

Weekly Ag Report

Jeff Hemphill

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Hello, my name is Jeff Hemphill. Today I am representing the Lassen County Farm Bureau, and I am also a third generation rancher here in the Honey Lake Valley. Today we are kicking off the JDX Ag Report. The Farm Bureau, along with David Lile from the Cooperative Extension office, will be bringing you this report to help you keep informed and educated about the business of agriculture in the north state.

Spring has finally sprung here in Lassen County. The farmers and ranchers here in the valley are busy spreading fertilizer, irrigating crops, and processing cattle for the summer grass season. The growing season is short here and the water is even shorter, so the growers have their work cut out for them to make a profit.

The water that flows off the mountains in the streams in northern California is all adjudicated, which means that the courts have a decree that explains who has the rights to use the water that flows in the creeks. So, if a creek flows through your property, please be a good neighbor and check with the water master service provided locally by Jess White at 310-0259 to see if you can legally take any water from that stream.

Agriculture is a big and diverse business in this corner of the state. We grow lots of crops and the livestock industry is huge here, too. The cattle trucks that you see rolling through town are bringing cattle up from the central valley to take advantage of the great feed that grows in the area. You know, a cow has a pretty good life – wintering in the central valley, and getting to spend summers up here in God's country.

Thanks for listening and in the future we are hoping to bring you a great report every week. So, if you have a question, concern, or an event, let David Lile know. He can be reached at 251-8133, or at dfilile@ucdavis.edu, and he will make sure it gets the air time it needs.