



DEPARTMENT OF PLANT PATHOLOGY -071
1463 BOYCE HALL
RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA 92521-0122

<http://www.plantpathology.ucr.edu>

Carey Rogers
Goleta Water District
4699 Hollister Ave.
Goleta, CA 93110

10/12/05

It has come to my attention that the Goleta Water District is trying to impose water restrictions on 'small' orchards or growers that will effect how much water costs. However, I do not have all of the information concerning what constitutes a small farm versus a larger farm with respect to payment of water. My intent of this letter is to simply inform the water district that I believe that 'small' scale farmers are just as important as larger ones and should receive equal treatment.

I run the avocado rootstock-breeding program at University of California Riverside. Our ultimate goal is to develop a rootstock that is resistant to *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, cause of avocado root rot, and the most devastating disease of avocado worldwide. Please consider the agricultural productivity of California as 'a whole' when imposing water rate policies. We have research plots on both large orchards and small orchards alike, and without these cooperating orchard owners, our program could not exist. I'm sure I am not the only researcher who deals with growers who have small acreage. They should not be discriminated for choosing to have a small operation.

Please feel free to contact me if you need additional information that may help orchard farmers and growers that will be affected by the putative policy change.

Sincerely,

Dr. Greg W. Douhan
Department of Plant Pathology
University of California
Riverside, CA 92521
(951) 827-4130

RECEIVED
2005 OCT 21 PM 12:36
BOLIA GARDIN PATHOLOGY

Bryan Givens

1133 N Fairview
Goleta CA 93117
(805)-967-6601

October 16, 2005

Goleta Water Board
4699 Hollister Ave.
Goleta CA 93117

Re: Agricultural Water rates

Dear Goleta Water Board,
I am a student at Dos Pueblos High School and I am writing to you about the sudden raise in water rates for agricultural use. This rate increase can put many farmers out of business. Just like what happened to the small farming community in San Diego that your General Manager and Chief Engineer Kevin Walsh came from. Small Farms in Goleta are already being put out of business by larger farms in Santa Maria or Sacramento. The people of Goleta have always said that they do not want our agricultural land developed. This new rate increase will make the farmers decision to sell out to developers even easier. We will have low income houses and more office buildings instead of our beautiful farmland. I hope that you will vote not to increase the price of our agricultural water.

Sincerely,

Bryan Givens

Bryan Givens

RECEIVED
2005 OCT 19 PM 3:39
GOLETA WATER DISTRICT