Agribee™

Program Area: Education and Ag Promotion (EAP)
County Farm Bureau: Butte County Farm Bureau
State: CA
Membership Category: 1,001-3,000
Year: 2013
Phone: (530) 533-1473
Email: colleen@buttefarmbureau.com

Program Description: Who remembers the excitement of participating in a spelling bee at a young age? Members of the Butte County Farm Bureau organized the "Agribee", a spell-and-define word competition for 4th and 5th grade students. Participating schools conduct school-wide Agribees among their 4th and 5th grade classrooms to determine two finalists who will compete in a regional Agribee hosted by the county Farm Bureau. Students must accurately spell and define words to be successful in the competition.

School-aged children are often unaware of the importance agriculture has in their lives and in their local community. The Agribee makes a connection for the student, helping them learn the correct spelling of words and their agricultural definitions, thus expanding the students' awareness of agriculture as it relates to nutrition, science, geography and the local landscape.

Farm Bureau members worked closely with the local University Cooperative Extension nutrition education staff to promote the program within the local school districts. They all work together to coordinate individual school Agribees and provide farmer judges for school-wide Agribees--this allows for a better understanding of the words and puts a face to the words. The program was funded by the county Farm Bureau, which included event expenses and student awards, (a laptop for the regional winner).

This event originally benefitted the local community, but has now expanded to a six-county area, which creates a regional competition and wider awareness of agriculture. Not only does this program allow for a better understanding of agriculture among students, but parents and families as well.
Not your average spelling bee.

agribee
AGRICULTURAL SPELLING BEE

www.agribee.org
A program of the Butte County Farm Bureau
2980 Feather River Blvd., Chico CA 95920 • 530-333-1473

The AgriBee™ is a define and spell bee, using agriculturally related words, for fourth and fifth grade students. The program is currently available to schools in Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Sutter, Tehama and Yuba Counties in California.

Each participating school organizes a school-wide AgriBee and identifies two finalists who compete in a regionally hosted AgriBee Finals in November at the Patrick Ranch Museum in Chico, California.

The procedure is much like a standard spelling bee, with one major difference — each word must be defined and spelled. The winner of the AgriBee Finals receives a laptop computer.

The Butte County Farm Bureau has partnered with the University of California Cooperative Extension School Nutrition Education Program in Butte County to coordinate this Northern California agricultural education program.