

Farmer & Rancher Climate Leaders

State Water Efficiency & Enhancement Program Participants

SWEEP, administered by the California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA), provides grants to farmers and ranchers for irrigation management improvements that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and save water.

More info is available on CDFA's website: www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/sweep/

THE COLLINS FARM

Davis, Solano County
Award Amount: \$79,108



“Conserving water is not rocket science, but there is a learning curve. SWEEP supports producers in taking risks to learn new methods.”

- Rich Collins

After three decades operating the country's only endive farm, Rich Collins and his wife Shelly fulfilled a lifelong dream in 2007 by buying a 195-acre farm near Davis. Today, Collins Farm is home to several small farm businesses that produce a cornucopia of organic

produce including berries, apricots, figs, vegetables, hops for a local brewery, sheep for meat and chickens for eggs. They received a SWEEP grant to put solar panels on their barn, replace a gasolinepowered well pump with a solar-powered pump, and install a greywater system to use recycled water from their produce washing station to irrigate fields.

They also installed soil moisture sensors which give them information on when and how much to irrigate.

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.

