

Feeding Beets on California Dairy Farms¹

September 19th, 2019

Kearney Agricultural Center
9240 S Riverbend Ave., Parlier, CA

Presented by ANR & UC Davis

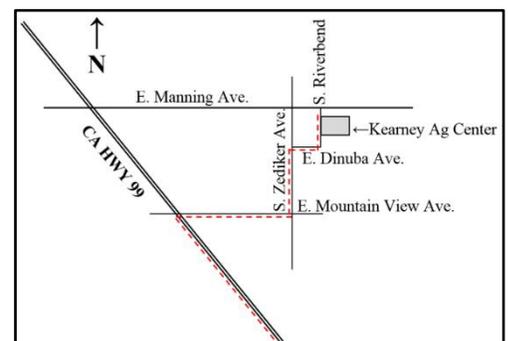
What this meeting will cover: The use of sugar beets as a winter forage crop on dairies in the San Joaquin Valley. Sugar beets were planted in late October in 2018 on the Legacy Dairy near Pixley, California. They were harvested in late June and co-ensiled with almond hulls. Root yields approached 60 tons per acre fresh weight. Beets are used commonly as feed in Arizona, where winter production is the most efficient way to produce large amounts of highly digestible, high energy forage with minimal amounts of water. They have similar potential for dairy farmers in the San Joaquin Valley.

What we will talk about: This meeting will present results from the feed beet project at the Legacy Dairy including growing the crop and yields, general sugar beet production guidelines for dairy farms, forage yields and quality, making silage, and how to feed sugar beet forage to high producing dairy cows.

Who should come? Dairymen, dairy nutritionists, and crop advisors working with dairy producers.

Agenda

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| 12:15 p.m. | Lunch |
| 1:15 | Welcome and Introduction - <i>Nick Clark, UCCE Tulare County</i> |
| 1:30 | Growing Sugar Beets on Dairy Farms: The Basics - <i>Steve Kaffka, Extension Specialist; Plant Sciences – UC Davis</i> |
| 2:00 | Silage Making and Silage Quality - <i>Peter Robinson (tentative) - Animal Sciences, UC Davis</i> |
| 2:30 | Results from the Legacy Dairy: Yields, Growing and Harvesting Methods, Making silage - <i>Frank Fernandes, Gene Aksland, Steve Kaffka, Legacy Dairy, Consulting Agronomist, & UC Davis</i> |
| 3:00 | Experiences with Growing and Feeding Beets in Arizona – <i>Niles Jennet, Consulting Nutritionist, Arizona</i> |
| 3:30 | Seed Sources and Other Useful Information - <i>Steve Kaffka, Extension Specialist, Plant Sciences – UC Davis</i> |
| 3:45 | Adjourn |



¹ Research and Extension supported by the **California Dairy Research Foundation**