Center for Food and Agricultural Policy.

She is a past president of the Association of Financial Counseling and Planning Educators.

Varcoe received a PhD in family and consumption economics from the University of Illinois in 1975.

■ NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM LEADER: *Bill Frost*

Frost has been county director of the El Dorado County CE office since last September. In addition, he has served as the natural resources advisor for El Dorado, Amador and Calaveras counties for almost five years.

Frost is an expert in hardwood rangeland management—he currently serves as the interim director of the UC Integrated Hardwood Range Management Program—and public land issues. He was among the first to receive a license as a certified rangeland manager in California.

Between 1991 and 1995, Frost was director of the University of Arizona's CE

office in Gila County. At the same time, he was responsible for extension programs in natural resources and community development. From 1989 to 1991, he was the director of the San Joaquin Experimental Range for California State University, Fresno.

Frost earned a BS degree and an MS degree in range science from UC Davis. He was awarded a PhD degree in range management from the University of Arizona at Tucson in 1986.

The program leaders will serve on the DANR Program Council. For more information about the Program Council and other components of DANR's new structure, go online to DANR's homepage (<http://danr.ucop.edu/blueprint/>).

■ Job opportunities

- Farm Advisor—dairy Stanislaus and Merced Closing date: Application review begins June 30. ASC99-04.

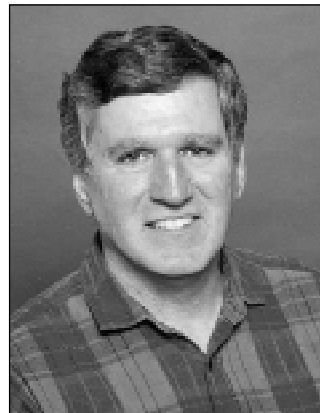
For more information, contact *Cindy Inouye* (559/646-6535 cinouye@uckac.edu).



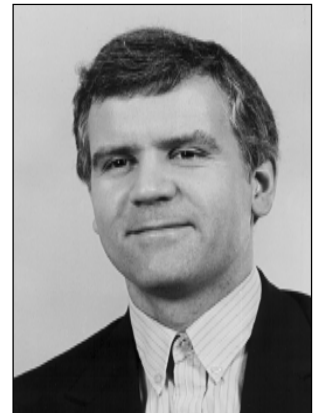
Karen Varcoe



Michael Reid



Bill Frost



Joseph Morse

Natural Resources Continuing Conference (from p. 1)

representatives and others — attended the sixth Natural Resources Continuing Conference (NRCC) at the UC research complex on the Sonoma coast.

The meeting identified key issues and future training needs to further the cause of salmon and steelhead recovery.

“We designed this conference to increase awareness of the status of Pacific Coast salmon and to share ideas for multidisciplinary extension and research activities,” said Sea Grant marine fishery specialist *Christopher Dewees*, a conference organizer.

“Our hope was to inspire participants to work across program areas, as well as state boundaries, on common issues, and I believe we succeeded.”

Conference participants presented nine case studies of extension programs helping people learn about salmon or undertake restoration projects throughout the Pacific Northwest:

- Sea Grant marine advisor *Paul Olin* discussed his work on restoration projects, workshops and tours for landowners along tributaries to the Russian River.

- Mendocino County livestock and natural resources advisor *John Harper* gave an overview of the popular Ranch Water Quality Short Courses.

A related presentation by UC Davis postgraduate researcher *David Lewis* described a project helping landowners inventory and monitor erosion threats and stream sediment.

- Dewees described the Spring-run Chinook Salmon Workgroup, which has succeeded in bringing together stakeholders to eliminate barriers to salmon recovery.

- Reports from Oregon and Washington focused on extension efforts helping watershed groups develop restoration projects; educational programs for non-industrial forest landowners and the general public; and activities to facilitate intergovernmental communication.

Other conference highlights included a description of salmon life histories, habitat needs and status from UCD wildlife, fish and conservation biology professor *Peter Moyle*; a presentation from *Dan Keppen*, director of Northern California Water Association, on the uncertainty Endangered Species Act listings have created for Sacramento Valley agriculture; an overview of the decline in the commercial fishing fleet from *Mitch Farro* of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Association; and a lecture from Bodega Marine Laboratory geneticist *Dennis Hedgecock* on cutting-edge research into the genetics of Central Valley chinook salmon. The group also met with local commercial fishermen and toured watershed projects restoring riparian and streambed habitat for steelhead and coho salmon.

Major outcomes of the conference, as summarized by *Rick Standiford*, UC Berkeley College of Natural Resources associate dean for forestry and one of the NRCC’s chief advocates, in-

clude agreement on the need for training in conflict resolution; water quality; riparian silviculture; biology, ecology, management and policy issues affecting salmon conservation; design, maintenance and management of riparian restoration projects; and the design and use of adaptive management.

Other identified issues include the need to “popularize” salmon projects; to have extension educators speak directly with policy makers; to develop more youth education opportunities in natural resources; to hire more extension specialists in conservation biology; and to coordinate western regional extension activities.

“It will take the coordinated efforts of all the western Cooperative Extension and Sea Grant programs to mount effective educational programs to reduce the dramatic declines of salmonid stocks in the West,” Standiford said.

The Natural Resources Continuing Conference affords academics from different regions and campuses an opportunity to learn about colleagues’ efforts on a wide variety of issues throughout the state. For additional information about the NRCC, contact Standiford at standifo@nature.berkeley.edu or at 510/643-5428.

A proceedings from the 1999 Natural Resources Continuing Conference will be available at a later date. Contact Dewees at cmdewees@ucdavis.edu or at 530/752-1497.

Stumbos is a UC Davis-based senior public information representative for DANR.

Names in the news

- *Miguel A. Marino*, professor of hydrologic science and civil and environmental engineering at UC Davis and interim associate director of the Centers for Water and Wildland Resources, was elected to honorary membership in the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). The citation notes “his mastery of surface and subsurface hydrologic processes, his renowned methodologies to plan, design, and manage water resources engineering projects, and for his leadership in civil engineering teaching and role-modeling.”

- *William A. Jury* of UC Riverside received the 1999 USDA Secretary’s Honor Award for Environmental Protection. USDA commended the professor of soil physics and soil physicist for his ground-breaking work in measuring and modeling pesticide movement through soil. Jury’s contributions to scientific understanding and public health have included developing screening models that predict the contamination and pollution tendencies of various pesticides. The models are now widely used by regulatory agencies and industry to evaluate new pesticides. The Honor Awards are the most prestigious awards given by the USDA.

- *Pam Kan-Rice*, managing editor of California Agriculture, received a certificate of achievement from USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service for “outstanding service as a member of the 1999 ECOP/ESOP Image Enhancement Writing Team.”

RDs (from p. 1)

Forest Genetics in Los Gatos for a year. She also worked as a laboratory technician in the department of forestry and natural resources at UC Berkeley.

In 1998, Rodrigues received a DANR Distinguished Service Award in the “Outstanding Teaching-County Director with Advisor Responsibilities” category.

Rodrigues earned a BS degree in forest management from UC Berkeley in 1981 and an MS degree in forest genetics from Colorado State University in 1984.

■ CENTRAL VALLEY REGION DIRECTOR: *Charlie Crabb*

Crabb has served as the regional director of the South Central Region since September 1995.

Prior to that appointment, Crabb held a variety of administrative and academic posts at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. From 1991 to 1995, Crabb was associate vice president for academic resources. From 1988 to 1990, he served as interim associate dean for administration and farm manager of the College of Agriculture. He also held several professional appointments in the college’s crop science department—from 1978 to 1984, 1986 to 1988 and 1990 to 1991.

From 1984 to 1986, Crabb was a research assistant in wildlife extension at UC Davis.

Crabb holds a PhD degree in agricultural ecology from UC Davis. He earned an MS degree in vertebrate pest ecology from Bowling Green State University.

■ CENTRAL COAST AND SOUTHERN REGION DIRECTOR: *Susan Laughlin*

Laughlin, county director in Contra Costa County, will fill a one-year term as RD.

Laughlin has served UC in research and administrative roles for the past 20 years. She began her work with UCCE as a research analyst, studying the effectiveness of the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program. Since then, she has worked as the program director for the food, nutrition, family and consumer sciences area of CE, as associate dean for CE in the College of Natural Resources at UC Berkeley and as a CE specialist in the UCB School of Social Welfare.

Laughlin received a BA degree in psychology from Stanford University, an MA degree in social work from NYU and a PhD degree in social welfare from UCB. She has worked as a clinical social worker and as an administrator in social welfare agencies. She spent three years in the Peace Corps as a volunteer and training staff member in Colombia and in

Central America. She also worked as an instructor in Zambia.

These managers will serve on the DANR Program Council. For more information about the Program Council and other components of DANR’s new structure, visit DANR’s homepage on the Internet (<http://danr.ucop.edu/blueprint/>).

Crabb on the regional director’s changing role

Charlie Crabb will have a unique vantage point from which to assess DANR’s restructuring, having served as a regional director in the former structure and now taking on RD duties in a greatly expanded region.

After accepting his new assignment, Crabb said: “I’m really excited about the opportunity to move to a more program-focused administrative structure. And I look forward to bringing a local program focus to the new Program Council.

“The biggest change is that, before, the RDs were expected to provide program leadership in all areas. Now there will be leaders with well-defined program range, and the RDs will be able to work more aggressively to support local program needs.

“Advisors and specialists will be better served by this structure. They will know who their advocate is statewide (programmatically) and regionally. This will allow advocacy from two different perspectives.”



Susan Laughlin



Charlie Crabb



Kim Rodrigues

Suzanne Paisley

Promoting DANR's work keeps Gomes on the road

By *Gabriele Kassner*

When Vice President *Gomes* took office in September 1995, DANR was reeling from severe budget cuts. Many of its most experienced people were gone, lured by UC's early retirement incentives. Cutbacks in long-term funding meant there was no chance all vacancies would be filled.

Seeking to shore up and, if possible, expand DANR's funding base, Gomes set out on a personal campaign to bring its work to the attention of key decision-makers, especially to those who influence its budgets.

In pursuit of that goal, for the past three and a half years Gomes has moved from forum to forum, here in California and in Washington, D.C., to drive home one core message: DANR is a high-yield, blue-chip investment, its research and educational activities reaching far beyond its traditional farming focus, much of its work situated at the frontiers of scientific inquiry. Borrowing *Wayne Rasmussen's* apt phrase, Gomes underscores that DANR "takes the University to the people."

Gomes often invites decision-makers to see for themselves how the lessons

of University research are transferred to the real world to benefit state residents.

Last August, for example, Gomes took UC administrators, including Chancellor Emeritus *Karl Pister*, who oversees Atkinson's Outreach Action Plan, to 4-H After-School Activity Program sites in inner-city Los Angeles, where they heard about the program's merits from the kids. 4-H is the University's oldest K-12 outreach program, having served California's children for 85 years.

And last fall, Gomes escorted President *Atkinson* and members of the Board of Regents on a two-day tour of viticulture operations in Napa and Sonoma counties. The group saw first-hand how UC research and extension has helped the wine industry flourish. In 1997, wine ranked as California's No. 3 agricultural export, valued at \$375 million, generating thousands of jobs.

Of course, sometimes it is more practical to bring the program to the decision-makers. On April 6 of this year, for example, Gomes took seven 4-H club members with him to meet state legislators in Sacramento. He schedules these meetings each year to introduce himself to newly elected senators and assemblymembers whose committee assignments will impact the Division.

This year, in keeping with UC's emphasis on K-12 outreach and Governor *Davis'* focus on education,

he asked the Statewide 4-H Program to pick several club members from Sacramento and Sonoma counties to join his delegation. The group also included county 4-H program reps and adult volunteers. They assembled in the Sacramento office of DANR's state and local governmental relations coordinator *Claudia Reid*, who arranged the day's activities. *Jim Collin*, chief consultant to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture, led them on a tour of the recently refurbished, historic Capitol building. In the afternoon they met with state legislators, including the Speaker of the House.

"The kids worked hard, represented 4-H wonderfully, were the hit of the day and will probably remember this day for the rest of their lives," Reid said.

Later that evening Gomes and UC Assistant Vice President *Steve Arditti* co-hosted a private dinner for legislators, current and former regents and representatives of government, industry and education groups who collaborate in local 4-H programs. The guests included two former 4-H Diamond Stars, who did a superb job, Reid said, of explaining how 4-H had helped them build skills for success. Reid said the dinner's "intimate, informal, non-partisan setting" encouraged a lively exchange of ideas. Besides Gomes, his wife, *Carol*, and Reid, the DANR contingent included 4-H advisors *John Pusey* and *David Snell*, Sacramento 4-H program supervisor *Marianne Bird* and 4-H program representative *Wanda Tapia*. DANR has co-hosted



Gomes, Regent John Davies and former Regent Ralph Ochoa on wine tour last fall.

Jack Kelly Clark

an annual legislative dinner for the past five years.

The four 4-H programs represented that day were Sacramento County 4-H YES (Youth Experiencing Science), which has a collaborative project with Sacramento START (Students Today Achieving Results for Tomorrow) funded by Intel Corporation; the Fresno 4-H School Enrichment Program—Avian Embryology; the L.A. County 4-H ASAP, and the Sonoma County 4-H Chickenque Project, a "zero-waste" event that diverts up to 2,200 pounds of waste from landfills.

"Part of the success of the day," Reid said, "is evident in the fact that Assemblymember *Patricia Wiggins* of Sonoma County encouraged the 4-H youth to consider marketing their recycling skills to other Sonoma County community groups that serve meals to large groups of people."

Another request stemming from the day's events came from state Senator *Deirdre Alpert*, chair of the Senate Education Committee. She asked the Division to arrange for her to tour several 4-H ASAP sites in Southern California this summer.

Another person-to-person event currently on the drawing board: a Gomes-hosted legislative tour focusing on programs in San Diego and Orange counties. The tour is scheduled for this fall.



Gomes and 4-H ASAP member in L.A.

Oakland 4-H ASAP celebrates its first three years as it seeks to attract more corporate funding

The Oakland 4-H After School Activity Program (ASAP) has reason to celebrate.

Scores of inner-city Oakland children who used to “hang out” or watch TV after school are spending their afternoons in a safe environment that promotes academic success.

Since its inception in 1996, more than 350 children have enrolled in ASAP at almost no cost to their families because of a \$1 million start-up grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and nearly \$250,000 in private funds raised by the California 4-H Foundation.

To mark these achievements and to pay tribute to the coalition of government, University and corporate groups who make the program possible, Oakland 4-H ASAP held a Spring Celebration on March 31 at the

Peralta Villa Community Center. Joining in the festivities were parents, kids and staff from the program’s three sites, the public and private partners involved in the venture and local media.

Mayor Brown joins kids in the computer center

Speakers included Oakland Mayor *Jerry Brown*, Oakland Housing Authority Executive Director *Harold Davis*, Vice President *Gomes* and UC program managers.

Among the high points of the 90-minute event were the presentations the children made of 4-H projects.

The spotlight then focused on the program’s six major corporate sponsors: The Clorox Company Foundation, Farmers Insurance Group, Pacific Bell Foundation, BankAmerica Foundation, Kaiser Permanente, Pacific Gas & Electric Company. Each donor received a certificate of recognition from Vice President *Gomes* for their generous financial or in-kind support of the program’s startup costs and first three years of operation.

Mayor Brown, an outspoken advocate for educational reform, arrived early, joining the children in the computer center. He based his remarks, “Partnerships Make It Happen,” on the four H’s in the 4-H pledge—head, heart, hands and health.

“Jerry Brown’s address was inspiring,” said California 4-H Foundation Director *Cynthia Sergeant*. “He said that just as the four H’s are essential

for individuals, they are also the keys to a successful community. He even suggested that the City of Oakland ‘adopt’ 4-H!

“It’s obvious,” Sergeant continued, “that 4-H ASAP is right on target with the national, state and local awareness of the critical importance of after-school care and with the current emphasis on improving education.”

Oakland 4-H ASAP needs additional sponsors

Sergeant noted that the \$1 million, three-year seed grant from HUD that helped get the program off the ground will run out soon. That means, she said, that Oakland 4-H ASAP is about to enter a critical phase in its development: community sustainment.

“The challenge is constantly securing new public and private investment, and we now know it takes \$300,000 a year to keep ASAP’s doors open at the three sites in Oakland,” Sergeant said.

“I believe we can do it, but sustaining dollars are typically harder to come by than startup funds. We really need to look to the community to come up with additional partners.”

Sergeant said the California 4-H Foundation is increasing its efforts to bring more sponsors into the fold.

She went on: “It’s clear from the impact it’s having on the kids that the Oakland 4-H After School Activity Program is too good to lose.”

Oakland 4-H ASAP helps kids put their talents to good use

Youngsters in 4-H ASAP learn valuable lessons, like the importance of taking pride in academic achievement—and of giving something back through community service.

These 4-H’ers, ages 7 to 13, can boot up any of the 16 Internet-connected PCs in the computer center to explore new worlds. They have time and help to complete their homework. Hands-on 4-H science projects show them how things work. Educational materials often in short supply in their neighborhoods are right at their fingertips.

Also on hand are caring adults and teen role models from the community. Trained ASAP staff, parents and 4-H volunteers provide one-on-one guidance and that “push in the right direction” kids need to engage in activities that nurture their talents and build skills and self esteem.

There is also “cross-pollination” between 4-H ASAP and the 4-H club program. ASAP youngsters participate in Alameda County’s 4-H camp and the annual Alameda County Fair. This April *Christopher Lee*, a teen volunteer at the computer center for the past year and a half, was one of eight youths to represent California at the National 4-H Conference in Chevy Chase, Md.



Edgar Quiroz, member services leader, Kaiser Permanente, looks on as a 4-H ASAP member in Oakland surfs the Internet.

Fujii appointed assistant VP

Milton Fujii has been named the Division's assistant vice president for academic personnel, planning and budget.

The promotion is retroactive to Jan. 1, when Fujii unofficially assumed these duties in DANR's transition to a new structure.

For the last four years, Fujii has been the director of Program Planning and Evaluation in the office of Associate Vice President *Henry Vaux Jr.*

Fujii has played pivotal roles in designing and implementing the Division's strategic planning process, Vaux said. Fujii has also served as staff to the Transition Team since it was formed last year.

Fujii came back to the Division in 1994, after a four-year stint as director of community affairs at UC Berkeley. From 1978 to 1989, he held a variety of program planning and evaluation assignments in DANR and, prior to that, in local government.

Fujii was awarded a BA degree in psychology from UC Berkeley and an MA degree in psychology from Claremont Graduate School, where he also completed course work for a PhD.



Suzanne Paisley

Assistant Vice President Milton Fujii earlier this year at DANR's statewide conference.

Cooperative Extension teams with CDFA, others to fight fire ant infestation in Southern California

By Pam Kan-Rice

Red imported fire ants are now established in 800 square miles of Southern California. Since November 1998, when the harmful insect was first detected in Orange County, Cooperative Extension advisors have been working with local nurseries to control the pest.

The ants pose a public health problem because they attack their victims en masse. Their painful stings cause blisters and can be deadly to people allergic to the venom. The ants also attack young seedlings and animals, including groundnesting birds.

The infestation is having a profound effect on Orange County's \$166 million nursery industry. Nursery growers estimate it will cost them about \$1,000 per acre to comply with California Department of Food and Agriculture quarantine regulations, says *John Kabashima*, environmental horticulture advisor for Orange and Los Angeles counties.

All of Orange County and parts of Riverside and Los Angeles counties were placed under a plant quarantine, which restricts movement of plants and soil, due to the red imported fire ant infestation.

Last year, red imported fire ants were found in Stanislaus, Fresno and Kern counties. These in-

festations, however, were confined to single properties and were eradicated. The outbreaks in Southern California are more serious because they are widespread and in a densely populated area.

On March 19, CDFA, which ruled out aerial sprays, announced it was putting up \$2.8 million to assist local efforts to eradicate the pest.

CDFA and UC scientists have published a leaflet, "How California residents can deal with red imported fire ants," which is being distributed through retail nurseries to homeowners in the quarantined areas. The publication is also posted online in English and Spanish at the CDFA website (www.cdfa.ca.gov), under "pest update."

The red imported fire ant is established in 11 southeastern states.

Entomologist *Les Greenberg*, a postdoctoral fellow at UC Riverside studying Argentine ant control with urban entomologist *John Klotz*, did 15 years of fire ant research at Texas A&M University before coming to UCR in 1996.

Greenberg and Klotz recommend a two-step program used in Texas to control red imported fire ants. First they use an insect growth regulator, a

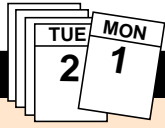
slow-acting chemical that prevents the queen from laying more eggs and causes the larvae to develop into ants that cannot reproduce. Then they apply an insecticide to kill the remaining ants.

UC Cooperative Extension has held hands-on workshops for nursery workers, showing them how to identify red imported fire ants—which look similar to the native fire ant, *Solenopsis xyloni*—and properly treat for them.

Kabashima, who runs the Master Gardener program in Orange County, says future plans include the use of Master Gardeners to train homeowners to monitor for the ants and their mounds and use pesticides to control them. There are no known effective biocontrols.

Jay Hamilton, a UC Riverside graduate student in economics, and entomologist Klotz are working with the Agricultural Issues Center at UC Davis on an economic analysis of red imported fire ants in California. On May 25, they will report on their case study at the "Exotic Pest and Disease Policy" conference in Sacramento.

Kan-Rice is managing editor of the Division's journal, California Agriculture.



COMING UP

MAY

***Population and the Environment: Too Many People and/or Poor Management of Resources?**

May 24; UC Berkeley; 510/643-8860

Exotic Pests and Diseases: Biology, Economics, Public Policy

May 25; Sacramento; Laurie Treacher
Ag Issues Center (530/752-2320)

**Joint Policy Council Conference:
"Science and Agricultural Policy"**

May 26; Sacramento; John Gutierrez
(510/987-9869)

***Agritourism Workshop (for Northern California)**

May 27; Marshall; Ellie Rilla
(415/499-4202)

JUNE

***Almond/Walnut Workgroup/Farm Advisor Tour**

June 2-4; Sacramento Valley
Warren Micke (530/752-2588)

JULY

***43rd Annual Weed Day**

July 15; UC Davis; Nancy Muller
(530/752-7091)

*New listing

*To list events, call 510/987-0631
or send to ANR Report*

DANR success stories on USDA database

DANR has been submitting information about its research and extension projects to the National Land-Grant/USDA Impact Database for 1999.

The database is used to fashion Science and Education topical impact fact sheets, which are distributed to members of Congress to let them know some of the ways society is benefiting from land-grant research.

Pam Kan-Rice, managing editor of California Agriculture, was one of a dozen writers from land-grant institutions who gathered in Washington D.C. earlier this year to glean the projects showing the greatest impact in 18 selected topic areas from the 3,337 submissions for 1999.

California scored 10 mentions in the 360 stories chosen for publication.

The 1998 database and Science and Education impact reports are available at: <http://www.reeusda.gov/success/impact.htm>.

Are you ready for Y2K?

By *David Underwood*

Here are some things you can do to get your computer ready for the millennium.

Hardware

■ The PC systems BIOS@ chip in an older personal computer (the rule of thumb is older than four years) is the primary concern for year 2000 (Y2K) compatibility. All PC systems should be tested to determine if the BIOS is Y2K compliant. Should the BIOS fail, it must be upgraded or patched via software. If upgrades are unavailable or patching fails to fix the problem, system replacement should be considered. Check out the online resources below or contact the computer manufacturer if you have questions.

Macintosh machines are not affected by this problem.

Software

■ Current system software can be upgraded to be Y2K compliant. Windows 95 is Y2K compliant, with the proper patch, but Windows 3.1 is not. Assuming the BIOS passes, systems running Windows 3.1 should be upgraded to Windows 95/98 to avoid Y2K problems. Windows 95 systems must have had Microsoft's WIN95Y2K.EXE patch applied.

■ Custom software applications, spreadsheets and databases should be tested or looked at with a software analyzer to insure compliance. There are several Y2K software utilities on the market, and most current software vendors provide Y2K utilities via their websites.

Online Y2K resources you can use

- UCOP PC Center: <http://www.ucop.edu/pccenter/y2k/>
- Microsoft: <http://microsoft.com/y2k/>
- Lotus: <http://www.lotus.com/y2k/>

Underwood is a DANR programmer/analyst based in Oakland. He can be reached at 510/987-0072.

Reimbursement rates up for entertainment costs

By *Carol Omelich*

Higher limits for entertainment expenses were announced in a revision of UC's entertainment policy.

As of April 1, the maximum daily entertainment expense per person is as follows:

- Breakfast—\$15
- Lunch—\$25
- Dinner—\$40
- Light refreshment—\$10

The maximum rates for breakfast and lunch have been increased to more closely approximate rates charged for conferences and catered meals. The maximum rates for dinner and light refreshments remain the same.

The rate increases were published in Business and Finance Bulletin BUS-79 on Entertainment, issued by the Office of the President on April 1. This revision replaces the entertainment policy of July 1, 1998.

The revised policy, available on the Internet (<http://www.ucop.edu/ucophome/policies/bfb/bus79.html>), also contains other minor technical clarifications and modifications.

Section 201 of DANR's "Administrative Handbook" is being revised to reflect these changes and will be issued after July 1, when the DANR restructuring becomes effective.

ANR REPORT

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES: Serving California through the creation, development and application of knowledge in agricultural, natural and human resources. <http://danr.ucop.edu/>

Send news items and comments to Gabriele Kassner, ANR Report editor, Office of Governmental & External Relations, 1111 Franklin St., 6th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607-5200. Telephone: 510/987-0631; fax: 510/465-2659; email: gabriele.kassner@ucop.edu

ANR Report is issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, W.R. Gomes, Director of Cooperative Extension, University of California.

In accordance with applicable state and federal laws and University policy, the University of California does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, medical condition (cancer-related), ancestry, marital status, citizenship, sexual orientation, or status as a Vietnam-era veteran or special disabled veteran. Inquiries regarding this policy may be addressed to the Affirmative Action Director at the address above. Telephone: 510/987-0096.