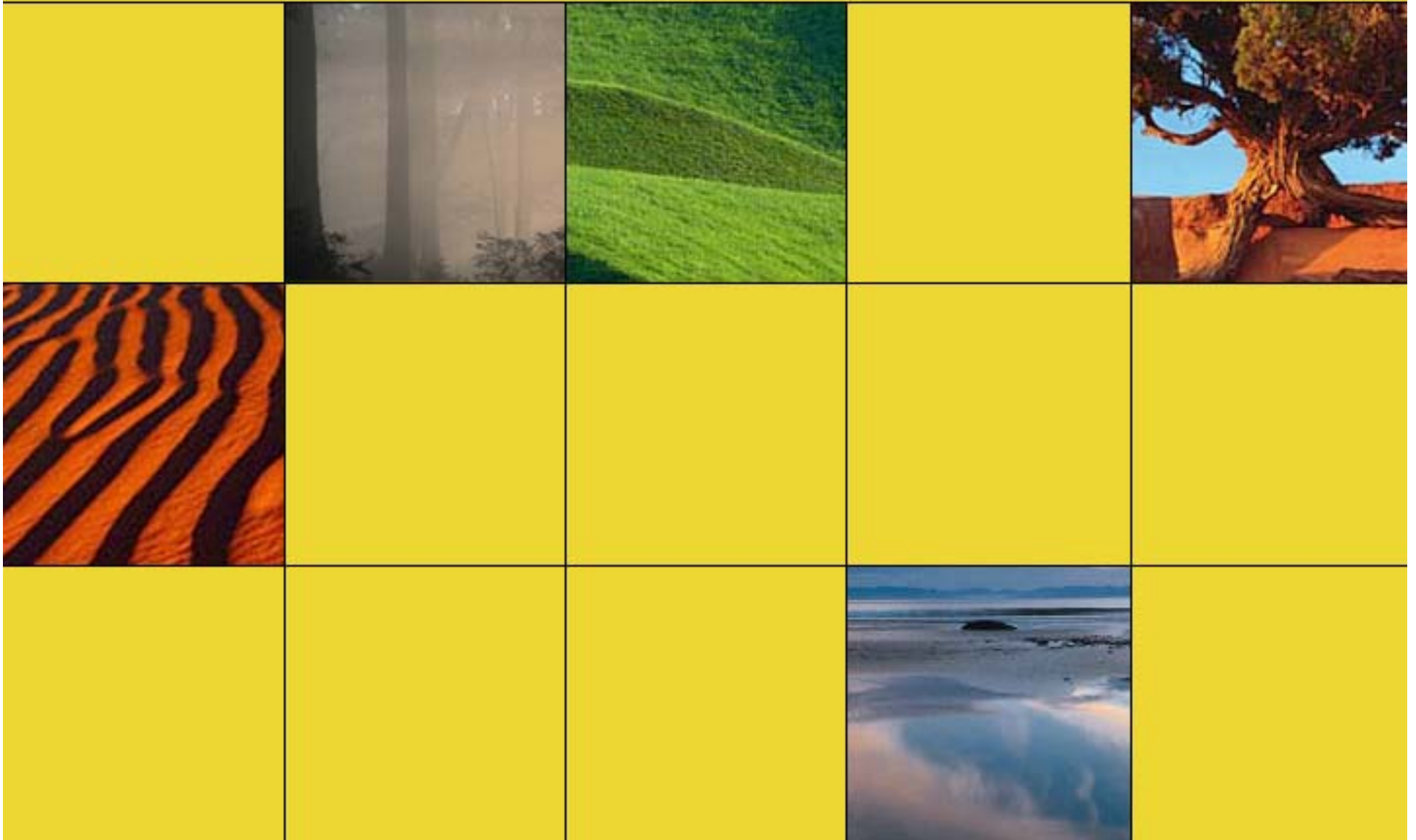


# California Coalition for Food and Farming

## Sustainable Ag Expo – November 2005





## 2002 Farm and Food Security Act

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- The omnibus legislation is passed approximately every 5 years (upcoming legislation in 2007). This authorizes the programs.
- Each year the budget goes through an appropriations process. In addition, for 2005, there is a budget reconciliation process that complicates matters.
- Departments and agencies implement the programs.



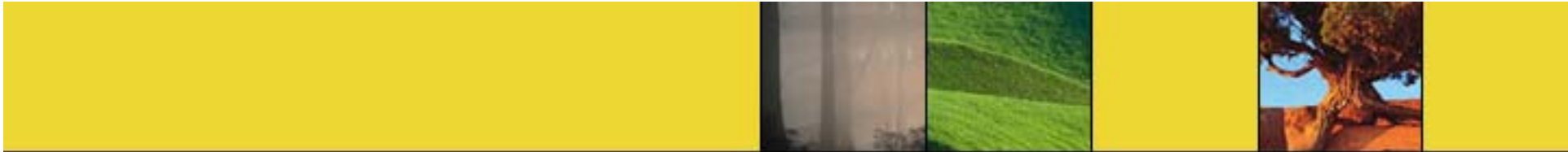
# 2002 Farm and Food Security Act

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There are 10 titles in the Farm Bill and each title contains many programs. Refer to conference materials for additional information.

We will discuss six of the titles:

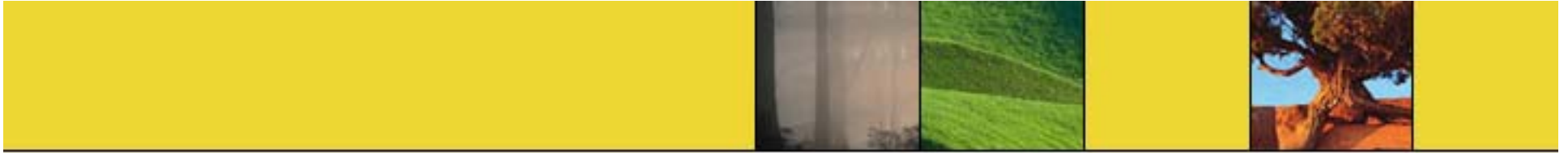
- I. Commodity Title
- II. Conservation Title
- IV. Nutrition Title
- VI. Rural Development
- VII. Research Title
- IX. Energy Title



# Commodity Title (I)

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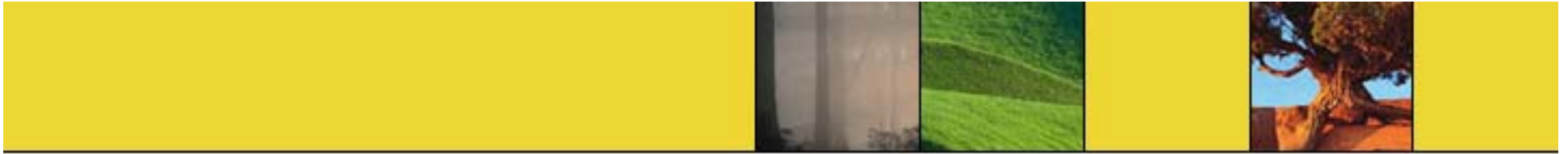
- The current expenditures for the USDA commodity programs total almost \$20 billion/year
- Commodities include rice, cotton, wheat, corn, soybeans, peanuts (see hand out for more details). CA producers receive rice and cotton subsidies and a little for wheat (about \$0.5 billion) .
- WTO pressure to change the way US subsidizes major crops
- Currently, some members of Congress (Grassley, Dorgan) and many farmers feel payments should be limited, with the savings being put into either conservation programs that would help those commodities meet the “green box” requirements in WTO requirements, into rural development and new farmer programs, or into increasing the food stamp allocation.



## Conservation Title (II)

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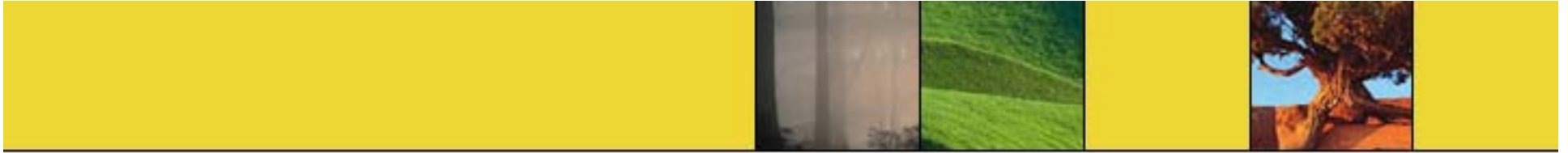
- Conservation Title programs include CSP, CRP, EQIP, WRP, etc.
- Is often the first title “on the chopping block” when money is needed for natural disasters, etc.
- Current federal farm policy in Conservation Title limits California’s benefits:
  - CA agriculture is more diverse, with stricter environmental standards
  - Implementation rules are less effective in CA (i.e. rental rates for CRP, easement value for WRP reflect Midwestern land values)
  - Traditionally they fund basic conservation practices; innovative ideas not supported
  - Not adapted to CA’s changing needs (ag waiver, air quality constraints)



## Nutrition Title (IV)

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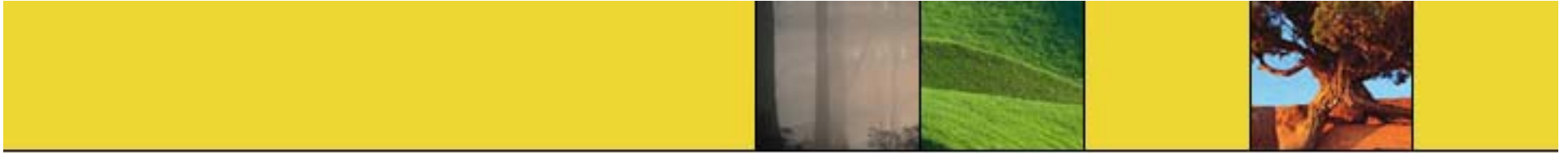
- Includes food stamps (\$56 billion/year) and commodity distribution programs such as Emergency Food Assistance Program
- Includes Community Food Security Grants, to increase access to fresher more nutritious food supplies.
- Includes Farmers' Market Nutrition Programs to help participants in various programs (food stamps, WIC, seniors) obtain fresh fruits and vegetables from farmers markets.



## Rural Development Title (VI)

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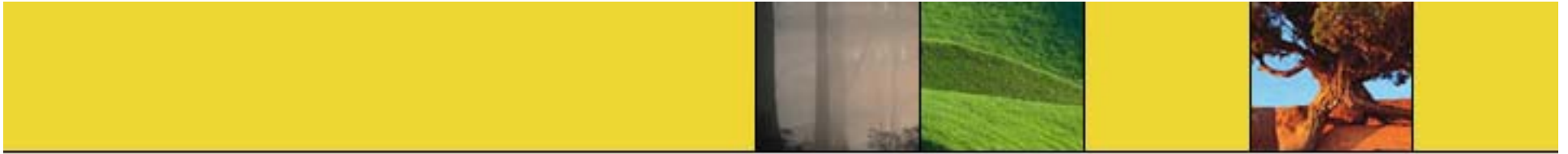
- Provides funding for rural areas to undertake strategic planning, feasibility assessments and coordination activities with other local, state, and federal officials.
- Provides funding for water and wastewater programs as well as new funding for broadband Internet services, value-added agricultural programs, rural business investments, and training for rural emergency personnel.
- May provide some emergency funding for Hurricane Katrina victims



# Research Title

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- Includes programs such as SARE and IPM.
- CA ag faces ever more stringent air and water quality regulations
- UC Cooperative Extension is under funded and understaffed, and probably will remain so.
- Prudent for USDA to provide better applied research and outreach to farmers, to help them meet these air and water quality regs
- Various ideas such as a National Research Initiative to provide Land Grant institutions with competitive grant funding. Or a Resource Stewardship Applied Research Initiative to provide funds to create and disseminate applied research to farmers across the country who are in non-attainment areas for existing air and water quality regs



## Energy Title

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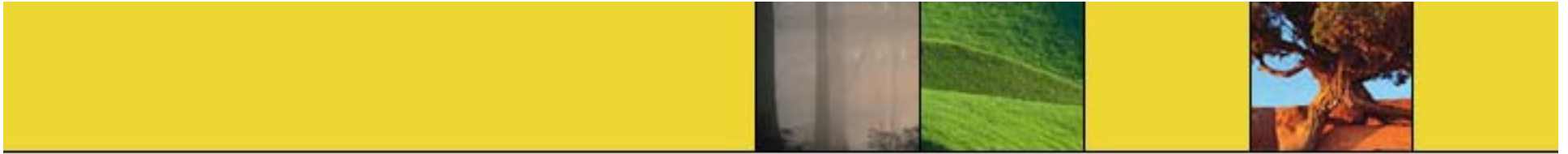
- Establishes programs and grants for procurement of bio-based products to support development of bio-refineries; to educate public about benefits of biodiesel fuel use; to assist eligible farmers, ranchers and rural small businesses to purchase renewable energy systems.
- Provides only \$1 million annually, from 2002 – 2007. Also authorizes appropriation “as necessary to implement” other new programs.
- Could be important to CA’s advocacy work on Farm Bill, providing unique opportunities to CA farmers and ranchers.



## Federal Food Policy – What’s In It For You?

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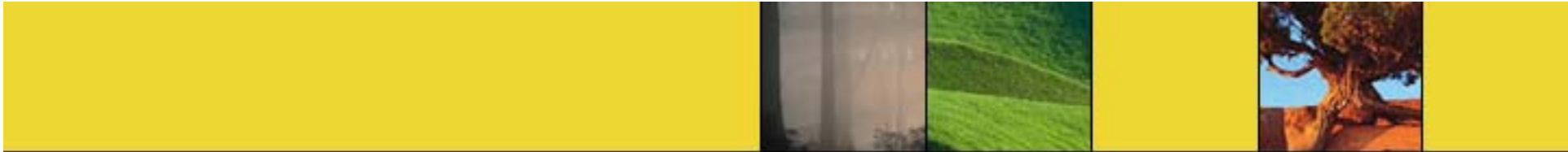
- “The government says half your diet should be fruits and vegetables, but it doesn't subsidize the farmers who grow them. Instead, half of all federal agriculture subsidies go to grain farmers, whose crops feed animals for meat, milk and eggs and become cheap ingredients in processed food.” (Libby Quaid, Associated Press)
- Specialty Crops – California’s niche market



## Help on the Farm (Congressional Budget Office)

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- The majority of federal assistance for farming goes to corn and other feed grains, much of it for use for meat and dairy animals.
- Distribution of estimated \$17 billion in farm subsidies, 2005:
  - \$7.3 billion for feed
  - \$3.5 billion for cotton
  - \$1.6 billion for soybeans
  - \$1.5 billion for wheat
  - \$1.5 billion for tobacco
  - \$0.7 billion for dairy
  - \$0.6 billion for rice
  - \$0.3 billion for peanuts



# Help on the farm

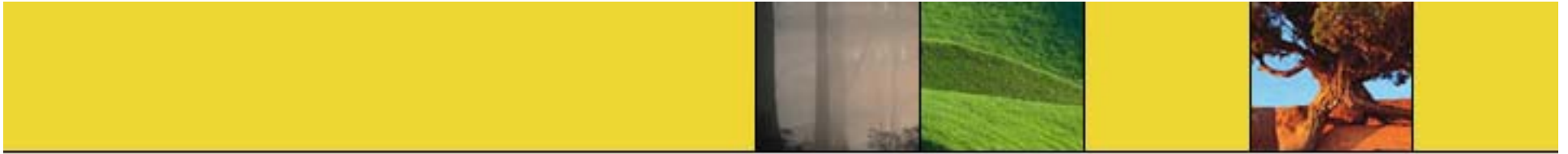
The majority of federal assistance for farming goes to corn and other feed grains, much of it for meat and dairy animals.

Distribution of estimated \$17 billion in federal assistance by farm subsidy, 2005



SOURCE: Congressional Budget Office

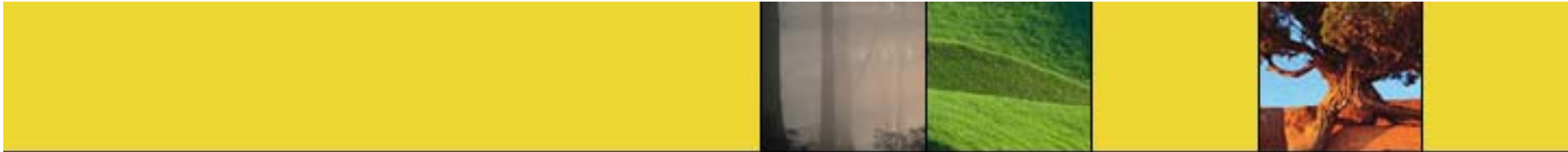
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## My Pyramid – Steps to a Healthier You (USDA – [mypyramid.gov](http://mypyramid.gov))

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- For a 2000 calorie diet, you need:
  - 6 oz. of grains every day
  - 2 ½ cups of vegetables every day (use variety)
  - 2 cups of fruits every day (avoid fruit juices)
  - 3 cups of milk or milk products every day
  - 5 ½ oz. of meat or beans every day (emphasize fish, beans, peas, nuts and seeds)
  - Physical activity for 30 minutes most days of the week; 60 minutes every day to avoid weight gain



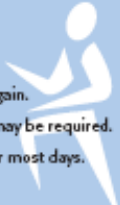
<b>GRAINS</b> Make half your grains whole	<b>VEGETABLES</b> Vary your veggies	<b>FRUITS</b> Focus on fruits	<b>MILK</b> Get your calcium-rich foods	<b>MEAT &amp; BEANS</b> Go lean with protein
<p>Eat at least 3 oz. of whole-grain cereals, breads, crackers, rice, or pasta every day</p> <p>1 oz. is about 1 slice of bread, about 1 cup of breakfast cereal, or 1/2 cup of cooked rice, cereal, or pasta</p>	<p>Eat more dark-green veggies like broccoli, spinach, and other dark leafy greens</p> <p>Eat more orange vegetables like carrots and sweetpotatoes</p> <p>Eat more dry beans and peas like pinto beans, kidney beans, and lentils</p>	<p>Eat a variety of fruit</p> <p>Choose fresh, frozen, canned, or dried fruit</p> <p>Go easy on fruit juices</p>	<p>Go low-fat or fat-free when you choose milk, yogurt, and other milk products</p> <p>If you don't or can't consume milk, choose lactose-free products or other calcium sources such as fortified foods and beverages</p>	<p>Choose low-fat or lean meats and poultry</p> <p>Bake it, broil it, or grill it</p> <p>Vary your protein routine – choose more fish, beans, peas, nuts, and seeds</p>

For a 2,000-calorie diet, you need the amounts below from each food group. To find the amounts that are right for you, go to [MyPyramid.gov](http://MyPyramid.gov).

Eat 6 oz. every day	Eat 2 1/2 cups every day	Eat 2 cups every day	Get 3 cups every day; for kids aged 2 to 8, it's 2	Eat 5 1/2 oz. every day
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**Find your balance between food and physical activity**

- Be sure to stay within your daily calorie needs.
- Be physically active for at least 30 minutes most days of the week.
- About 60 minutes a day of physical activity may be needed to prevent weight gain.
- For sustaining weight loss, at least 60 to 90 minutes a day of physical activity may be required.
- Children and teenagers should be physically active for 60 minutes every day, or most days.



**Know the limits on fats, sugars, and salt (sodium)**

- Make most of your fat sources from fish, nuts, and vegetable oils.
- Limit solid fats like butter, stick margarine, shortening, and lard, as well as foods that contain these.
- Check the Nutrition Facts label to keep saturated fats, trans fats, and sodium low.
- Choose food and beverages low in added sugars. Added sugars contribute calories with few, if any, nutrients.



U.S. Department of Agriculture  
 Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion  
 April 2005  
 CNPP-15



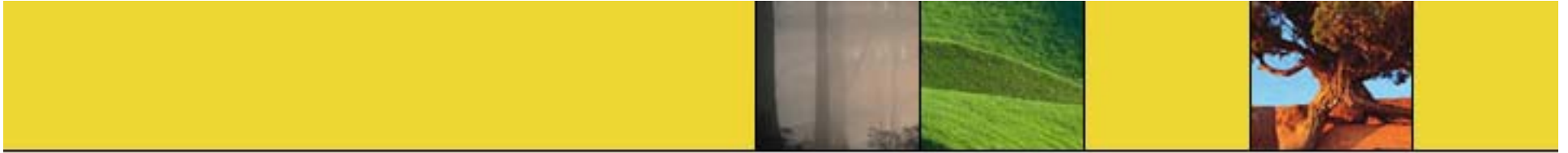
USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



## California – Specialty Crops for Everyone?

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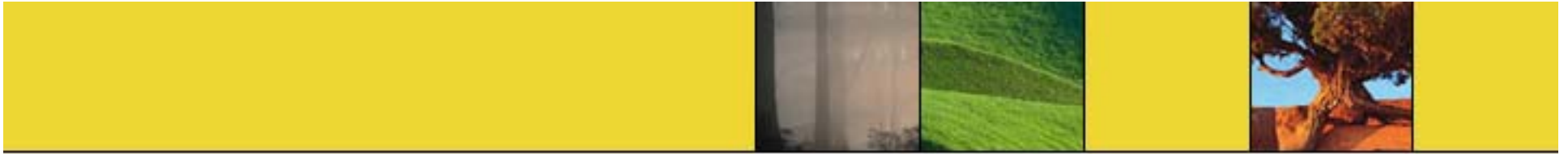
- Specialty crop growers nationwide produce 50% of the farm gate value of total plant ag production, but receive no Title I (Commodity) program dollars. 2003 domestic value of specialty crops was approximately \$53 billion. Export value was approximately \$16 billion. (national figures)
- Specialty crops represent 90% of California's total farm gate ag production.
- Organic ag (nationally) has seen 20% annual growth over the last 10 years, the single fastest growing component of specialty crops.
- Many California communities are “food deserts, “ places where poor nutrition and hunger are the norm and where residents have difficulty getting fresh fruits and vegetables and other healthy foods. Fresno County is an example.
- California agricultural products are considered among the highest quality in the world, yet many of our farmers struggle to find markets for their products.
- The *2004 Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act* and the *2004 Specialty Crop Competitiveness Act* must be fully implemented.



# How about a Farm Bill that:

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- Includes trade-compliant programs that expand market opportunities for farmers while also meeting the nutrition and food security needs of communities?
- Harmonizes sanitary and phytosanitary requirements with our trading partners? Harmonizes labeling laws (i.e. organic)?
- Provides incentives for farmers to use best management practices that enhance the environment?
- Significantly increases funding to applied research, outreach and technical assistance to farmers and communities?
- Provides assistance to immigrant farmers and young farmers with innovative programs and help finding land?



## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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- [www.calfoodandfarming.org](http://www.calfoodandfarming.org)
- See hand out for additional websites