

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



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:: NEWS ::

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**LOS ANGELES COUNTY CELEBRATING
NATIONAL FARMERS MARKET WEEK
August 2-8**

ARCADIA, CA (August 4) – With well over 100 certified farmers' markets (CFMs), most of them operating year-round, Los Angeles County has more reasons to celebrate National Farmers Market Week than any other California county. Today, County Supervisor Mike Antonovich presented a scroll during the Board of Supervisors meeting to this year's outstanding CFM manager Dale Whitney recognizing his contributions to the significance and ongoing success of the local CFM program.

Certified farmers' markets bring a wide variety of fresh produce, herbs, cut flowers, living plants, honey, and other agricultural products straight from the farm into our urban communities, and give residents a convenient time and place to deal directly with growers. A CFM is a great place for Southern Californians to improve their nutrition, meet farmers face to face, and support local and statewide agriculture.

The Los Angeles County Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures (ACWM) certifies both local producers and the CFMs themselves to ensure that only California produce grown by the sellers is offered to customers. The term "certified" used in the phrase "Certified Farmers' Markets" means that the produce is brought to the market straight from the farm, either by the farmer personally or by an employee. ACWM agricultural inspectors visit and certify participating farms growing crops locally. They inspect the markets and review all farmer papers for accuracy, thereby certifying that the farmers are only selling what they, themselves, have grown.

For the locations and hours of a CFM near you, visit <http://acwm.co.la.ca.us/scripts/cfm.htm> or call (562) 622-0426.

Established in 1881, ACWM protects consumers and the environment through early detection and exclusion of dangerous, invasive insect and plant pests; enforcement of laws and regulations regarding safe pesticide use; operation of an environmental toxicology laboratory; clearance of weeds, brush, and debris from vacant land to reduce fire hazards; inspection and verification of accuracy of scales, meters, price scanners, and quantity labeling on packaged goods.

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