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Ag Against Hunger, Tanimura & Antle glean iceberg

Published on 09/20/2010 05:03PM By Mike Hornick
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Ag Against Hunger gleaned 14,542 pounds of iceberg lettuce Sept. 18 in Salinas, Calif., setting a record for the nonprofit.

It was their biggest-ever iceberg glean, even though turnout — 75 volunteers — was below the year's best of 80, said Karen DeWitt, executive director of Ag Against Hunger.



Courtesy Ag Against Hunger

That result becomes less surprising when you consider that the Tanimura & Antle field near Cooper and Blanco roads in Salinas had not been commercially harvested. Unlike a normal glean, Ag Against Hunger got first pick from Tanimura & Antle.

"You didn't have to go around the field looking for iceberg," DeWitt said.

She enlisted Brian Antle, who manages spinach and baby greens for the company.

"They support us all the time," she said. "When we ask if they have a field available, (Tanimura & Antle) always says yes. It may be that on Saturday he didn't have any that were already harvested."

Ag Against Hunger gleaned 14,542 pounds of iceberg lettuce Sept. 18 on a Tanimura & Antle field in Salinas, Calif., setting a record for the nonprofit. It was their biggest-ever iceberg glean.

About 110 volunteers had signed up, but final turnout is often lower. The iceberg haul filled 22 bins.

Ag Against Hunger offers three-hour gleans throughout the Salinas harvest season. Anyone interested in participating can call (831) 325-1054 or e-mail greg@agagainsthunger.org. Groups carpool to fields from the nonprofit's cooler at 495 Brunken Ave.

The event followed a Sept. 15 glean by Palma High School freshmen for Ag Against Hunger that netted 9,044 pounds of lettuce.

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And I dont mean give away old salads that were going to be dumped anyway and tell the press it was a first thought donation.

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