

# Farmer & Rancher Climate Leaders

## Healthy Soils Program Participants

*The Healthy Soils Program, administered by the California Department of Food & Agriculture (CDFA), provides grants to farmers and ranchers who adopt management practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration in soil and plants.*

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

### THE CLOVERLEAF FARM

**Davis, Solano County**  
**Award Amount: \$7,851**



"These grants provide an opportunity for farmers to think creatively about site-specific ways to best build soil, sequester carbon, and save water. As a farmer, once you start thinking like that, you don't stop."

- Emma Torbert

The Cloverleaf Farm started as a 1.5-acre operation. Over seven years, the collective of young farmers has steadily expanded into their current 10-acre operation.

Farmers Emma Torbert, Katie Fyhrie and Kaitlin Oki direct market their diverse mix of fruits and vegetables with a farmstand, U-pick, CSA, and sales to local restaurants. With their Healthy Soils grant, they are experimenting with "no-till" to minimize the soil carbon that gets released to the atmosphere by tilling. A local scientist with the Natural Resource Conservation Service will collect data to compare the effects of "no-till" and tillage practices on the farm, allowing the farmers to make better-informed

long-term management decisions. They will also apply compost and plant cover crops (non-commercial plants grown to boost soil fertility) to further draw carbon from the atmosphere into the soil, and they will install rows of native flowering, woody plants along field borders to store carbon in their tissues and also provide habitat for wildlife and beneficial insects.

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.



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