

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION STAFF REPORT
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
U. S. Department of Agriculture and University of California Cooperating

CEMIS Form 3

Monthly Report of:

County Director GLENN H. VOSKUIL Title & Name
Merced Location
January 31, 1974 Month Ending
Date February 8, 1974 Signature _____

ADMINISTRATION:

The proposed budget for 1974-75 was due in early February. I spent several hours during the month preparing this budget. It seemed like the majority of the time was spent on the capital improvement section. Our present physical facilities are to be demolished in the foreseeable future. I was asked to submit suggestions for the re-location of the local office. These suggestions for re-location and space requirements are then to be considered by the Board of Supervisors.

A new Supervisor has been appointed to fill the vacancy left by the death of Emory O'Banion. Danny Cozzi, Dos Palos, was recently appointed to fill the vacancy. He is a large farmer in the Dos Palos area and is highly respected by those who are acquainted with him. I feel sure that Mr. Cozzi will be a great asset as an agricultural representative on the Board of Supervisors.

DAIRY:

Dairy waste disposal was the subject for six farm calls for the month. This month seventy dairymen in Merced County received notice from the Regional Water Quality Control Board that they have been put into the class of significant polluters. This group of farmers must reply to the Board by March 1, stating the plans they have to correct the situation. They then have until December 31, 1974, to complete their plans. I have been working with many of these dairymen in helping them lay out their plans to correct their problems.

Mastitis is on the rise, as it is every winter. I made eight farm calls to discuss their particular problem. I find that new dairies that use fully automated milking equipment have mastitis problems when they start. As soon as they learn how to properly use their equipment, then their mastitis seems to get down to a normal level. Often these people fail to realize that milking needs the personal touch of the attendant.

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Monthly Report of:

County Director GLENN H. VOSKUIL MERCED February 28 19 74
Title & Name Location Month Ending
Date March 5, 1974 Signature _____

ADMINISTRATION:

I am a member of the Economic Council of the Merced City Chamber of Commerce. This group of ten men write and put out a quarterly report, giving the economic status of the various phases of business for the Merced area. Copies of this report go to the Chamber members, and it is also used for prospective businesses in the area.

I submitted to the County Administrative office my plans for a new building to house the Agricultural Extension. The present building is scheduled to be demolished in the next few years, and they have asked what our needs are for the present and future. My request is for a new building with 7500 square feet of floor space for offices, storage and laboratory.

DAIRY:

This year I am Chairman of the Dairy Princess Program sponsored by District 6 of the State Milk Advisory Board. This District is a four-county area, including Merced, Stanislaus, Tuolumne and Mariposa. The Princess Contest will be held in Merced on May 18, so I have been busy making committee assignments and getting them started on their work.

Dairy waste problems continue to be in the foreground. I attended two meetings during the month. One was to present information to the 70 dairymen in Merced County who have been notified that they are in violation of the Regional Water Quality Control guidelines. The other meeting was to gather information on the progress of the Water Quality Control work in the San Joaquin Valley.

During the month I gave a talk to the Farm Accounting Class at the Merced College. I spent most of the time talking about computerized dairy records. These were milk production records and management records for the dairy herd and also computerized feed information.

Ed Loomis scheduled a two-day pesticide meeting held this month in Fresno. I want to compliment Ed on having a very fine program. He gave us some basic information on insects that will help us in our educational and service program.

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Monthly Report of:

County Director GLENN H. VOSKUIL MERCED March 31 19 74
Title & Name Location Month Ending
Date April 9, 1974 Signature _____

ADMINISTRATION:

During the month I have been in counsel with representatives of the County Administration. The discussions centered around the future housing for Agricultural Extension. The Board of Supervisors and County Administrative personnel changed their mind quite often on what their plans are. This makes it difficult for me and other offices in the area to keep track of their plans.

The County 4-H Presentation Day was held March 9. We had a very large participation in the program. I think the Merced 4-H Advisors and their Leaders have done an excellent job in building up this educational phase of the 4-H program.

I was very pleased to know that the California selection for the National Recognition for Volunteer 4-H Leader Program is a 4-H Leader from Merced County; namely, Tak Date. He has been an excellent Leader in the county for many years, and I am certainly pleased to know that he received this recognition.

DAIRY:

The two-day Farm Advisors' Dairy Meeting in Davis was very educational. The program was designed to give us some technical information on various phases of dairy cattle. We also had an opportunity to discuss problems of mutual interest amongst the Advisors. The following day was Dairy Day for the dairymen of California. It was very well attended and also an excellent educational program.

At the annual meeting of the Merced DHIA, the membership voted to continue investigation of the possibility of setting up a central laboratory to analyze the milk for butterfat.

The area meeting for the purpose of training the Milk Testers was held in Modesto on March 5. This was a very good program, as it explained the new ideas being developed at the Provo Computing Center. We have to keep our Milk Testers informed, as we expect them to do a competent job for us.

I spent one day in a meeting of the Advisory Committee for the Tulare Computing Center. We went into the detail of their service to the dairy farmers and how they might improve their service in the near future. They are providing an excellent service, and I am pleased to be a member of their Advisory Committee.

CEMIS Form 3

County Director	GLENN H. VOSKUIL	MERCED	April 30	19 74
Title & Name		Location	Month Ending	
Date	May 7, 1974	Signature		

The Merced County staff appreciated the visit of Andy Deal on April 1. We appreciated the opportunity to get acquainted with Mr. Deal and to hear his viewpoints on certain subjects. It was an excellent opportunity for us to get acquainted with him personally and for him to get acquainted with us, our program and our physical facilities in Merced.

The department heads of the county government met on two occasions to discuss the employees' union that was recently organized. The county administration discussed with the department heads the functions of the union and what part it would play in the administration of our personnel.

Dairy waste disposal continues to be a problem for our local dairymen. I made several farm calls during the month to help farmers lay out a system that would be adequate for the disposal of the dairy waste.

There are still several dairymen in Merced County who have not corresponded with the Regional Water Quality Control Board to tell them what their plans were to correct their waste disposal problem. I think most of the people will comply; however, there are a few of them that may decide to either go out of business or to fight compliance.

The District 6 Dairy Princess contest for Merced and Stanislaus area will be held in Merced on May 18. As general chairman of the program, I am working on plans to get the contest finalized and part of the program. It takes a lot of people to put a program like this together. The committees have been very cooperative, and it is very interesting to work with them in setting up this type of program.

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Monthly Report of:

County Director <u>GLENN H. VOSKUIL</u>	MERCED	May 31
Title & Name	Location	Month Ending
Date <u>June 6, 1974</u> Signature _____		

ADMINISTRATION:

I attended the Regional County Directors' Meeting in Madera on May 13. It was good to get together and discuss problems of mutual concern. I especially appreciated Jerome Siebert being present to discuss the budget and program on the state level.

The statewide County Directors' Meeting on May 28 and 29 was very good. I think we need this type of meeting to help bring the information from the state office down to the county level. It also gives us County Directors an opportunity to discuss with others our problems of mutual interest.

I was invited to attend the Merced College Agricultural Student Recognition Banquet on May 29. I am Chairman of the Agricultural Advisory Committee for the Merced College; and in this capacity, I was asked to participate in this program.

DAIRY:

The District 6 Dairy Princess Program was held in Merced on May 18, with 450 local dairymen and other interested people in attendance. As Chairman of this year's program, I put in considerable time. I think the time was well worth spent in the idea of helping to promote milk sales and also it was a good public relations project.

On May 17 the Dairy Farm Advisors in the San Joaquin Valley met in Stockton. I enjoy these one-day meetings where we can get together and discuss items of mutual interest. I think it is very important that the Extension people within a given area promote the same programs and tell the same stories.

The local Holstein Show was held Monday, May 20. As in the past years, I work with these people to put out a catalog and also serve as ring-master for the day. This local Holstein Show is not big, but I think it serves a purpose for the youth and adults to display their animals and to prepare for the state show.

The Milk Quality Program, sponsored by the Merced County Fair, had 489 entries this year. This is 90 more than last year. They report that it was the largest contest of this kind west of the Mississippi River. I served as one of the judges for the milk flavor and enjoyed the work very much. I will again be involved to act as Master of Ceremonies in July when they have the awards presentations banquet.

The Livestock Symposium in Fresno was excellent. The general programs were outstanding, as was the attendance. The dairy section this year was much better than in the past. The attendance was good, and I hope they continue to have good information at these sessions. The past couple of years I was thinking that the dairy section would have to be discontinued because of the lack of participation and mediocre program. I was well pleased with the dairy part this year, and I hope that it is even larger next year.

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Monthly Report of:

County Director <u>GLENN H. VOSKUIL</u>	MERCED	June 30	19 74
Title & Name	Location	Month Ending	
Date <u>July 8, 1974</u> Signature _____			

ADMINISTRATION:

Considerable time was spent during the month of June preparing a position description and a job justification for the vacancy on the 4-H staff. This is a 4-H position left vacant upon the resignation of Deanna Hauser.

I also prepared a program review indicating the workload of the remainder of the staff at the Merced office.

I presented a talk at the Lions Club in Los Banos. They were interested in how the Extension Service was organized and what services they perform for the community.

DAIRY:

I spent sometime preparing a feasibility study for the DHIA organization in their consideration of setting up a central laboratory to test butterfat in the milk. At this time no decision has been made by the Board of Directors for the DHIA, but one is expected during the month of July.

Fourteen dairymen in Merced County received a registered letter, indicating that they must immediately make plans to change their waste disposal system to comply with the Water Quality Control guidelines. During the month, I have been working with these in deciding how they should comply with the guidelines. I also visited ten other dairymen, helping them make some decisions on their waste disposal system.

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Monthly Report of:

County Director GLENN H. VOSKUIL MERCED July 31 19 74
Title & Name Location Month Ending
Date August 12, 1974 Signature _____

ADMINISTRATION:

Half of the month was spent on annual leave, which was very enjoyable.

I am expecting some change in our secretarial staff during the next month. Under the Comprehensive Employment Training Act, Merced County has agreed to place with us an additional full-time secretary. This will bring our staff to four full-time office girls. I will be assigning the new girl half-time 4-H and the other half will be other responsibilities. This will mean we will have one and a half secretary-time to apply to our 4-H Program. This should give us sufficient help to carry on their Program effectively. For the past six months, we have had one, and sometimes two, secretary trainees under the Work Incentive Program. These two girls have been of great help to us. This Program will be discontinued when we are assigned a full-time girl under the Comprehensive Employment Training Act Program.

DAIRY:

The Board of Directors of the local DHIA are in the process of working out the details to set up a central butterfat testing laboratory. They will be using electronic testing equipment and certainly will make a big change in our milk testing Program for the Merced County. I know that will be a step forward, as I already hear the dairymen in other counties up and down the San Joaquin Valley discussing the same thing.

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Monthly Report of:

County Director GLENN H. VOSKUIL

MERCED

August 31 19 **74**

Title & Name

Location

Month Ending

Date **September 6, 1974**

Signature

ADMINISTRATION

During the month I enjoyed two weeks of vacation. Upon my return, I discovered Merced was given permission to employ a staff person to help with our 4-H program. I spent considerable time going through applications and interviewing applicants. Bill Weir and I selected Barbara Nordin, Santa Clara. She will start her duties in Merced County on September 16th.

Also in August, Merced County gave us permission to add one secretary to our staff. This additional person will be spending at least half time on 4-H and parts of the year she will be spending full time on 4-H. This puts four secretaries on our full time staff. The new girl started in the middle of August.

DAIRY

Not much time was spent in the dairy program, but I did make four farm calls, discussing with the farmers some of the details of their manure waste disposal program. They have to have their installation completed by the end of 1974.

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Monthly Report of:

<u>County Director GLENN H. VOSKUIL</u>	<u>MERCED</u>	<u>September 30</u> 19 <u>74</u>
Title & Name	Location	Month Ending
Date <u>October 9, 1974</u>	Signature _____	

ADMINISTRATION:

There has been considerable discussion by the County Board of Supervisors as to the location of the proposed 1.9 million dollar County Library. The final decision was to build it just behind the present Agriculture Building. It was then decided to remove the present Agriculture Building and convert the lot into a parking lot. The demolition of this building is scheduled for March of 1975.

At this time, Extension is scheduled to move into some temporary quarters somewhere in the city of Merced. The future plans are to build County Complex #3 on the outskirts of Merced. It is the thinking of the supervisors that this building would house Agricultural Extension, Agricultural Commission and the Road Department. I am also in hopes that we can get the Board of Supervisors to commit themselves to build a new Extension building in 1976.

The staff evaluation was completed during the month. The procedure setup and the form used were much easier to handle than it was last year.

DAIRY:

During the month, the local DHIA purchased electronic butterfat testing equipment. They now have two units of Mark III received from the Foss American Company, New York. This equipment is manufactured in Denmark and it should be able to process the 30,000 milk samples a month that we now handle in our association.

The installation was made on September 30th, and it is our hope that by the end of October the laboratory will be running top speed.

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Monthly Report of:

County Director <u>GLENN H. VOSKUIL</u>	MERCED	October 31 19 74
Title & Name	Location	Month Ending
Date <u>November 8, 1974</u>	Signature _____	

ADMINISTRATION:

Delores Bonander, Area Home Advisor, spent some time in my office, making some detailed plans for adult educational programs for this winter and spring. We discussed when and where to hold the meetings and the type of program to be presented.

The Regional County Directors' Meeting held in Madera on October 23 was very good. There was considerable educational material presented as well as discussed administrative procedures and problems.

DAIRY:

Merced County DHIA now has their central laboratory in operation. It started functioning the first of October; and during the month, we worked out lots of problems that arose. By the end of October, we had a procedure worked out that seems to function well. The two Milko-Testers seem to be functioning properly; however, we had some minor difficulties occasionally throughout the month.

I attended the two-day Dairy Farm Advisors' Training Conference in Fresno. The two Extension Dairymen discussed their programs, provided us with educational material, as well as discussing future plans. It was a very interesting and worthwhile Conference.

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Monthly Report of:

<u>County Director GLENN H. VOSKUIL</u>	<u>MERCED</u>	<u>November 30</u> 19 <u>74</u>
Title & Name	Location	Month Ending
Date <u>December 4, 1974</u> Signature _____		

ADMINISTRATION:

During the month, I worked on salary review reports for the eligible staff. I had the individual staff members prepare the original draft. After reviewing these and adding my comments, I made the final preparation.

The Centennial celebration for U.C. Research held in Dinuba was a very interesting event. I certainly enjoyed the good displays, the good food and the excellent social hour. I had an opportunity to visit with many people from that area. They certainly seemed to support U.C. agricultural programs. I hope more celebrations are held throughout the state in the near future.

Merced County Government has organized what they call a Management Council. This is made up of heads of the various departments. They meet once or twice a month, during which time they discuss various phases of management problems. This is the first attempt to get the department heads involved in making management decisions and becoming involved in a lot of background information that is used to make decisions. I think this part of it is very good; however, I can see some of the department heads becoming involved in many hours of work. It certainly is good to open lines of communication that did not exist in the past. More of the county employees will know more about the operations of the county government than has been true in the past.

DAIRY:

The Veterinary Science Department of U.C. Davis is proposing to set up a Veterinary Clinic in the San Joaquin Valley for the purpose of training their advanced students. They asked me to prepare a detailed report on the numbers and location of various types of livestock in Merced County. I was also invited to attend a preliminary planning meeting, which was held in Fresno. The many people that were present seemed to be very enthused about the idea of giving the advanced students more practical experience with livestock and the many livestock diseases.