

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/>

QUAKER OAKS FARM

Visalia, Tulare County
Award Amount: \$12,568



“Healthy Soils practices reduce air pollution and the use of pesticides and herbicides. That’s a huge benefit to our community, who are exposed to high levels of these kinds of pollutants.”

- Steven Lee

Steven Lee manages Quaker Oaks Farm with diversity in mind at every level, from macro down to the soil microbiology. In addition to fresh, local food, the farm in Visalia offers educational programming for youth

and collaborates with the local Wukchumni Yokuts and Dunlap Mono tribes to offer on-site cultural education. With a Healthy Soils grant, Steven will implement a suite of practices much more quickly than he would have been able to without the funding, including amending with compost, mulching, and planting cover crops and hedgerows. Collectively, these practices will sequester carbon, save water, build healthier soil, improve air quality for the community, and produce healthier crops.

Steven attributes his success in getting a grant award to the technical assistance he received from the organization Community Alliance with Family Farmers.

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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