

KERN AGRICULTURE SUMMIT

October 14, 2014 • 8am - 5pm
Bakersfield College



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Karen Ross
CA Secretary of Ag



Rep. Kevin McCarthy
House Majority Leader



**JUICED BY A BUNCH OF
CARROT
FARMERS.™**

Welcome! From Kevin McCarthy

Thank you to Bakersfield College for hosting the 1st Annual Kern County Agricultural Summit.

Kern County and the Central Valley are blessed with the richest agricultural lands in the country and the world. Our farmers and ranchers continue to push the envelope with new advancements that feed our families. This has been achieved by our local farmers and deserves recognition.



Of course, Mother Nature herself has proved to be a difficult partner throughout the years as California has endured one of worst droughts in over a century. In addition, regulatory challenges and the rising threat of pests are harming local crops and they must be addressed. I continue to work to lift the restrictions that stifle the flow of water throughout the state and hinder necessary water storage. A thriving agricultural industry is critical to our robust local economy.

The work ethic instilled in our community has originated from generations of farming families before us. They embody the essence of what our nation is all about - hard work, perseverance, and individual liberty. Our local farmers were our role models growing up and they continue to be today and Bakersfield College should be commended for this summit today bringing together our community and agricultural leaders to ensure that our agricultural economy remains strong.

-Kevin McCarthy
U.S. Congressman and Majority Whip

Welcome!

from Sonya Christian

Kern County is a rich and fertile group of communities, settled by early farmers and diligently sowed into the canvas of farmland, mixed with urban environment, that we all enjoy today. Beyond the crops and livestock raised here in the nation's breadbasket, we grow people. People, who become rich and vibrant themselves, raised with the old-fashioned values of Kern County and the understanding and knowledge that they, too, like our forefathers, are part of this community. Bakersfield College has an important part of the history of this county – more than 100 years of excellence and tradition in providing higher education and access to information are the hallmark of this college's mission.



As the 10th president of Bakersfield College, I am honored to host the first annual Kern Agriculture Summit here on our campus. There is much we can learn from each other as we, too, continue to become rich and vibrant citizens ourselves. I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to learn from leaders and innovators in local, state, and national agriculture. Ask questions, and get answers. I invite you to hear from our policy makers, who are working in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. to have the needs and desires of Kern County heard among a larger audience.

Most of all, I welcome you to enjoy yourselves. Relax, have a little fun, and appreciate a day among Kern County agricultural professionals. You will be surrounded by family farmers, large corporate growers, packing and distribution companies, regulators, and educators. This is a group from which we can continue to grow, as we continue to support the rich and vibrant county we all call home.

Join in the conversation live on Twitter (@bcnegrades) and Instagram (@bakersfieldcollege) using #kernagsummit and #bclearns. Follow the discussion live on our website at www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/agsummit.

-Sonya Christian
Bakersfield College President

Kern Agriculture Summit - Schedule

Tuesday, October 14, 2014

Bakersfield College

Bakersfield, California

7:00 am - 8:00 am

Registration & Continental Breakfast

8:10 am - 8:20 am

Opening Ceremony

Welcome



Barry Zoeller, Tejon Ranch
Master of Ceremonies

Barry Zoeller is Vice President, Corporate Communications & Marketing for Tejon Ranch, a position he's held since joining the Company in 2004. He was formerly Executive Director of the Kern County Board of Trade and principal of Zoeller Communications, a strategic communications consultancy.

Prior to his tenure at the Board of Trade, Zoeller served as News Director and News Anchor at KERO-TV (ABC) in Bakersfield, CA. He's also been a News Anchor/Producer at WHO-TV (NBC) in Des Moines, Iowa, and KODE-TV (ABC) in Joplin, Missouri.

Presentation of Colors

Future Farmers of America

National Anthem

Bakersfield College Choir

Direct by Jennifer Garner

8:20 am - 8:30 am

Summit Welcome & Introduction



Sonya Christian
Bakersfield College President

Dr. Sonya Christian became Bakersfield College's 10th president in 2013. Christian, who was a math faculty member, division chair and dean of science, engineering, allied health and mathematics at Bakersfield College from 1991 to 2003, has held increasingly higher level administrative roles at Lane

Community College in Oregon over the past 10 years.

Christian also has experience as an adjunct/lecturer in mathematics at American River College and El Camino College in Sacramento and Glendora, California, respectively.



Kevin McCarthy

Honorary Kern Ag Summit Chairman

Congressman Kevin McCarthy proudly serves California's 23rd district and is currently the Majority Leader in the U.S. House of Representatives. Kevin was first elected to Congress in 2006 and is a native of Bakersfield and a fourth-generation Kern County resident. The grandson of a cattle rancher and the son of a firefighter, Kevin grew up a working-class family and

is committed to preserving and promoting the American dream for hardworking Americans. In Washington, Kevin fights every day for the constituents of California's 23rd District and for the future of America with the simple promise: to have the courage to lead with the wisdom to listen.

8:30 am - 9:30 am



Karen Ross

Secretary of Agriculture

California Department of Food & Agriculture

KAREN ROSS was appointed Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture on January 12, 2011 by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. Secretary Ross has deep leadership experience in agricultural issues nationally, internationally, and here in California. Prior to joining CDFA,

Secretary Ross was chief of staff for U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, a position she accepted in 2009. Before her time at the United States Department of Agriculture, Secretary Ross served more than thirteen years as President of the California Association of Winegrape Growers (CAWG), based in Sacramento. During that same period she served as the Executive Director of Winegrape Growers of America, a coalition of state winegrower organizations, and as Executive Director of the California Wine Grape Growers Foundation, which sponsors scholarships for the children of vineyard employees. Among Secretary Ross' many achievements at CAWG was the creation of the nationally-recognized Sustainable Winegrowing Program, which assists wine grape growers in maintaining the long-term viability of agricultural lands and encourages them to provide leadership in protecting the environment, conserving natural resources, and enhancing their local communities.

9:30 am - 9:45 am

Bolthouse Farms Break

9:45 am - 11:00 am

California Crop & Water Trends Panel

Harry Cline

Western Farm Press

Harry's 45-year journalism career covers both daily newspapers and agricultural magazines. He was Western Farm Press' first editor and has more than 35 years of experience covering all aspects of high value, irrigated Western agriculture. He is a former member of the California Chapter of the American Society of Agronomy executive council and recipient of the California Association of Pest Control Advisers' (CAPCA) Outstanding Contribution to California Agriculture. Born 7-7-43, Jacksonville, Fla. Raised in Texas where he attended the University of Texas. Harry was a reporter/state editor for newspapers in Texas and Arizona before moving to California in 1975 to begin his career as Western agricultural journalist.

Jason Peltier

Westland Water District

Raised on a diversified farm in Kern County, Peltier received his degree in Agriculture from Chico State and is a graduate of the California's Agricultural Leadership program. Prior to his service with Westlands, Peltier served for six years as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Water and Science at the Department of the Interior in Washington D.C. In this position, he was a part of the management team responsible for the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Geological Survey. The bulk of his professional career has been spent as the Manager of the Central Valley Project Water Association, an organization representing the interests of the eighty water districts serving three million acres of irrigated farm land and four million households.

David Valadao

US Congressman

David Goncalves Valadao (born April 14, 1977) is an American politician who has been a member of the United States House of Representatives, representing California's 21st congressional district, since 2013. Prior to that, he served one term in the California State Assembly, representing the 30th district. He is a member of the Republican Party. In Congress, Valadao has gained a reputation as one of the Republican Party's leading advocates of comprehensive immigration reform. Valadao was born and raised in Hanford, California. His parents are Portuguese

immigrants. He graduated from Hanford High School in 1995, and attended the College of the Sequoias in Visalia. He currently serves as the managing partner of Valadao Dairy, which he owns with his brothers. He has also been a member of the California Milk Advisory Board, Western States Dairy Trade Association, and Regional Leadership Council Chairman for Land O' Lakes.

Eric Averett

Kern Groundwater Authority

Eric Averett is the General Manager of Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (Rosedale). Since 1991, Eric has focused his career on evaluating and resolving the water supply reliability and water quality challenges facing Kern County. He provides administrative, technical and policy leadership to a variety of state and local organizations with a current emphasis on issues related to the development of a groundwater management plan for Kern County and the acquisition and development of alternative water supplies for the residents of Rosedale.

11:00 am – 11:15am

Paramount Farms Break

11:15 am – 12:00 pm

Paul Wenger, President

California Farm Bureau

Paul Wenger was elected president of the California Farm Bureau Federation in December 2009 and was elected to a third term in 2013. Wenger, who farms in Modesto, became a statewide officer in 1997 when he was elected second vice president. He was elected first vice president in 2005. A third-generation farmer, Wenger farms almonds and walnuts on the family farm, which includes property purchased by his grandfather in 1910. His farming operations also include sharecropping, custom farm work and walnut hulling. He has expanded his operation to include processing and marketing of almonds and walnuts through his Wood Colony Nut Co., to provide an opportunity for the fourth generation of the family to vertically integrate into the family farming operation.

12:00 pm – 12:15 pm

Lunch: A California Lunch

Blessing & Prayer for Rain

Father Jack Estes

The Bakersfield Garden Project

Father Jack Estes of Bakersfield has served as the Rector of St. Luke's Anglican Church

in Bakersfield for the past 12 years, and as president of the Standing Committee for the Diocese of San Joaquin since 2010. Father Estes is involved with The Bakersfield Garden Project, which seeks to inspire and engage our community in the production of home grown produce that is both delicious and healthy. In order to accomplish this goal we seek to gather others of like mind to join in a garden co-operative, collectively helping one another and learning together as we grow.

12:45 pm-1:15 pm



Agriculture: Trends, Topics, and Tomorrow

Damian Mason

Inspirational Agriculture Speaker & Humorist

Damian was raised on a dairy farm, and has a degree in agricultural economics from Purdue University. He travels extensively speaking to agricultural audiences and will share insights on the issues facing the business of food production.

When he's not traveling, Damian splits time between a winter home in Arizona and a 200-acre mixed-use farm in Indiana. He and his wife have an "all natural" beef operation, although he admits he has no idea what that even means - he just charges more for it.

1:15 pm – 1:30 pm

Grimmway Farms Break

1:30 pm – 2:45 pm

Farm Challenges in Kern Panel

Jason Gianquinto

General Manager, Semitropic Water Storage District

Jason Gianquinto is the General Manager for the Semitropic Water Storage District, which is one of eight water storage districts in California and the largest in Kern County. The district delivers water to nearly 300 customers for the irrigation of approximately 140,000 acres of agricultural land. He has served as a trustee of the Southern California Water Committee since 2011, assisting with public education and outreach to help Southern California residents understand more about water needs and the state's water resources.

Greg Wegis

Wegis and Young Farming

Greg Wegis was born and raised in Buttonwillow, California, and attended Shafter High School, where he graduated with Honors. Greg continued his education at Cal

Poly San Luis Obispo, where he majored in Crop Science from 1995 to 1999. To help in the operation of his family farm, Greg earned his private pilot's license in 2000. He returned to work on his four-generation family farm in Buttonwillow, which grows almonds, pistachios, carrots, tomatoes, cherries, wheat, corn, and alfalfa.

Brenda Baldwin

Customer Relationship Manager

PG&E

A Bakersfield native, Brenda has been employed by Pacific Gas and Electric Company since 1983. She graduated magna cum laude from CSUB with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and, during her 26-year career with PG&E, has served in a wide variety of challenging, customer-focused roles. Currently she is a Senior Account Executive responsible for promoting energy efficiency and renewable self-generation to many of Kern County's largest commercial, industrial and agricultural customers. League members may recognize Brenda because she has appeared in many local musical productions in Bakersfield.

Jeff Rasmussen

Agronomist

Crop Production Services

Jeff Rasmussen, a Kern County CAPCA Chapter PCA, takes a pro-active approach to being a PCA. His dedicated philosophy is very focused on engaging the issues and components affecting PCA professionalism in order to continue to advance the viability and respectability of PCA role. Jeff consults in trees, vines and vegetables. His areas of specialties are almonds, and 20 plus conventional and organic vegetables. He received his PCA License in 1995 and also holds a QAL. Jeff's educational background includes an A.A. from Bakersfield College, a B.S. in Ornamental Horticulture from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and was a graduating member of the Ag Leadership Program Class 37. He has been working in the industry for 19 years.

David Haviland

Entomology and Pest Management Farm Advisor

Kern County Cooperative Extension

David Haviland is the Farm Advisor to the University of California, Davis Cooperative Extension in Kern County, which provides the essential bridge between local agricultural issues and the research power of the University of California system. The Cooperative Extension helps farmers develop more efficient growing methods, solve pest management problems, and develop crop and irrigation methods that

use less water. David specializes in entomology and pest management, and is brought in routinely to advise in the identification and control of pests plaguing Kern County.

Ruben Arroyo

Kern County Agricultural Commissioner

Ruben Arroyo is the 14th Kern County Agricultural Commissioner and has been since February 2008. Commissioner Arroyo serves as the leader for the Department of Agricultural and Measurement Standards, an agency of three divisions and approximately 69 employees that work to support the agricultural industry and safeguard its consumers. Arroyo has 25 years of experience in serving the public with a county agricultural department, and spent 10 years prior to that working directly with the citrus industry in Lindsay, California where he was born and raised.

2:45 pm - 3:00 pm

Bakersfield College Agriculture Break

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Political Ag Challenges

Jean Fuller

California State Senator

Jean Fuller was born and raised in Kern County. She served as an educator in the Central Valley for more than 30 years, including time as Superintendent of the Bakersfield City School District. The first in her family to graduate from college, Jean attended Bakersfield College, California State University Fresno and California State University Los Angeles, and then continued her formal education at the University of California, Santa Barbara where she received her PhD. Senator Fuller was elected to represent the 18th Senate District in 2010 and the 32nd Assembly District in 2006. Senator Fuller's legislative priorities this year includes reducing regulations that burden California's businesses that prevent them from hiring, or rehiring, workers. Jean believes that putting more people to work and solving each Californian's personal budget crisis is the key to California's economic rebound.

Kevin McCarthy

U.S. Congressman and Majority Leader

Congressman Kevin McCarthy proudly serves California's 23rd district and is currently the Majority Leader in the U.S. House of Representatives. Kevin was first elected to Congress in 2006 and is a native of Bakersfield and a fourth-generation Kern County resident. The grandson of a cattle rancher and the son of a firefighter,

Kevin grew up a working-class family and is committed to preserving and promoting the American dream for hardworking Americans. In Washington, Kevin fights every day for the constituents of California's 23rd District and for the future of America with the simple promise: to have the courage to lead with the wisdom to listen.

3:30 pm

Summit Conclusion

Barry Zoeller, Tejon Ranch, Master of Ceremonies

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Wine with your Elected Officials

Wine and Cheese reception

Roger Martin, the Lounge Guy



Kern Agriculture Summit Planning Committee

Special thanks go to the following team who worked tirelessly to plan and execute today's Kern Agriculture Summit!

- Aaron Hegde, California State University Bakersfield
- Amber Chiang, Bakersfield College
- Beatris Espericueta Sanders, Kern County Farm Bureau
- Betsy Ramsey, US Congress (David Valadao)
- Bill Barnes, Bakersfield College
- Bill Kelly, Bakersfield College
- Brian Marsh, UC Cooperative Extension
- Chris McCraw, Bakersfield College
- Dalton Kelley, Kern County Farm Bureau
- Darren Filkins, Bolthouse Farms
- David Haviland, UC Cooperative Extension
- Dennis Mohle, Fresno City College - DSN
- Don Camp, South Kern Machinery
- Doug Starr, Calcot
- Eric Barba, Roll Global
- Eric Garcia, Driscolls
- Erika Boyland, US Department of Agriculture
- Greg Cluff, Bakersfield College
- Greg Palla, San Joaquin Cotton
- Jared Britchgi, Tejon Ranch
- Jeff Green, Grimmway Farms
- Jeff Rasmussen, Crop Production Services
- John Means, KCCD
- John Karlik, UC Cooperative Extension
- John W. Lake, Rain for Rent

Kern Agriculture Summit Planning Committee

-Cont'd-

- Juan Alvarez, US Department of Agriculture
- Kurt Lewis, Dairy Farmers of America
- Larry Carrol, Department of Environmental Resources
- Leah Carter, Bakersfield College
- Lindsay Ono, Bakersfield College
- Mark Newton, Bakersfield College
- Mary Jo Pasek, Bakersfield College
- Melissa Baird, US Department of Agriculture
- Mike Kovacevich, Bolthouse Farms
- Mike Pitter, Rain for Rent
- Monica Cervantes, Rain for Rent
- Nathan Marogoni, US Department of Agriculture
- Noemi Donoso, Roll Global
- Patty Poire, Grimmway Farms
- Pete Belluomini, Lehr Brothers
- Ralph Mendes, Kern High School District
- Rob Baker, Paramount Farms
- Roger Riley, California Water Resources Board
- Sally Sterns, Bakersfield College
- Scott Pavletich, Pavletich Electric
- Sonya Christian, Bakersfield College
- Steve Maniaci, Sunridge Nursery
- Teresa Hogan, US Department of Agriculture
- Tito Martinez, Valpredo Farms
- Tracey Reynolds, California Assembly (Shannon Grove)



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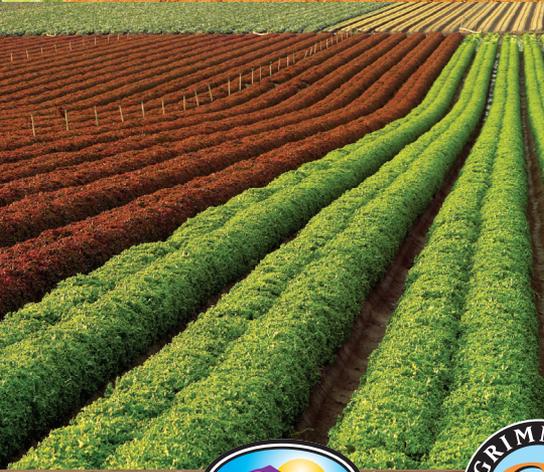


Bakersfield College
Garden Fest
April 18, 2015

*A special thank you
to the Bakersfield
College events and
logistics team for
their hard work to
make this event
a success!*

**Mary Jo and Tom Pasek are pleased to underwrite the
wine for the Ag Summit reception.**





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