

**Happy New Year! In this issue...**

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California Foundation for  
Agriculture in the Classroom

**DID YOU KNOW?!**

The average person  
eats eight pounds of  
grapes a year.



## 1. Teacher Feature - Lisa Liss

**Teaches:** Fifth Grade

**School:** Woodlake Elementary in Sacramento, California

*Lisa Liss was selected as one of this past year's Look at Agriculture... Organically! grant recipients. In the fall of 2014, Lisa and her students worked with Healthy Planet in San Francisco to create 15 raised beds and start growing strawberries, tomatoes, onions and peppers. This month, they planted onions and potatoes in their raised beds. In 2015, they started making jam out of the berries, which they deliver to teenagers at the local homeless shelter.*

### **What's your *Jammin' with Wind Youth* project?**

My goal is for students to grow organic fruit and learn how to make it into jam. My students live in a high poverty area. Most of them do have a warm place to lay their heads at night and forget that others have it much worse. The *Jammin' with Wind Youth* project includes planting the berries, setting up irrigation to keep them alive during the summer, making jam and delivering it to the Wind Youth Center. Another goal is to get the youth at the center to come to our school and help us garden.

### **What inspired you to create this project?**

For my entire 28 years of teaching, I have made having a garden a priority. This is my fifth year at Woodlake and we now have an abundant tomato garden and eight fruit trees that are beginning to produce. We created salsa

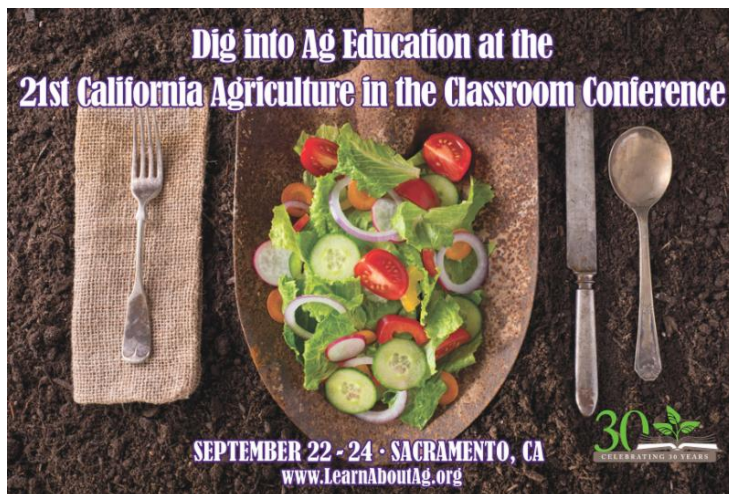
and gave jars to the Wind Youth Center. In my first year of teaching, we grew everything to go inside egg rolls, but we had to haul water a large distance. Woodlake is blessed to have many acres of land for us to use. Our pre-school class has joined us with gardening!

Recently, our gardens have produced cauliflower, broccoli, and lettuce. We experimented with cauliflower to make cauliflower fried rice, cauliflower-crust pizza and more. Armando, one of my students said it best, "We are the best little farmers in the entire state!" My students are eager to try anything and everything we grow. I truly believe that if children can be taught to grow their own food, being hungry and healthy will never be an issue in their lives.

## 2. California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference - Sacramento, CA

**September 22-24, 2016**

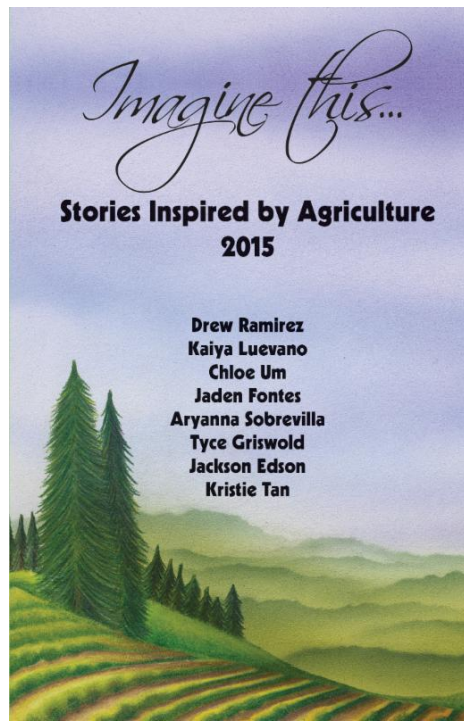
We are seeking enthusiastic presenters who would like to share their expertise, experience and educational resources with conference attendees. [Proposals](#) are being accepted to present a workshop or Make 'n' Take, exhibit at the conference, or host a *Taste of California* dinner table!



## 3. *Imagine this...* Story Writing Contest Awards Ceremony: March 16, 2016

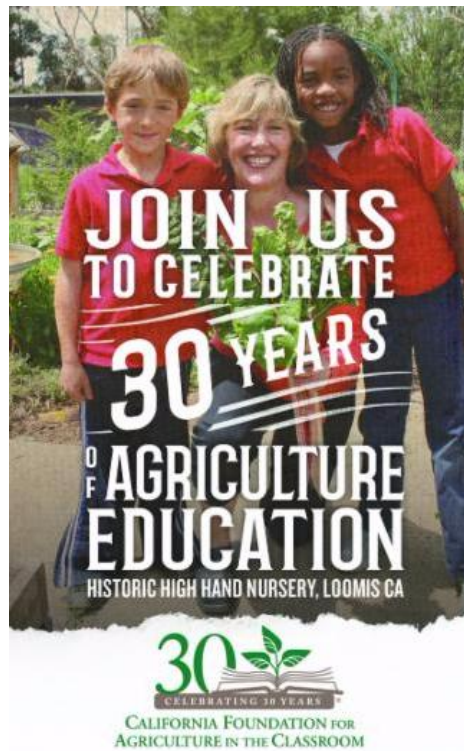
State-winning authors will be recognized during **California Agriculture Day** in Sacramento on **Wednesday, March 16, 2016**. The new book, [Imagine this...](#) *Stories Inspired by Agriculture*

2015 will be introduced on that date as well!



#### **4. Celebrate 30 Years of Agriculture Education at High-Hand Nursery Event**

Join us for a dinner, silent auction and more as we celebrate our 30th anniversary at the historic High-Hand Nursery in Loomis, California on Friday, April 22. Ticket and sponsorship information can be found on our [website](#). You may purchase tickets online or contact Lyn Hyatt at [Lyn@LearnAboutAg.org](mailto:Lyn@LearnAboutAg.org) or 800-700-2482.



## 5. Seed Survivor Mobile - CA Tour

The tour is in its last month! [Schedule a Seed Survivor visit](#) while the trailers are in your Southern California county.

### Help present at Southern California tour stops!

Presenters will be paid for their time. Contact Liz Baskins at 916-561-5625 or [Liz@LearnAboutAg.org](mailto:Liz@LearnAboutAg.org).

### Tour Dates and Locations:

March 7-11: Los Angeles County

March 14-18: Riverside County

March 21-25: San Diego County

March 28-31: Orange County

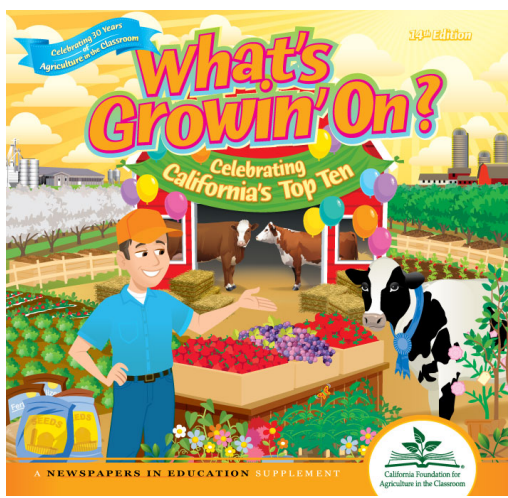


## 6. Featured Resource - Invasive Species

[The Invasive Species Fact Sheet](#) set is now available for order on our website. This resource includes a one-page *The Invaders!* introduction sheet for grades 3-8. Request your free copy or download it today!

WHO ARE THEY?		
<b>Asian Citrus Psyllid</b> This pest is a small, pear-shaped insect that feeds on citrus plants. It is the primary vector for Huanglongbing, a devastating citrus disease.	<b>European Grapevine Moth</b> This pest is a small, brown moth that feeds on grapevines. It is the primary pest of grapevines in California.	<b>Mediterranean Fruit Fly</b> This pest is a small, brown fly that feeds on a wide variety of fruits and vegetables. It is the most common fruit fly pest in California.
<b>False Codling Moth</b> This pest is a small, brown moth that feeds on a wide variety of fruits and vegetables. It is the most common codling moth pest in California.	<b>Varroa Mite</b> This pest is a small, red mite that feeds on honey bees. It is the most common mite pest of honey bees in California.	<b>Oriental Fruit Fly</b> This pest is a small, brown fly that feeds on a wide variety of fruits and vegetables. It is the most common fruit fly pest in California.

## 7. New Edition of *What's Growin' On?* Will be Available March 22



This year's *What's Growin' On?* student newspaper celebrates California's top-ten commodities. The newspaper [will be available](#) for order on our website, starting on March 22.

## 8. Grant Opportunity

### Look at Agriculture... Organically! Grants

- Teach (K-8) students about organic agriculture.
- Applications [open April 1 and are due May 15](#).
- Grants are provided through a collaboration between California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom and the California Certified Organic Farmers Foundation.

## 9. Statewide Events, Competitions, & More!

### California Agriculture Day- March 16, 2016

- Celebrate the Golden State on your Plate!
- Visit a variety of fun, educational booths located on the West side of the State Capitol Building.
- Meet the *Imagine this...* state-winning authors at the Ag in the Classroom booth.
- See more information [online](#).

### Farm to School Webinar

- Wednesday, March 9, 2016 3:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
- Learn how to communicate the value of farm-to-school and school garden programs to administrators, board members and stakeholders.

- [Register online.](#)

### **LifeLab Workshops and Camps, UC Santa Cruz**

- *Next Generation Science in the Garden for K-5*
  - Saturday, March 11, 2016
- *Summer Camps*
  - Register for camps for ages 4-18
  - Camp [registration](#) is now open
- Register for these activities and other LifeLab events at [www.lifelab.org](http://www.lifelab.org).

### **Student Community Health All-Star**

- Nominate a student (grades 4-12) for the Student Community Health All-Star Award, and recognize his or her positive impact on student health!
- Nominations are due by March 31, 2016.
- [Download the application](#) from the Dairy Council of California website.

### **Education & Agriculture Together (EAT)**

#### **Foundation - Summer Workshop Dates**

- Session 1: June 13-16, 2016
- Session 2: July 11-14, 2016
- Learn more on the EAT Foundation [website](#).



## **10. County Ag Days**

**March 8-9, 2016** - Kern County Farm Bureau's [Farm Day in the City](#)

**March 15, 2016** - [Sonoma Ag Day](#)

**March 17, 2016** - [Marin Ag Day](#)

**May 10, 2016** - Solano County Fair's [Youth Ag Day](#)

**May 10, 2016** - El Dorado County's [Farm Day](#)

## 11. More Ways to Learn About Ag

**Bay Area** - The Bay Area Farm to School Regional Gathering will take place on Friday, March 18, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Oakland. The free event will bring together groups interested in growing Farm to School activity. [Register online.](#)

**Los Angeles County** - A series of free Smart Gardening beginner and advanced workshops are being offered from now until the end of May by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works. See the [full schedule.](#)

The [Los Angeles Environmental Education Fair](#) takes place on Saturday, March 12 at the Los Angeles County Arboretum & Botanic Garden. The event includes workshops for adults and children, in addition to a variety of entertainment.

**San Diego County** - The Resource Conservation District of Greater San Diego County is [offering scholarships to high school seniors.](#) Deadline: April 11, 2016. The organization is also offering one full [scholarship for their 2016 Range Camp.](#)

**Napa County Farm Bureau** - The Annual Meadow Muffin Ag Education Golf Classic takes place on Friday, May 13, 2016. [Register online](#) with the Napa County Farm Bureau.

**Merced County** - Hilmar Cheese Company offers free [educational tours.](#)



**Show Your Support for Agricultural Literacy**

Help us continue to provide programs and materials to



create an awareness and understanding of agriculture among California's educators and students.

[Make a one-time or recurring donation.](#)

## Stay Connected

