Tulare County dairies and wells

This map shows results of state water quality tests reported to county residents who volunteered their wells for a study in 2006. Of the 181 wells tested, more than 40 percent had nitrate levels at or above the state drinking water standard and one-third tested positive for coliform bacteria, indicating the presence of the fecal bacteria _E. coli_. Nitrate poisoning can lead to illness – even comas – especially in infants.