RA Farms – Water System

Consumer Confidence Report – 2020

Santa Cruz County Water System I.D. No. 4400543

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguen que lo entienda bien.

June 30, 2021

About This Report

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2020 and may include earlier monitoring data.

R&A Farms has its' own water system. The water system is classified as a "non- transient, non- community water system". As such, we are required to provide this Water Quality / Consumer Confidence Report to you, the water user. In 2020, water from the system was tested and compared to the EPA and State drinking water health standards. This brochure reviews 2020's water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, person who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV / AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA / Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Your water comes from an on-site water production well sunk approximately 350-feet into an underground source of water. The well pumps water into a 5,000-gallon polyethylene (plastic) storage tank that was installed in January 2016 (replaced a leaking steel tank). A booster pump and pressure tanks provide pressure throughout the water system. The well and storage tank are located on the south side of the property, to the north of Paulsen Road. Please see the notes below regarding drinking water.

Sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include river, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before it is treated include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic system, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agriculture application, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. SWRCB regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

WATER QUALITY DATA

The attached Tables 1 and 2 list all the drinking water compounds (analytes) that the source well and water distribution system were tested for, the date of the tests, the results of the tests, and the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for that analyte established by the US EPA or the state of California in parts per million (ppm). For comparison, 1-ppm is the equivalent of 1 second in 11.5 days. The presence of any compound in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State requires monitoring for certain compounds less than once per year because the concentrations of these compounds are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Source water supplied to and distributed in the water system met all EPA and State drinking water standards, except for the following instances:

- Total coliforms detected, an "indicator" bacterium that poses no health risk in itself, continued to be detected periodically in routine samples during 2020. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially-harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. Samples collected in March, June, and July 2020 had detectable levels of coliform bacteria. These detections were followed by disinfection using chlorine until follow-up testing no longer detected coliform bacteria. A distribution system flushing program was introduced that has reduced the periodic bacteria detections; however, additional steps are necessary to resolve this on-going bacteria issue. We are working on the bacteria issue and will continue to keep you posted. The Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency – Drinking Water Program was informed of and continues to monitor the situation and our response to it.

- Both Iron and Manganese are present in the source well at levels exceeding the secondary MCL. A secondary MCL is a limit that is not based on a health risk, but instead refers to aesthetic qualities in water. In the case of Iron and Manganese, levels exceeding the secondary MCL can result in reddish-brown and dark brown coloration in the water and possible staining on fixtures and washed clothing. The high iron and manganese levels are due to leaching of natural deposits.

About Iron and Manganese: Iron and Manganese are naturally occurring minerals and are present in groundwater due to leaching from natural deposits. They are required nutrients in every person's diet and a healthful diet provides adequate iron and manganese for good nutrition (US EPA, 2003). Iron and Manganese are regulated Secondary MCLs (see drinking water regulations) established to address issues of aesthetics (discoloration, taste, odor), not health

concerns. At a concentration greater than 0.05 ppm, Manganese may make the water appear brown. At a concentration greater than 0.3 ppm, Iron may make the water appear a rust-color and may impart a metallic taste to it.

For more information on Iron and Manganese you may see the following references:

- WHO, 2004 (PDF), Iron in Drinking-water, Background document for development of WHO Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality, World Health Organization, 2004.
- WHO, 2004 (PDF), Manganese in Drinking-water, Background document for development of WHO Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality, World Health Organization, 2004.
    - See also: WHO, Chemical Hazards in Drinking Water - Manganese.
- US EPA, 2017, Secondary Drinking Water Standards Guidance for Nuisance Chemicals

The laboratory analytical results are summarized in the attached Tables 1 and 2.

Please direct any questions about the potable water system to:

Rosalba Alvarez (R&A Farms Owner) at 831-227-9698

OR

Craig Drizin (Certified Water Operator - Weber, Hayes and Associates) at 831.722.3580

Term	Definition
Level 1 Assessment	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS)	MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.
Public Health Goal (PHG)	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.
Regulatory Action Level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS)	MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.
Treatment Technique (TT)	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Variances and Exemptions	Permissions from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.
ND	Not detectable at testing limit.
ppm	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppt	parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
ppq	parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

Table 1: Summary of Source Well #1 (-002) "Labor Camp Well" Analytical Results

R & A Farms, Water System I.D. No. 4400543 (-002)
143 Paulsen Road, Watsonville, California

Analyte	Date Sampled	RESULT (ppm)	MCL (ppm)
PRIMARY INORGANICS			
Aluminum (Al)	4/15/19	ND	0.2 [2] | 1
Antimony (Sb)	4/15/19	ND	0.006
Arsenic (As)	4/15/19	ND	0.01
Barium (Ba)	4/15/19	0.19	1
Beryllium (Be)	4/15/19	ND	0.004
Boron (B)	4/15/19	0.11	*CA-AL: 1
Cadmium (Cd)	4/15/19	ND	0.005
Chromium (Cr)	4/15/19	ND	0.05
Copper (Cu)	4/15/19	ND	*AL: 1.3 | 1.0 [2]
Cyanide (CN)	4/15/19	ND	0.15
Fluoride (F)	4/15/19	0.13	2.0
Lead (Pb)	4/15/19	ND	*AL: 0.015
Mercury (Hg)	4/15/19	ND	0.002
Nickel (Ni)	4/15/19	ND	0.1
Nitrate (as N) **	9/16/20	ND	10
Nitrite (as N)	4/15/19	ND	1
Nitrate-N + Nitrite-N	4/15/19	ND	10
Selenium (Se)	4/15/19	ND	0.05
Silver (Ag)	4/15/19	ND	0.1 [2]
Thallium (Tl)	4/15/19	ND	0.002
SECONDARY / GENERAL MINERAL			
pH value	6/17/20	7.6	6.5 - 8.5
Specific Conductance (EC)	4/15/19	490	1,600 µS/cm [2]
Bicarbonate Alkalinity (as HCO_3)	4/15/19	270	--
Carbonate Alkalinity (as CO_3)	4/15/19	ND	--
Calcium (Ca)	4/15/19	41	--
Chloride (Cl)	4/15/19	20	500 [2]
MBAS (Surfactants)	4/15/19	ND	0.5 [2]
Magnesium (Mg)	4/15/19	20	--
Manganese (Mn)	4/15/19	0.24 **	0.05 [2]
Potassium (K)	4/15/19	2.2	--
Sodium (Na)	4/15/19	35	--
Sulfate (SO_4)	4/15/19	22	500 [2]

Table 1: Summary of Source Well #1 (-002) "Labor Camp Well" Analytical Results

R & A Farms, Water System I.D. No. 4400543 (-002)
143 Paulsen Road, Watsonville, California

Analyte	Date Sampled	RESULT (ppm)	MCL (ppm)
Iron (Fe), total	4/15/19	0.79 **	0.3 [2]
Total Alkalinity (as $CaCO_3$)	4/15/19	220	--
Total Hardness (as $CaCO_3$)	4/15/19	190	--
Total Dissolved Solids	4/15/19	290	1,000 [2]
Zinc (Zn)	4/15/19	ND	5 [2]
GENERAL PHYSICAL			
Color (Co/Pt) (Units)	4/15/19	10.0	15
Odor (Threshold Number)	4/15/19	ND	3 [2]
Turbidity (NTU)	4/15/19	2.8	5 [2]
OTHER			
Hexavalent Chromium (Cr^{+6})	6/29/15	ND	0.01 [a]
Perchlorate	7/11/18	ND	0.006
Synthetic Organic Compounds	7/19/18	ND	varies
Volatile Organic Compounds ***	2/14/18	ND	varies
1,2,3, TCP	11/7/18	ND	0.000005
Gross Alpha	7/11/18	ND	15 pCi/L

All Data & MCLs QC'd on 6/17/21 by: R. Peterson (WHA)

NOTES:

Data prior to March 23, 2015 was collected by others. We make no warranty regarding the quality or accuracy of data collected by others, it is presented solely for informational purposes.

Not all analytes are sampled every year. Most recent data is shown.

ppm = parts per million; which is equivalent to milligrams per liter (mg/L)

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level. Primarily based on US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) & California drinking water regulations

ND = Not Detected at or above the laboratory's Reporting Limit

2 = Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water and DO NOT affect health at that level

a = MCL is no longer in effect

*California (CA-NL) and/or EPA Action Levels (AL) are shown for analytes which do not have an MCL

** Indicates a secondary MCL exceedance. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water and DO NOT affect health at that level.

1,2,3-TCP = 1,2,3-Trichloropropane

pCi/L = picocuries per liter

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units

Table 2: Summary of Distribution System Analytical Results

RA Farms, Watsonville, CA - Water System I.D. No. 4400543

Analyte	Date Sampled	RESULT (ppm)	MCL (ppm)
Bacteria			
Coliform	Jan & Feb 2020	Absent	---
Coliform (initial tests)	Mar 2020	Present *	---
Coliform (follow up tests after disinfection)	Mar 2020	Absent	---
Coliform	Apr & May 2020	Absent	---
Coliform (initial test)	June 2020	Present *	---
Coliform (Repeat test. Initial test may have been a false positive)	June 2020	Absent	---
Coliform (initial test)	July 2020	Present *	---
Coliform (follow up tests after disinfection)	Aug 2020	Absent	---
Coliform	Sept - Dec 2020	Absent	---
E Coli	Jan - Dec 2020	Absent	---
Lead & Copper			
Lead	9/20/18	ND	AL: 0.015
Copper	9/20/18	ND to 0.13	AL: 1.3 | 1.0 [2]

All Data & MCLs QC'd on 6/21/21 by: S. Mixan (WHA)

NOTES:

ppm = parts per million; which is equivalent to milligrams per liter (mg/L)

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level. Primarily based on US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) & California drinking water regulations

ND = Not Detected at or above the laboratory's Reporting Limit

2 = Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water and DO NOT affect health at that level

AL = California (CA-NL) and/or EPA Action Levels (AL) are shown for analytes which do not have an MCL

* Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. See the report text for more information.

APPENDIX F: Certification Form (Suggested Format)

Consumer Confidence Report
Certification Form
(to be submitted with a copy of the CCR)

(To certify electronic delivery of the CCR, use the certification form on the State Water Board's website at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/CCR.shtml)

Water System Name:	RA Farms – Water System
Water System Number:	4400543

The water system named above hereby certifies that its Consumer Confidence Report was distributed on 6/30/2021 (*date*) to customers (and appropriate notices of availability have been given). Further, the system certifies that the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water.

Certified by:	Name:	Rosalba Alvarez	
	Signature:	Rosalba Alvarez	
	Title:	Owner	
	Phone Number:	(831) 227-9698	Date: 6/30/2021

To summarize report delivery used and good-faith efforts taken, please complete the below by checking all items that apply and fill-in where appropriate:

☐ CCR was distributed by mail or other direct delivery methods. Specify other direct delivery methods used: _____

_____

☒ "Good faith" efforts were used to reach non-bill paying consumers. Those efforts included the following methods:

- ☐ Posting the CCR on the Internet at www._____
- ☐ Mailing the CCR to postal patrons within the service area (attach zip codes used)
- ☐ Advertising the availability of the CCR in news media (attach copy of press release)
- ☐ Publication of the CCR in a local newspaper of general circulation (attach a copy of the published notice, including name of newspaper and date published)
- ☒ Posted the CCR in public places (attach a list of locations)
- ☐ Delivery of multiple copies of CCR to single-billed addresses serving several persons, such as apartments, businesses, and schools

- ☐ Delivery to community organizations (attach a list of organizations)
- ☐ Other (attach a list of other methods used)

☐ *For systems serving at least 100,000 persons*: Posted CCR on a publicly-accessible internet site at the following address: www._____

☐ *For investor-owned utilities*: Delivered the CCR to the California Public Utilities Commission

This form is provided as a convenience for use to meet the certification requirement of the California Code of Regulations, section 64483(c).

6/30/2021

This water report for 2020 (California Water System) for R & A Farms was posted in the Labor Camp Kitchen Room for everyone to see and read. Also, it was posted in the outside Board near the garbage cans, where all Tenants will get to see.

Thank you

Rosie Ibarra- Owners assistant