



## Organizers prepare for annual Colusa Farm Show

Elizabeth Larson  
Capital Press

COLUSA, Calif. - Final preparations are now under way for the 43rd annual Colusa Farm Show, billed as the "Granddaddy of all farm shows."

The event takes place this year from Feb. 5 through 7 at the Colusa County Fairgrounds, 1303 10th Street. The show is free to the public.

Exhibits Manager Paulette Sterk said she and fair Chief Executive Officer Carolan Ferreria Meek are busy finalizing plans for this year's show.

Participation on both the exhibitor and visitors sides is expected to be good once again, said Sterk.

Indoor exhibitor space is all filled up, said Sterk, with a waiting list forming. Outdoors exhibit space also is filling up, she added, with the show so far having 236 exhibitor contracts.

That number is close to last year's, Sterk added.

The Colusa Farm Show consistently averages about 35,000 visitors a year over its three-day run, said Sterk.

People have come from as far away as Australia, Canada and the Midwest to either show their farm wares or visit, Sterk said.

The show's format this year will resemble last year's, said Sterk.

**Certified Financial Planner Kevin Spafford will return as the event's featured speaker, discussing legacy planning for farming operations.**

The popular Toyota Ride and Drive, which debuted last year, also will return, said Sterk. The Toyota exhibit, which takes place in the riding arena, gives people the chance to test out a new Toyota pickup. It also helps the company learn more about what people want from their trucks, a company official told Capital Press at last year's event.

The main concern is the weather, said Sterk. So far, she said, organizers are unsure of what the weather will hold. Last year's show saw some rain which didn't appear to affect overall attendance.

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### Colusa Farm Show schedule of events

#### Monday, Feb. 4

8 a.m.-5 p.m.: Exhibitor move in

#### Tuesday, Feb. 5

8 a.m.-9 a.m.: Exhibitor move in

9 a.m.-5 p.m.: Colusa Farm Show is open

12 p.m.: Colusa Rotary Lunch, sheep barn; Certified Financial Planner Kevin Spafford speaks on "Legacy by Design"

All day: Toyota Ride and Drive, riding arena

#### Wednesday, February 6, 2008

7 a.m.: Ag Leadership Foundation breakfast, Saint Bernadette's Hall

9 a.m.-5 p.m.: Colusa Farm Show is open

1 p.m.: Colusa County FFA Public Speaking Contest, Stagehands Theater

All day: Toyota Ride and Drive, riding arena

#### Thursday, Feb. 7

9 a.m.-5 p.m.: Colusa Farm Show is open

1 p.m.: Colusa County Commodity Cook Off Contest, sheep barn

All day: Toyota Ride and Drive, riding arena

For more information call the Colusa County Fairgrounds, 530-458-2641 or visit [www.thefarmshow.com](http://www.thefarmshow.com).

- Elizabeth Larson