

# Chaffin Family Orchards



Oroville, California

# Farm History

- Most of the farm land was originally owned by UC Berkeley and planted in Mission Olives
- Del Chaffin was the UC's first farm manager and started Chaffin Orchards in 1912
- Environmentally minded from the start
- Started with Olives and Cattle and grew from there
- 5 generations have come through the farm in the same family





# Farm Overview

- 2,000 acre estate  
located at the base of  
famed Table Mountain
- 300 acres of orchards  
200 acres Olives  
50 acres Citrus  
50 acres Stone Fruits
- Produces fruit and meat  
365 days a year

# Livestock

- 100 - 150 hd of beef cattle
- 100-150 hd of goats  
(working to slowly grow to 300)
- Currently few dozen sheep  
(have run 100-150hd in past)
- 1500 meat birds a year
- At least 500 layers on the farm year round
- Sell Grassfed beef, lamb, goat, chicken, eggs, and wool



# Orchard Fruits

Over 40 different varieties of:

Cherries

Apricots

Nectarines

Peaches

Valencia Oranges

Asian Pears

Duke Avocadoes

Purple & Yellow Figs

Hachiya & Fuyu Persimmons

Red & White Pomegranates

Olives for canning & oil

Satsuma Mandarins

Navel Oranges

Lisbon Lemons

White and Ruby Grapefruit













# LEMONS GRAPEFRUIT

Ruby Red  
Grapefruit  
Super Sweet  
Freshly Picked  
3 for \$1  
10

Eureka Lemons  
Juicy & Fragrant  
3 for \$1 or  
40 Each

Oranges  
Seedless Navels, Freshly  
Picked, No Pesticides,  
No Chemical Fertilizers  
Very Sweet  
\$1 per lb.

**CHAFFIN  
ORCHARDS**  
BRAND



California  
**OLIVE OIL**  
NET CONTENTS 1 GALLON

GROWN BY AND PACKED FOR  
**A. L. CHAFFIN**  
ORVILLE, CALIFORNIA

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CHAFFIN FAMILY  
ORCHARDS



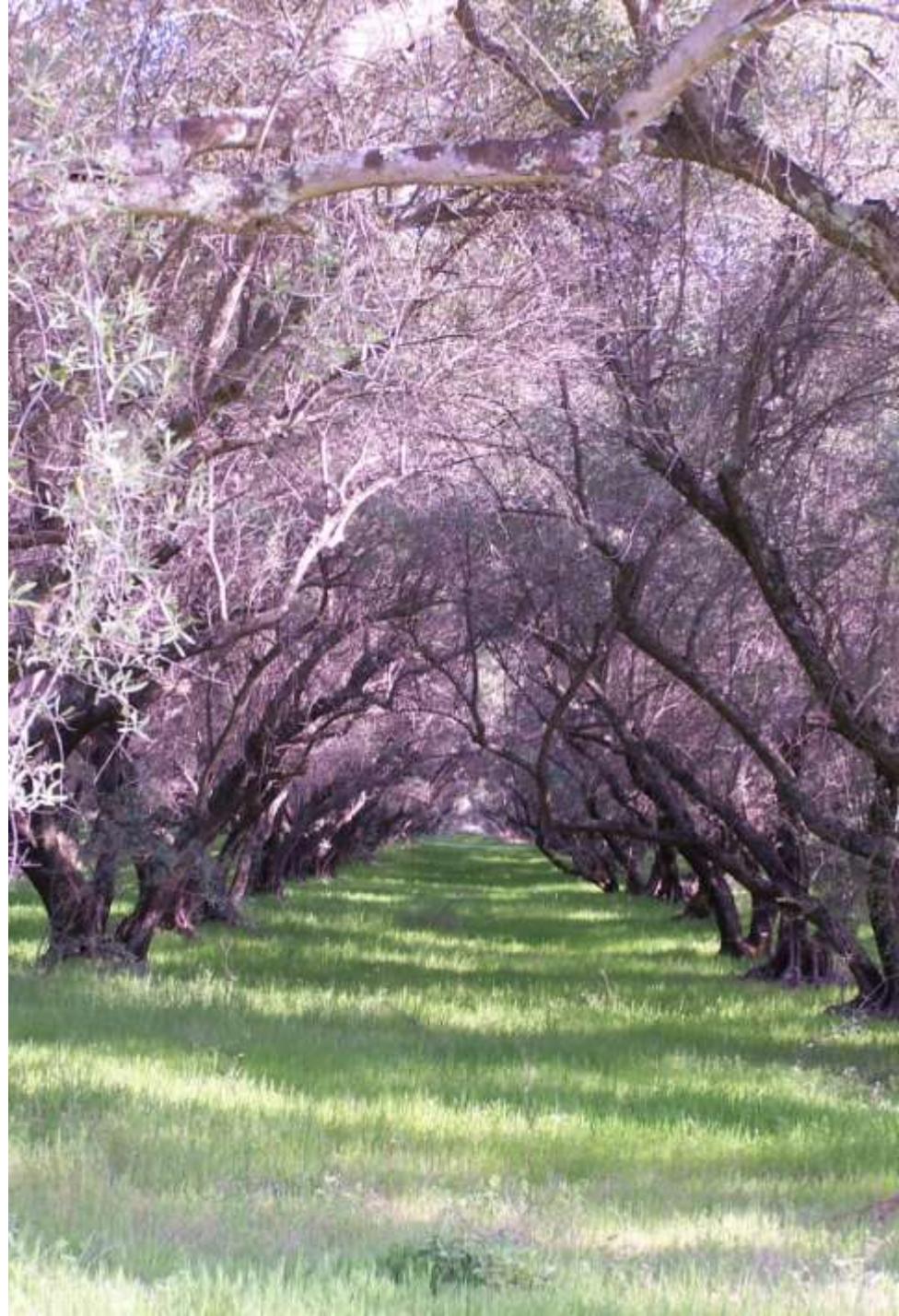


# Enterprise Stacking

- Utilizing symbiotic relationships to minimize inputs and create a greater good
- Integrating livestock enterprises and orchard operations is ideal for this

# It's Simple

- Sheep and Cows do the mowing
- Chickens handle bugs and deposit Nitrogen rich manure
- Goats prune olives, clear fire breaks, and clear creeks and canals





# Benefits

- Have more crops per acre
- Diversity offers economic and environmental protection
- Increase cash flow/season extension
- Become one stop shopping for customers,
- Utilize waste, manure, grasses & downed fruit all become a benefit in this system
- All permaculture based – **No Annual Plantings!**

# Best of All

We drastically reduced labor needs & also now use an avg of 85% LESS FUEL than we did prior to using the animals in the orchards





# The Recipe

- Portable Solar Powered Electric Fences
- Portable and permanent water troughs
- Guardian Dogs









•The Guardian Dogs bond with the livestock and become part of the herd. They will defend their livestock at all cost like they would their own family..



# Cattle

- Utilize cattle to graze the Olive Orchards and Rangeland
- This type of grazing builds top soil and sequesters massive amounts of carbon out of the atmosphere
- Cattle are really easy keepers in this type of model.









# Sheep

- Sheep utilized in Stone fruits and Citrus
- Sheep prefer forbs/broad leafs in the pasture that cows don't like as much
- We use smaller breeds of sheep like Shetland for wool or Cheviots for meat. Both are gentle enough to graze both established











# Goats

- Control weeds
- Prune olive trees
- Gently clear ditches/riparian areas
- Cut Firebreaks
  
- 2 to 3 offspring per kidding
  
- Very sociable, extremely intelligent, and playful



# Day 1

50 goats on appx 1 acre of berries and other invasives in area around an irrigation canal





Day 2



•Goats are also used to clean up invasives in the orchards. Himalayan Blackberry and wild grape can cause a lot of problems for us.



•We also use the goats to “prune” olives in which they clear the lower branches as well as the suckers around the base of the tree.



• Here the goats are cutting a firebreak up on the foothills of the ranch







01/22/2007



# Broilers

- Can be used in all our orchards
- Their manure has excellent levels of Nitrogen that is very available to both the grass and trees
- Yurts get moved daily
- Supplemented with Certified Organic Soy Free chicken feed
- Produces the best tasting chicken you can imagine!

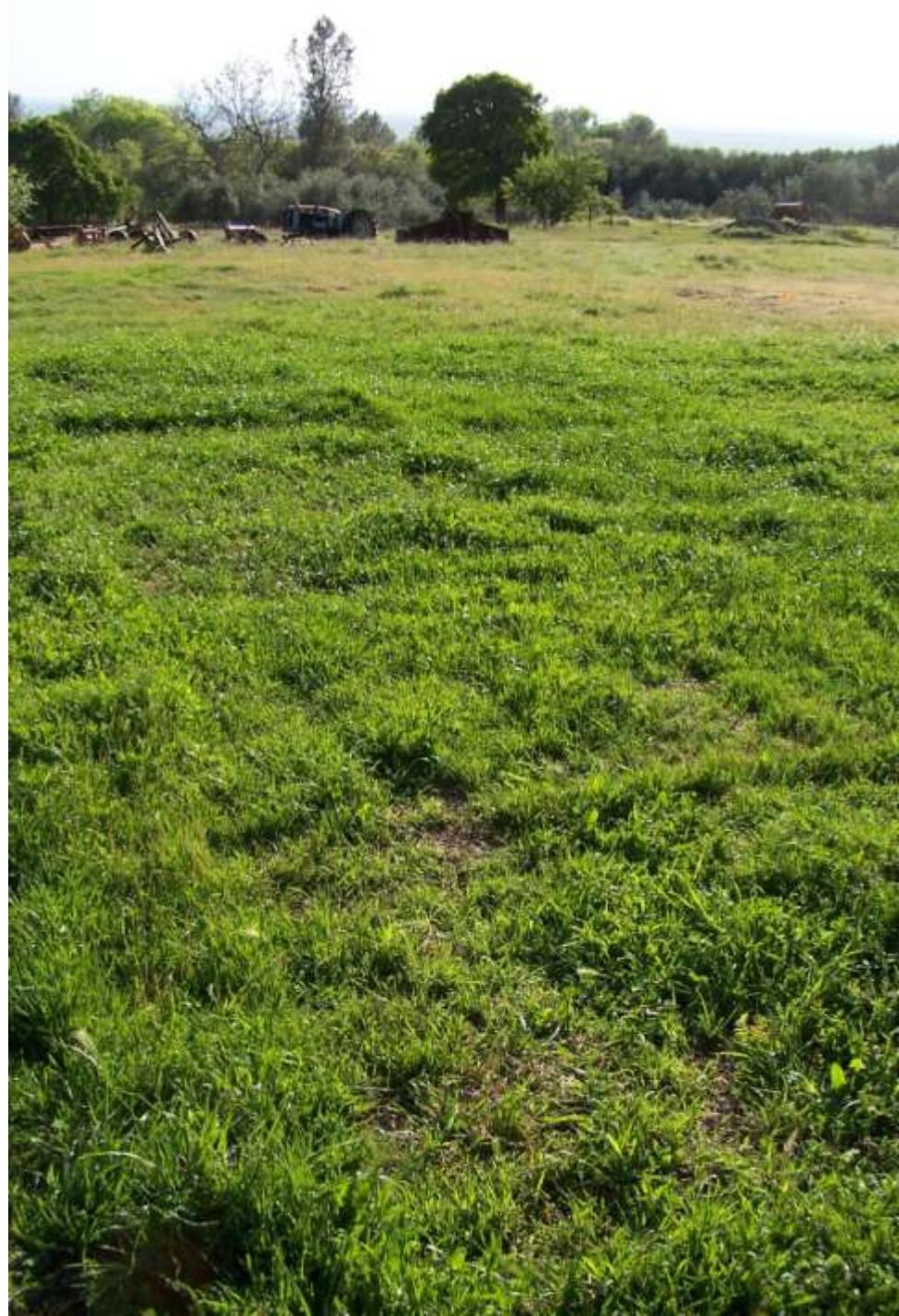






The birds are excellent and adding nitrogen and building soil organic matter.

Price of nitrogen for both conventional & organic farmers is skyrocketing!!!





# Laying Hens

- **Amazing Bug Control and are good foragers – actively chase bugs, lizards, mice, and snakes**
- **Great source of Nitrogen rich manure**
- **Increased Brix levels in fruit after chickens have been through**
- **Provide light tillage**











07/29/2006



07/05/2006







# Agritourism

- Connect people to your farm and create lifelong customers
- Add another revenue stream to your business
- Add a fun new layer to your existing projects



























The updated Zoning Ordinance for Butte County includes a new Unique Agriculture Overlay zone to be consistent with and implement General Plan 2030. Uses permitted as-of-right will include **bed and breakfasts, farm tours, farmstays, the growing and harvesting of unique agricultural products, on-site sale of agricultural products, petting farms, the processing and packaging of products produced on-site, and the sale of products produced on-site. Special events, restaurants, tasting rooms,** and other similar uses and activities will be permitted with the approval of a **Minor Use Permit**. The overlay zone will also establish specific development and operational standards to ensure that permitted activities do not negatively impact surrounding properties.



**THANK YOU!**

**[www.ChaffinFamilyOrchards.com](http://www.ChaffinFamilyOrchards.com)**