



# NEWS RELEASE

**United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development**  
**World Wide Web: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ca>**  
**Dr. Glenda Humiston, State Director**

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## **USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES ENERGY GRANTS TO FOUR CALIFORNIA FARMERS**

WOODLAND, Calif., October 9, 2009 – USDA Rural Development State Director Dr. Glenda Humiston today announced four California farmers will receive over \$65,000 in grants under the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP), for renewable energy and energy efficiency systems.

"At USDA Rural Development we are committed to helping rural farmers and ranchers become more energy efficient - it's good for the economy, good for the environment, and good for those who depend on the goods and services these businesses provide," Humiston said.

For this round of funding, USDA has selected J.T. Farms, in Woodland, Calif., for a \$19,964 grant to install a solar photovoltaic system on the farm. The system will generate 18,460 kilowatts of electricity annually to help offset the farm's electricity usage. Also selected are Pryor Farms and Kruppa Farms, both of Winton, Calif., for a \$13,270 grant and a \$19,936 grant respectively. The farms will both use the funds to install solar photovoltaic systems. Pryor Farms will use the system to provide electricity for an irrigation pump and Kruppa Farms will use the electricity generated to operate their office and maintenance facility.

In Le Grand, Calif., Live Oak Farms has been selected for a \$12,500 grant to install new energy efficient lighting in the farm's warehouse and processing facility. This project highlights the fact that replacing existing lighting with energy efficient lighting is one of the easiest measures businesses can take to reduce their energy consumption. Rural Development's grant will enable Live Oak Farms to save nearly 100,000 kilowatts of electricity annually.

REAP loan guarantees and grants can be used for renewable energy systems, energy efficiency improvements, feasibility studies and energy audits. More information on the REAP program, which was authorized under the 2008 Farm Bill, is at: [www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farmbill/index.html](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/farmbill/index.html). Funding of each recipient is contingent upon the recipient meeting the conditions of the grant agreement.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Rural Development fosters growth in homeownership, finances business development, and supports creation of critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available at one of California's 18 local USDA Rural Development offices or by visiting <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ca>.

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