



Danilu Ramirez is the CAPCA Central Coast Chapter's current president. She has been working in the industry for 13 years, since receiving her PCA license in 2004. She also holds a QAL and is a California CCA, Technical Assistance Provider with the Central Coast Water Quality Control Board, and certified in nutrient management by CDFA. She received her B.S. in Crop Science from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Consulting mainly in vegetables and strawberries, Danilu specializes in nutrient management and water management.

She currently works as a Water Management Consultant and Irrigation Specialist with RDO Water LLC / RDO Equipment company. Previously she was an Agronomist with JG Boswell Company and a Strawberry Production Manager with Driscoll's Strawberry Associates. Now she helps growers with sediment and erosion control, pesticide management, irrigation and storm water management, nutrient management, sustainability planning and goals for continuous improvement. Danilu says: "Being able to implement everything I have learned throughout my career and apply it towards helping growers budget, plan and achieve goals is the highlight of my career. From working on a farm and writing PCA recommendations on a daily basis, to managing strawberry forecasts, I can now apply all my past experience to my current role as a consultant and help create a more sustainable future for California agriculture."

Her experience and investment in a sustainable future for California agriculture began even before Danilu

was licensed: "I am a 4th generation California farmer's daughter. My uncle was a crop duster and he knew I had a great love for agriculture and understood my passion for plant science as well." Danilu recalls, "When I was in high school he took me under his wing - literally! I became interested in the PCA's role and I knew it would be a great fit for me. I did an internship over the summer after starting at Cal Poly and I was very excited to graduate and go to work as a PCA."

She's equally passionate about the next generation of PCAs. When asked why she volunteered with CAPCA, she responded "I think it is important to dedicate time



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to speaking to and interacting with potential PCAs and spreading my enthusiasm about agriculture." As Central Coast Chapter President, Danilu's plans for local community involvement have college and FFA students at the top of the list. Specifically, the Chapter plans to increase outreach at Cal Poly SLO through student breakfasts, on-campus events and investment at Crops Club meetings. The Chapter will

also sponsor additional students to attend CAPCA's Annual Conference in October. "We had so many success stories come back to us from students who got their dreams jobs because of the Student Network Event at Conference."

The energy and enthusiasm she has professionally are also a match for her hobbies: "This summer I am racing enduros across California – a combination of downhill and cross country mountain bike racing." She's also looking forward to two adventure races – 6 and 12 hour events that include ropes sections, kayak, mountain bike and orienteering/trail running, all done on an unmarked course by using coordinates, a compass and a map. And of course, she's looking forward to time with her 10-month-old Blue Heeler puppy, Blazer Bluey. 🐕

Danilu Ramirez

CAPCA Chapter:
Central Coast

Education:
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

Interests:
Mountain Biking/Cross Country Biking