

# 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/>*

### PT RANCH

**Ione, Amador County**

**Award Amount: \$99,365**



Molly Taylor grew up riding horses all over the rangelands that have been in her family for generations but didn't sink her hands into agriculture until 2018. Now Molly is diving deep into healthy soils practices, not only on her family's 520-acre ranch with a diversity of animals and crops, but also as a Technical Assistance Provider for the Amador Resource Conservation District.

With support from a Healthy Soils Program grant Molly is going to spread compost, plant cover crops and experiment with no-till practices on 60 acres of hay. These practices are expected to not only increase production but also increase soil water retention and soil organic matter.

PT Ranch dry farms their crops – meaning they don't irrigate – so Molly is interested in how cultivating healthier soils that hold water better and longer may extend their growing season and get two crops in the ground throughout the year, instead of just one.

*"This program is important because it helps California producers increase the resilience of their farms and ranches to extreme weather. The healthier your soil, the more water you have, the more soil organic matter you have, the better you are able to weather these extreme temperatures.*

*- Molly Taylor*

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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