

# 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/](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/sweep/)*

### EMERALD SEED COMPANY

El Centro, Imperial County  
Award Amount: \$99,249



"We're saving money and water while reducing carbon emissions. Most importantly, this gives us the flexibility to irrigate how and when we need to most."

- Josh Cordova

Emerald Seed Company breeds disease-resistant seed varieties, which they sell throughout the world. Located near the Mexican border, the farm has limited access to water and experiences unpredictable precipitation and wind storms. The farm relies on surface water delivery which fluctuates annually depending on statewide water supplies and snowpack. With the SWEEP grant, Grower and Operations Manager Josh Cordova invested in infrastructure to increase their water security. To capture and store more water when it is available, they built an on-site reservoir. Josh also installed an electric pump to replace their

diesel-powered pump, which reduces carbon emissions and energy costs. Soil moisture sensors enable Josh to manage irrigation more efficiently.

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.



**CalCAN**  
CALIFORNIA CLIMATE &  
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