

Introducing...

Jane Stallings, David Markham & Lisa Stallings III Doc's Almond Ranch

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Jane Stallings, David Markham and Lisa Stallings, relative newcomers to farming in the Capay Valley region, have operated III Doc's Almond Ranch in Brooks for only two years, where they produce delicious almonds.

Farm Name

III Doc's Almond Ranch

Owners

Jane Stallings, David Markham and Lisa Stallings

Education

PhD in Child Learning (Jane)
PhD in Computer Science (David)
PhD in Soil Science and Environmental Restoration & Resource Analysis (Lisa)
Cache Creek Stakeholder, Chair (Lisa)

Community Involvement

Esparto School Board, Easter Yolo County Grange treasurer (Jane); Yolo County Wayfarer board member (David); Manager for Bair Island wetland creation, Plan for Vallejo Flood Control District (Lisa)

Number of Years Farming

3

Our Farm

David and Jane are novices in farming transplanted from Washington D.C., while Dr. Lisa Stallings is familiar with the additives

needed to balance soil and water for growing almonds. Using transitional to organic production practices, III Doc's Almond Ranch employs 2 permanent and 3 seasonal workers to cultivate almonds on 47 acres.

Distribution of Product

Fifty percent of III Doc's Almond Ranch's production is sold on to consumers at a San Francisco farmers' market. The other fifty percent is sold wholesale to Blue Diamonds.

Joys of Farming

We most enjoy riding or walking across the orchard in the early morning to inspect the irrigation lines and see what mischief the critters are up to. Another wonderful aspect is being able to watch the trees blossom and the young nuts form. Harvesting is the reward.

Challenges of Farming

Getting control of weeds, gophers and ground squirrels is always a frustrating challenge. Some other challenges we face are irrigating so that we can grow a ground cover and spread tree roots. Our orchard floor is rough, so it's hard to harvest our almonds. We intend to install micro-sprinklers this summer.

