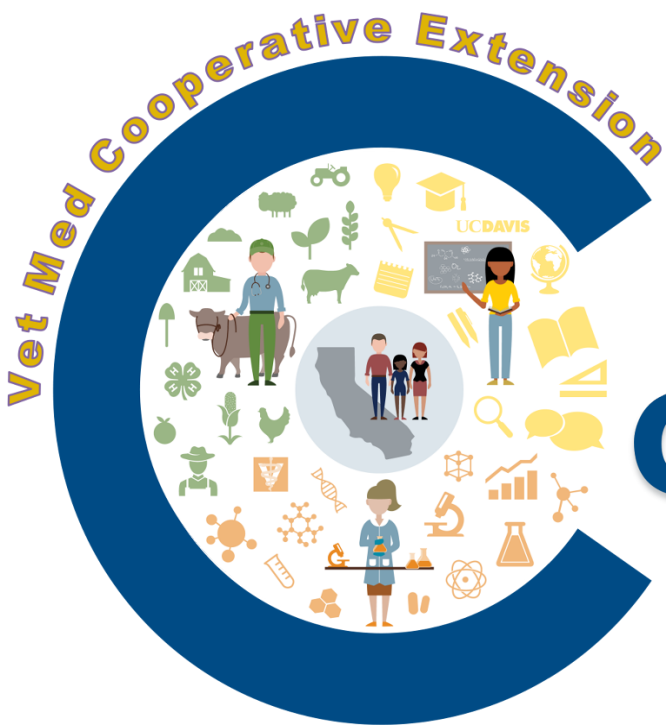


Spring 2023



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For questions or comments, please contact Maurice Pitesky
at 530-752-3215 or mepitesky@ucdavis.edu

Welcome New CE Professor

Rural Community Disaster Preparedness

Mrs. Theresa Gendreau, Creative Director, UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine Cooperative Extension Poultry Lab



Dr. Costa is no stranger when it comes to disaster preparedness, and in her new role hopes to work with communities to build their capacity, increase resilience and improve preparation for when disaster hits.

Please welcome the new Rural Community Disaster Preparedness Assistant Professor in Cooperative Extension, Dr. Laís Costa. Dr. Costa has served several veterinary positions at UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, ranging from Associate Veterinarian in the Large Animal Clinic and Director of Operations in Veterinary Emergency Response to the current Director of the International Animal Welfare Training Initiative. Her experience in disaster preparedness started during Hurricane Katrina in 2005 as an emergency vet clinician.

Not her first rodeo

Dr. Costa started her veterinary career focused on large animal medicine with a particular interest in equine health. She has served as a clinical educator for years as she loves teaching. While teaching veterinary students, interns and residents at Louisiana State University, she joined the equine emergency response efforts of 500 horses that needed shelter during Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

The most rewarding was the reunification of the horses with their owners in this unprecedented disaster. Recently, in 2017 to be more precise, she found herself at an emergency response lecture at UC Davis, and she decided to start her journey in veterinary emergency response. As responder and coordinator of emergency response she again witnessed the reunification of animals with their owners. These moments make this work incredibly rewarding. Dr. Costa has served as a teacher, coordinator, community resource and of course veterinarian for the Veterinary Emergency Response Team (VERT). She is also the director of the International Animal Welfare Training Initiative (IAWTI). She has responded to the many California fires, including the devastating 2018 Camp Fire and hopes to equip California's rural communities focusing on livestock (including poultry) with strong resilience and preparation plans as the state's wildfire risk continues to climb. She reminded us that wildfires are not the only hazard we need to prepare for, floods and earthquakes are also realities in California. Her goal is to work with local communities and bring specialized preparedness training and education programs to counties. A daunting task as California's natural resources and environments are famously diverse, but the effects could be life-saving

Like Podcasts?

Listen to Dr. Costa share her expertise on how to safely evacuate horses, chickens, and a variety of other household animals in Episode 4 of Tell me What Happened: "Walking through fire to save 64 horses" here: <https://www.onstar.com/podcast/season-2/ep-4>



Update from the UC Agriculture and Natural Resources Statewide Conference 2023

Dr. Roselle C Busch, Dr. Gabriele Maier, Dr. Emmanuel Okello, Dr. Maurice Pitesky, Dr. Pramo K Pandey, and Dr. Alda Pires Noelia Silva del Rio

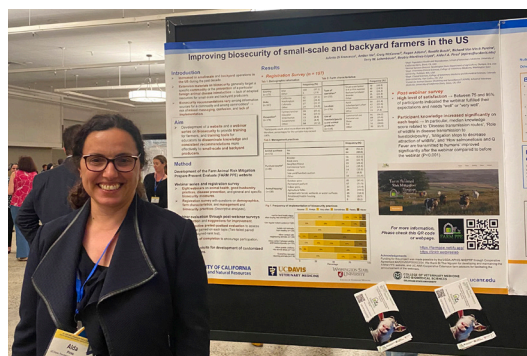
UC Agriculture & Natural Resources (UC-ANR) just completed its first statewide conference in 5-years. The 3-day conference in Fresno brought together UC-ANR academics from around the state to discuss research and how best to move forward to serve all Californians.

Discussion topics included:

- Identifying top priority issues such as: **Methane mitigation** and the role of pasture raised animals, **catastrophic fires**, and **flooding** all rose to the top, **agroecology** applications and the role of **small-scale farms** on agriculture and Californian livelihoods, while a discussion of **mRNA vaccines** in animal agriculture brought attention to a new opportunity for extension.
- “**Vision 2040**” How will UC-ANR need to adapt its mission statement? (see “What does UC-ANR do?” on next page)
- The importance of **in-person interactions**: Perhaps most importantly the statewide meeting facilitated interaction which is essential for collaboration on new research.
- Due to the abundance of recent hires in attendance much of the program focused on achieving academic success, writing team grants, and novel methods of delivering extension. One of our own in Vet Med Extension, Dr. Rosie Busch, was on a panel for workforce development sharing her experience in professional development of Spanish speaking farm employees.

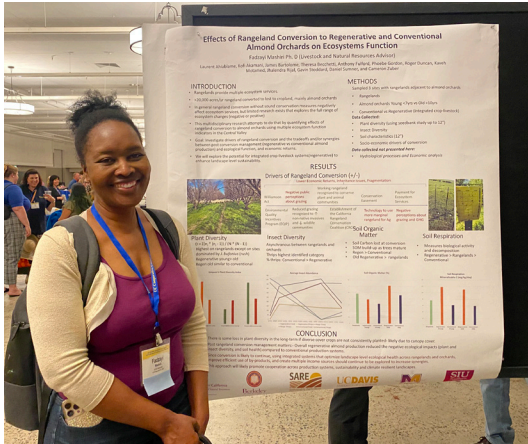
Poster sessions and evening social events gave new hires the opportunity to learn about the incredible diversity of work UC ANR contributes to across the state. Vet Med Extension faculty presented posters on various topics including the effect of wildfire smoke on livestock health, integrated crop-livestock systems and food safety risks, and biosecurity for small-to medium scale farms. A poster presented by a student in the Masters of Preventive Veterinary Medicine showcased a study on the relationship between extreme climate events on livestock producers and economic subsidies from federal assistance programs.

Attendees also heard from a number of inspiring keynote speakers and panelists including the California secretary of agriculture, **Karen Ross**, or the President of the University of California, **Dr. Michael Drake** on their vision for a strong and impactful UC-ANR system. Dean of the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, **Dr. Mark Stetter**, made a special visit to the conference and organized a meeting with Vet Med Extension faculty to talk about our programs and the current needs.



UCANR Conference 2023

continued...



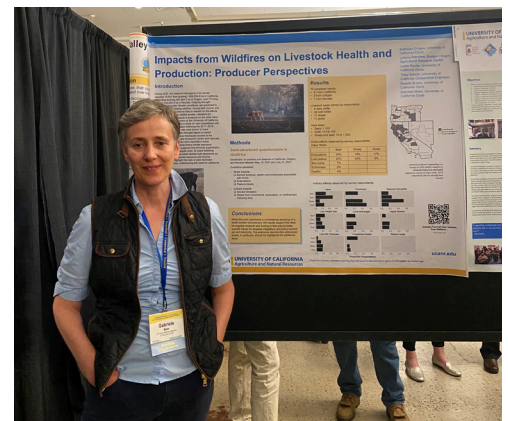
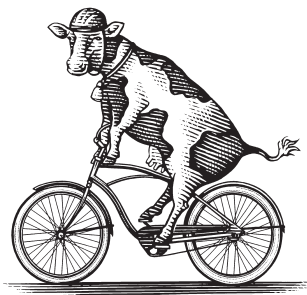
In addition to their continued research and extension activities around California, Vet Med Extension faculty continues to play an important role in various UC-ANR based leadership activities. Among other roles:

- Dr. Pires is a member of the Strategic Initiative Endemic and Invasive Pests and Diseases Committee, and co-chair of the Diversified Farming and Food Systems Program Team
- Dr. Silva-Del-Rio is co-chair of the Dairy Program Team
- Dr. Busch is co-chair of the Small Ruminant Health and Production Workgroup.

As the Vet Med Extension academics return from the conference we aim to better serve California and our stakeholders with these new connections and inspiration. To learn more about Vet Med Extension please visit <https://vetext.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/>

What does UC-ANR do?

From safe drinking water to clean air, reduced exposure to pesticides to tools for healthier lifestyles, UC-ANR promotes public health for people and the communities where they live, learn, work and play. We produce tools, programs and policy-relevant research that result in healthy living.



Word Rescue!

Can you find each hidden word in this search?

cooperative
resources
wildfire
poultry
conference
livestock

B S R S Z B E M E R G E N C Y
J W X E D Q S H P R H J N C B
I I Z S S I N A W O B U K O R
E L G H I O S D S L U V D N I
X D Q L P C U A Q Y E L U F C
T F L L K P N R S Z I G T E I
E I V H N U M L C T B P P R X
N R F C Y P O R I E E I O E Y
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I B I Z E V A C U A T I O N G
C Q Q O E E R U P A S C P R C

prepared
emergency
evacuation
extension
disaster
poster



www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vetext/

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