

Farmer & Rancher Climate Leaders

Alternative Manure Management Program Participants

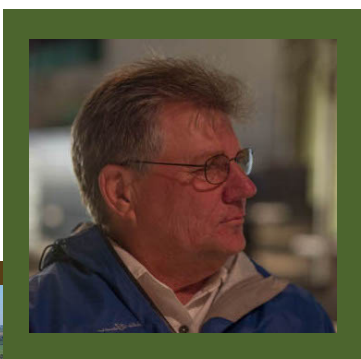
The Alternative Manure Management Program (AMMP), administered by the California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA), provides grants to dairy and other livestock producers to support their transition to manure handling and storage strategies that reduce methane emissions, including less water-intensive strategies and increasing pasture-based dairying.

More info is available on CDFA's website: <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/AMMP/>

MAGNESON DAIRY

Delhi, Merced County

Award Amount: \$559,703



“What I like about this program is that there are all kinds of innovative new ways for managing dairy emissions that help our business and the land. Hopefully our project will make our dairy more sustainable for decades to come.”

- Scott Magneson

Scott Magneson's family has been running a farm near Ballico since the 1890's, and he hopes to pass the business along to his son and grandson. In 2004, they put a permanent conservation easement on the property which is on the banks of the Merced River, and in 2008 he converted to organic production. With his AMMP grant, Scott will make a number of improvements. He will install a mechanical screen separator that pushes manure solids onto a screen, moving the water out to be recycled and dropping the solids onto a concrete slab where he can shape them into windrows for composting. He will spread the compost on his pastures after the cows have rotated through to increase fertility and improve forage quantity, thereby increasing pasture time for the cattle and avoiding manure accumulation in the barns. Finally, he will also build a compost pack barn for his heifers, producing compost right underneath them by adding large volumes of bedding and aerating frequently.

The California Climate & Agriculture Network (CalCAN) is a statewide coalition that advances state and federal policy to realize the powerful climate solutions offered by sustainable and organic agriculture.

