



July 1, 2006

Dear ASABE California/Nevada Section members,

Here is the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of our Section's bimonthly Email Update.

**The Update:**

- \* Annual International Meeting in Portland
- \* Cal Poly San Luis Obispo success at ¼ Scale Tractor Competition
- \* Modesto Junior College success at ¼ Scale Tractor Competition
- \* Graduations at Butte College, Cal Poly, Modesto JC, and UC Davis
- \* Ag Engineering Licensure

**\* Annual International Meeting in Portland**

The meeting is July 9-12, as most of you likely know. Although it is not too late to sign up, the early-registration discounts are no longer available. If your schedule appears to be freeing up for some reason, take a look at the final program at <http://www.asabe.org/meetings/aim2006/FinalProgram-6-27-06.pdf> at the [www.asabe.org](http://www.asabe.org) web site and see all of the tours and events that might be of interest. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Stanley Bull, Associate Director for Science and Technology for the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and President of the Midwest Research Institute. The topic of his talk is "Renewable Energy Today!" For more details about his talk, and of course the various lecture and poster sessions, simply click over to the web site listed above.

**\* Cal Poly San Luis Obispo success at ¼ Scale Tractor Competition**

Out of 29 teams from North America, Cal Poly tied for fifth place in the overall competition. In addition to this high overall finish, they won a number of awards including the Serviceability Award and the Safety Award. Also, they won the Campbell Scientific Award, an award that that "promotes the best use of test methods and/or data acquisition in the development of a prototype design. Entries are required to submit a separate essay describing their test program." Furthermore they took home second place in Web Site Design, which "is intended to encourage an appreciation of good promotion as a key to product success. Work is judged on creativity, functionality, and effectiveness." Please take a look at their highly regarded web site at <http://www.quarterscale.calpoly.edu>. Congratulations to Team Captain Ben Holtz for all these accomplishments. The CalPoly web site includes team member profiles along with individual answers to "What came first, the chicken or the egg?" Ben's answer may explain why he is Team Captain. For ASABE pictures and news from this year's event, please go to <http://www.asabe.org/students/tractor/asaecomp.html>.

**\* Modesto Junior College success at ¼ Scale Tractor Competition**

In their second year, the MJC team went from twenty third to eighth overall, taking home the Most Improved award. The students in MJC's Mechanized Ag program have certainly made a mark on the competition. Congratulations to all of the outstanding students and their Advisor, ASABE Member Steve Amador. Take a look at a picture of their group at

[http://virtual.yosemite.cc.ca.us/agens/clubs/AgMech/14\\_scale.htm](http://virtual.yosemite.cc.ca.us/agens/clubs/AgMech/14_scale.htm) , and read a short article in their local paper <http://virtual.yosemite.cc.ca.us/agens/clubs/AgMech/Inthenews.htm> . They have been quite successful on numerous fronts. They are also mentioned in the official ASABE press release dated June 9, 2006 and available at [http://www.asabe.org/students/tractor/2006\\_Results/PressRelease2006.pdf](http://www.asabe.org/students/tractor/2006_Results/PressRelease2006.pdf) if you haven't already clicked it above.

### **\* Graduations at Butte College, Cal Poly, Modesto JC, and UC Davis**

With the school year over, you may be wondering how many new graduates are out there among us. So, to that end, the unofficial reporting is as follows.

Butte College's Department of Agriculture and Environmental Science graduated approximately 45 students in their Mechanized Ag certificate program. Although not this year, they usually also have a graduate or more earn an Associate of Science degree. They have a number of additional ag related majors that you can see at <http://www.butte.edu/instruction/agr/ag/> . Congratulations to this large number of students who are out there working hard on machinery and systems that harvest, transport, and process the crops. (ASABE member Bruce Enyeart heads up the program at Butte.)

Cal Poly's Department of Bioresource and Ag Engineering graduated approximately 21 and 27 students with Bachelor of Science degrees in the majors of Bioresource & Ag Engineering and Ag Systems Management, respectively. (ASABE member Richard Cavaletto heads up the program at Cal Poly.)

Modesto JC's Division of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences graduated 8 students from their Associate of Science degree program in Mechanized Ag. This is a large increase over previous years. (ASABE member Steve Amador heads up the program at Modesto.)

UC Davis' Department of Biological & Ag Engineering graduated about 35 with Bachelor Degrees and about 10 with graduate degrees at either the Masters or PhD levels. (ASABE member Bruce Hartsough heads up the program at Davis through this summer, to be followed by Mike Delwiche.)

Congratulations to all of these students and the faculty who instruct and advise them.

### **\* Ag Engineering Licensure**

Thank you very much for all of the support we've received from the Section and its members regarding licensure. It appears that SB 246 may be a non-issue at this point since it's been re-written as the Human Milk Bill and has already passed through several committees in the last few weeks. The benefit of this is that the Agricultural Engineering license may still be pursued though still as a Title Act. A future bill may include language elevating the Ag Engineering license, and others, to Practice Act status. We will keep you posted on further developments.

Regards,  
Victor Duraj  
ASABE Section Chair

(Thanks to Carolyn Jones, Program Chair, and to Steve Amador and Bruce Enyeart for responding to inquiries while away from the office and on vacation, to help us assemble this Update.)