Public issues at the farm-urban interface are among the most important policy decisions facing California. An 80-page Center publication explores those issues. The summarized proceedings of a conference held in Sacramento, the report focuses on:

- Technological developments and farming practices that help individual farmers coexist with their urban neighbors.
- Land use planning, community design and other public sector techniques that help preserve farmland and maintain viable agriculture, particularly near urbanized areas.

Designed for a general audience as well as those in government, farming and land use planning, the publication provides the views of a dozen experts in fields ranging from biotechnology to local government and legislative policy. Leadoff contributors are UC Davis Chancellor Larry N. Vanderhoef, Jack J. Pandol, Jr., farmer and former under secretary of Cal-EPA, and Steve Sanders, a legislative chief of staff.

Other contributors include UC biologists, engineers, animal scientists and farm advisors; farm-land preservation and land use planners, consultants and activists; and local government and industry officials. A concluding chapter is by Alvin D. Sokolow, extension public policy specialist, UC Davis.

This is the second Center publication dealing with public policy challenges at the farm-urban interface. The first, Farmers and Neighbors: Land Use, Pesticides and Other Issues, explored concerns on both sides, considering pesticide use in particular. A background videos is also available.