



UTILITY ENERGY FORUM MAY 15, 2014

The California Farm Bureau Federation is California's largest farm organization with approximately 78,000 members in 53 county Farm Bureaus. It is a voluntary, non-governmental, nonprofit membership California corporation that strives to protect and improve the ability of farmers and ranchers engaged in production agriculture to provide a reliable supply of food and fiber through responsible stewardship of California's resources.

- California total agricultural output: \$44 billion
- California has fewer than 4% of the nation's farms yet produces almost 13% of the nation's total agricultural revenue.
- California produces about half of the fruits and vegetables grown in the U.S.
- California leads the nation in production of nearly 80 crops and commodities, including milk, grapes, lettuce, peaches, broccoli and carrots.
- California is the only domestic source of at least a dozen crops, including almonds, artichokes, raisins, olives and walnuts.
- Nine of the nation's top 10 agricultural counties are located in California.
- California also leads the nation in agricultural exports. About 28% of the state's agricultural products are shipped to foreign markets.
- More than 90% of California farms are owned by families, individuals or partnerships. Over 90% of California farms are properly classified as small businesses.
- For every billion dollars in farm sales, there are 18,000 jobs created in California, 11,000 within the farm sector and 7,000 in other, related businesses, resulting in the state's agricultural production accounting for nearly 660,000 jobs in California alone.
- The key issue for most farmers is water.
- Farmers and ranchers have made significant investments in equipment to respond to the pricing structures of energy rates. In many instances the investments were made to use water more efficiently.

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