

A Progressive Voice for Family Farmers and Urban People

Brief History: Some highlights

- 1979- Filed landmark suit against the University of California for using taxpayer dollars in the creation of technologies that benefit large farms and hurt small farms and farm workers. In response, the University created the Small Farm Center, hired Spanish speaking Cooperative Extension agents, and the Fair Political Practices Commission required that professors reveal personal financial interests that may represent conflicts of interest in research.
- 1980- 1985 - Supported passage of state pesticide legislation that remains the toughest in the nation, including The Birth Defects Prevention Act, The Right To Know Act, and The Pesticide Contamination Prevention Act.
- 1985- Spearheaded the effort to create funding for sustainable agriculture research at the University of California, which resulted in the creation of the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SAREP).
- 1988- Formed the CA Dairy Campaign to lobby for policy changes to help family-sized dairies. In 1991, achieved legislation to support milk prices.
- 1989- Led efforts on water issues from limiting federal water subsidies to corporate agriculture to fighting the mining of groundwater.
- 2003 - Passage of the Integrated Farm Drainage Management (IFSM) legislation, which in addition to protecting groundwater, streams and wildlife, will restore degraded soil, reduce overall water use, and converts a waste product - salt - into a marketable commodity. Amended in 2006 to change its utility.

Continued Leadership Today: Some highlights

The Community Alliance with Family Farmers continues our progressive advocacy today.

- Working to protect biodiversity in the food safety debate.
- Advocating for a platform of conservation, urban food, and rural development programs in the 2007 Farm Bill, with the California Coalition of Food & Farming.
- Joined in building the GE-Free Policy Alliance to create California policies on the use of GMOs in agriculture.
- 1992 - Sponsors Farmers' Market WIC coupons to help low-income families by healthy food.
- 1994 - Passed Biologically Integrated Farming Systems (BIFS) legislation.
- 1999 - Passed legislation authorizing agricultural home stays.

Mission Statement

Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF) is building a movement of rural and urban people to foster family-scale agriculture that cares for the land, sustains local economies and promotes social justice.

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