INTRODUCTION

In his time, Luther Burbank was admired as a great inventor, ranking with such men as Henry Ford and Thomas Edison. He was one of the most prolific horticulturists in history, introducing over 800 new varieties of plants to the world.

Burbank established Sonoma County’s reputation as an agricultural Eden. He is deemed one of the 50 most important people in shaping Sonoma County during the 20th century.

Enjoy this brief journey into Burbank’s life with your students. He truly was a fascinating man. How fortunate we are that this pioneer selected Sonoma County as “the chosen spot on all the Earth as far as nature is concerned!”

It is my hope that our students will acquire a heartfelt appreciation for Burbank and that a natural curiosity about other great Americans will develop.

Sincerely,

Katherine Gohl
Unit Author