

### Program

**8:00- 8:30:**

Registration & Light Breakfast

**8:30- 8:45:**

Welcome (Ballroom)

**8:45-9:45:**

*Hearing from Farmers about Climate Change* (Ballroom)

Jim Goodman, Northwood Farm, Wisconsin

Al Courchesne, Frog Hollow Farm, Brentwood

Judith Redmond, Full Belly Farm, Guinda

**9:45- 10:30:**

*State of the State on Agriculture & Climate Policy* (Ballroom)

Ashley Conrad-Saydah, Assistant Secretary for Climate Policy, California  
Environmental Protection Agency

Jeanne Merrill, CalCAN Policy Director

**10:30- 11:00:**

Break & Poster Session

**11:00- 12:30:** Workshop Session A:

*Making the Climate Case for Farmland Protection*

Learn about how greenhouse gas emissions on agricultural land compare to urbanized land, and how this strengthens the climate change case for protecting California farm and rangeland as well as in-fill growth of cities. Speakers will discuss the status of farmland conservation in California and new threats, opportunities and challenges in protecting this unique resource.

Location: Alumni Center AGR Room

Moderator: Dave Runsten, Community Alliance with Family Farmers

Speakers: Ken Alex, Office of Planning and Research

Kathryn Lyddan, Brentwood Agricultural Land Trust

Louise Jackson, UC Davis

Many thanks to the  
UC Davis Agricultural  
Sustainability Institute,  
our host at UC Davis

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**11:00- 12:30** Workshop Session A Continued:

*Soil Building for Carbon & Water Storage*

Sustainable and organic agriculture techniques for managing on-farm nutrients and increasing organic matter in soils can not only reduce greenhouse gas emissions but also store carbon in soils, retain and thereby conserve water and increase fertility. In this session, you will hear how these multiple benefits are inter-related and what practices are most effective for climate-friendly nutrient management.

Location: Conference Room B

Moderator: Wendy Rash, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Speakers: Al Courschesne, Frog Hollow Farm

Mark Van Horn, UC Davis Student Farm

Jocelyn Getz, Rio Farms

*Rangeland Management as a Climate Protection Strategy*

California rangelands cover half the land mass of the state, and show promise when properly managed to increase soil carbon sequestration while also increasing water retention, reducing soil erosion, increasing forage quality and enhancing wildlife habitat and native grasses. You will hear from speakers about promising rangeland management practices with potential for helping prepare ranches for climate change impacts and for providing climate solutions.

Location: Conference Room A

Moderator: Pelayo Alvarez, California Rangeland Conservation Coalition

Speakers: Marcia DeLonge, UC Berkeley

Mel Thompson, Sierra Farms Lamb

Valerie Eviner, UC Davis

*Climate & Agriculture: The Science & Policy Basics*

You will hear an overview of the latest in the science of climate change impacts on California agriculture and the development of state policy to address these issues and maintain a vibrant, sustainable California food and farming system. Speakers will cover climate trends and their agricultural impacts, AB 32 and the California cap-and-trade program, and other related initiatives to support California farmers in responding to climate change.

Location: Ballroom

Moderator: Jeanne Merrill, CalCAN

Speakers: Alan Flint, US Geological Service

Ryan McCarthy, Science and Technology Advisor, California Air Resources Board

Jeanne Merrill, CalCAN

**12:30- 1:15** Lunch

**1:15-1:45** Leadership Award Presentations (Ballroom)

## 2:00- 3:30 Workshop Session B:

### *State Policy in Action*

State policy and programs are evolving to address climate change and agriculture issues. You will learn about Department of Conservation programs, state climate change adaptation efforts and agricultural water stewardship policy issues.

Location: Ballroom

Moderator: Katy Mamen, Ag Innovations Network

Speakers: Jennifer Morales, California Department of Water Resources

John Lowrie, Department of Conservation

Amrith Gunasekara, California Department of Food and Agriculture

### *Water Stewardship*

Climate change will continue to exacerbate California's chronic issues with water scarcity. This session will focus on water conservation and storage solutions at the farm-scale level, including soil-building measures to increase water-holding capacity, catchment systems, keyline design, water use monitoring, water recycling and other practical tools.

Location: Conference Room A

Moderator: Ken Dickerson, Ecological Farming Association

Speakers: Kelli Camara, Santa Cruz Resource Conservation District

Doniga Markegard, Markegard Family Grassfed

Tim Thornhill, Parducci Wine Cellars

### *Nitrogen, Agriculture & Climate*

A 2012 report to the state legislature by UC Davis finds that nitrate leaching from agriculture is contaminating drinking water in some Central Valley and Salinas Valley communities. Nitrogen inputs from farming can also increase greenhouse gas emissions. In this session, you will get an update on the latest science on agricultural practices that minimize the impacts of nitrogen inputs.

Location: Alumni Center AGR Room

Moderator: Jenny Lester-Moffitt, Dixon Ridge Farms

Speakers: David Smart, UC Davis

Martin Burger, UC Davis

William Horwath, UC Davis

### *The Science of Soil*

As awareness grows about the importance of soil organic matter for crop productivity, water retention and carbon sequestration, it is also clear that these are complex systems and that greater understanding of carbon and nutrient cycling is needed. This session will cover some soil science basics and farming practices that can improve soil quality.

Location: Conference Room B

Moderator: Kellyx Nelson, San Mateo Resource Conservation District

Speakers: Kate Scow, UC Davis

Richard King, Natural Resources Conservation Service (retired)

Jeff Creque, McEvoy Ranch

### **3:45-5:00** Workshop Session C:

#### *Farm Bill Update*

You will get an update on the status of the Farm Bill with an emphasis on the conservation, energy and organic agriculture programs.

Location: Alumni Center AGR Room

Moderator: Brise Tencer, California Certified Organic Farmers

Speakers: Alan Forkey, Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Brise Tencer, California Certified Organic Farmers

#### *Biodiversity: Developing On-farm Resilience to Climate Change*

Increasing biodiversity on cropland may be one of the most important things growers can do to buffer against increasing weather extremes, shifting pest and disease patterns, water scarcity and unpredictable drought and flood cycles. Speakers will provide practical information on various techniques and resources for biodiversity enhancement.

Location: Ballroom

Moderator: Jo Ann Baumgartner, Wild Farm Alliance

Speakers: Ann Thrupp, Fetzer/Bonterra  
John Anderson, Hedgerow Farms  
Judith Redmond, Full Belly Farm

#### *Organic Farming: Climate Change Tools*

Though more California-specific research is needed, there are strong indications that organic farming systems offer multiple climate benefits, including building soil organic matter and enhancing the resilience of farm systems to weather the impacts of climate change. This session will give you an overview of the current science.

Location: Conference Room B

Moderator: Cathy Calfo, California Certified Organic Farmers

Speakers: Alex Gershenson, San Jose State University  
Craig Cogger, WSU Puyallup Research & Extension Center

#### *Saving Money & Power*

Most farms and ranches can do more to become energy efficient and sometimes even generate renewable energy. In this session, you will learn about the energy efficiency programs of PG&E, and from a farmer using innovative practices to reduce energy use and grow green energy.

Location: Conference Room A

Moderator: John Garn, Viewcraft

Speakers: Dean Kirsch, PG&E Ag Services Program  
Russ Lester, Dixon Ridge Farms

### **5:15- 6:30** Wine & Cheese Reception (Alumni Center AGR Room)