



7:45 am – 8:50 am **Registration, Breakfast, and Networking**

8:50 am – 10:00 am **Welcome from NCAT and NRCS**

Farmer Keynote: Noel Ledesma, Snow Seed and Ledesma Family Farms

Session 1

10:10 am – 11:40 am

Room	Workshop Topic	Workshop Description / Presenter
Assembly Room 1	Integrating Poultry and Sheep with Crops: A regenerative approach	<u>Benina Burroughs, Burroughs Family Farm</u> This multigeneration farm employs organic and regenerative production methods. Integration of sheep with olives and almonds, and chickens for egg production on pasture are among the practices employed on the farm. We will hear from one of the farmers about their system and approach to cultivation and management.
Assembly Room 2	Programs and Funding Sources – Small Group Discussions	This session will include roundtable discussions with representatives from various organizations. Funding sources and programs for farmers that include funding for conservation practices, on farm innovations, loans, and disaster relief will be presented, among others.

	(Repeated in session 3)	Organizations include USDA Rural Development, Union of Concerned Scientists, NRCS, FSA, CDFA, Farm Link, and RKE Tierra Consulting.
Delta Room	Biointensive Pest Management	<p><u>Martin Guerena, National Center for Appropriate Technology</u> <u>Biointensive IPM</u> We will be exploring the relationship of soil health to pest management and will include an introduction to entomology and pest vs beneficial insect identification.</p> <p><u>DeeDee Soto, Xerces</u> <u>Employing Native Plants for On-farm Benefits</u> We will explore habitat planning with native plants and their applications related to pollinators and natural predators.</p> <p><u>Sara Light, UC Cooperative Extension</u> <u>Cover Crops and Their Weed Management Applications</u> Cover crops can be used as a weed management tool. We will be exploring practices that can be effective in combating pesky weeds.</p>
Mokelumne Room	Assessing Crop Profitability for Farm Business Planning Resolving Agricultural Conflicts Using Mediation	<p><u>David Mancera, Kitchen Table Advisors</u> <u>Assessing Crop Profitability for Farm Business Planning</u> It is essential to understand the profitability of each crop you grow, just like knowing which market brings in the most profit. In this workshop, you will learn the significance of the price-volume relationship for your crop(s). Moreover, this workshop will help you evaluate the profitability of your crop mix for your farm.</p> <p><u>Larry Whitted, Mediación Agrícola en California (CALAMP)</u> <u>Resolving Agricultural Conflicts Using Mediation</u> In this presentation, we will explore what mediation is and what types of agricultural disputes can be resolved using the California Agricultural Mediation Program. For example: farm credit; farm loans; organic certification; adverse decisions by USDA agencies such as Farm Services (FSA), Risk Management (RMA), and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); and respect for civil rights</p>
Calaveras Room	The Importance of Produce	<u>Mariana Villarreal Silva, Produce Safety Alliance; Yulie Meneses, PSA; Nathan Harkleroad, Agriculture and Land-Based Training Association</u>

	Safety on the Farm	In this workshop, the speakers will discuss the importance of preventing produce contamination by learning and implementing Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) on the farm, as well as the importance of regulation compliance (e.g., the Produce Safety Rule of the Food Safety Modernization Act) to expand their business opportunities and to maintain their farm financial viability. Finally, speakers will share their experiences with meeting the training needs of growers in good agricultural practices, preparing for certification audits, and the requirements for compliance with the Produce Safety Rule.
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Lunch and Farmer Panel

11:40 am – 1:00 pm

Session 2



1:10 pm – 2:40 pm

Room	Workshop Topic	Workshop Description / Presenter
Assembly Room 1	Meat Processing	<p><u>Ricardo Gaitan and Everardo Mendez, California Department of Food and Agriculture</u> <u>Livestock and Consumer Meat Procurement Directly from the Producer Without Intermediaries</u></p> <p>The new law AB-888 allows the creation of mobile slaughterhouses with a license to provide their services to third parties who acquired an animal for personal consumption directly from the producer and on the producer's property. This law allows for increased local consumption and encourages consumption from the producer directly to the consumer without intermediaries.</p>

		<p><u>Myrna Cadena Diaz, UC Cooperative Extension</u> <u>Preventative Health Measures for Poultry Farmers</u> In this presentation, we will cover crucial aspects of poultry health and biosecurity for small commercial poultry farms. We will begin by discussing how to identify signs of illness in birds, providing valuable insights to spot early warning signs and take prompt action. Next, we will delve into the importance of biosecurity measures, emphasizing key practices that every poultry farmer should implement to protect their flock. Finally, we will guide participants through accessing essential resources, including the diagnostic laboratory system and other support networks, ensuring they have the tools and knowledge necessary to establish and maintain a robust biosecurity plan on their farms.</p> <p><u>Ann Baier, National Center for Appropriate Technology</u> <u>Poultry Processing</u> This presentation highlights four legal pathways for meat processing that comply with USDA and state regulations.</p>
Assembly Room 2	Access to Capital	<p><u>Juan Santiago, Feed the Hunger</u> <u>How To Be Loan-Ready for Unconventional Sources of Funding</u> This workshop will present a brief introduction to financial education aimed at those entrepreneurs who operate or want to start an agricultural company. The goal is for participants to be empowered with tools and information to help them formalize and grow their business. Some of the topics we are going to talk about include business planning, financial statements, and, above all, implementation of practices to receive investments such as scholarships or loans for your company.</p> <p><u>Alfredo Gonzalez, CA Farm Link</u> <u>CA FarmLink Loan Products</u> California FarmLink provides a range of loan products. In this part of the session, you will get familiar with the products and requirements to obtain the loans.</p>
Delta Room	Regional and National Resources for Farmers	<p><u>Ana Karina Lau, RKE Tierra Consulting</u> <u>Financial Assistance for Farmers Who Have Been Discriminated Against in USDA Farm Loan Programs</u> This session will serve to inform, guide, and answer questions from farmers who have been discriminated against in USDA Farm Loan Programs. The Discrimination Financial Assistance Program is designed to</p>

		<p>provide \$2.2 billion in financial assistance to those who faced discrimination in USDA loans before January 1, 2021, or who, due to this situation, remain in debt with it.</p> <p><u>Vicky Hanks, California Air Resources Board</u> This session will focus on the California Air Resources Board portfolio of incentives.</p> <p><u>Angel Fernandez-Bou, Union of Concerned Scientists</u> <u>Introduction to Multibenefit Cropland Repurposing in California</u> There is not enough water in California to support our current agricultural practices and, if left unmanaged, the market-driven transition to water sustainability may harm farmers. California's government has started investing in cropland repurposing, a tool that, if it is technically sound and agreed upon with communities, can achieve water sustainability. This talk will introduce the audience to the topic and explore grant funding associated with the program.</p>
Mokelumne Room	Cover Crops and Soil Health	<p><u>Vivian Wauters, UC Davis; Mariana Muñoz-Araya, UC Davis; Jose Perez Orozco, Organic Farming Research Foundation</u> <u>Cover Crops, Soil Health, and Resilience</u> In this workshop, we will focus on soil health, providing tools to manage it and discussing examples and understanding why it is important for resilience. First, we will share some key points from the new free course <i>The Fundamentals of Soil Health</i> from the Organic Farming Research Foundation (OFRF). In the second section of the workshop, we will explore cover crops, why to plant them, what types of benefits they can provide, and how to use them. Finally, in the closing section of this workshop, we will understand how we can be resilient through soil health. Do you think your farm is not resilient? Here we are going to learn how to identify aspects of agricultural management that will help us be resilient.</p>
Calaveras Room	Health and Safety	<p><u>Teresa Andrews, Western Center for Health and Safety</u> <u>Injury and Illness Prevention</u> Safety and health programs are smart business practices that not only help to prevent workplace injuries and illnesses but also support compliance with rules and regulations that improve employee morale. In this workshop, we will review the requirements and basic principles to design your Injury and Illness Prevention Program.</p>



Session 3

3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Room	Workshop Topic	Workshop Description / Presenter
Assembly Room 1	Soil Health and Regenerative Agriculture	<p><u>Pedro Rioseco, Advancing Eco Agriculture</u> <u>Principles of Regenerative Agriculture</u> What is regenerative agriculture, based on scientific and economic realities? In this session, we will explore how we can create nature-based systems within our gardens and at the same time be aware of the profitability of the farmer, with good quality and yields.</p> <p><u>Miguel Garcia, Napa Resource Conservation District</u> <u>Soil Health Management</u> This session will cover the basics of soil health management. We will talk about what soil health is, how it is evaluated, and what can you do to enhance it.</p>
Assembly Room 2	Programs and Funding Sources – Small Group Discussions (Repeated Session)	<p>This session will include roundtable discussions with representatives from various organizations. Funding sources and programs for farmers that include funding for conservation practices, on farm innovations, loans, and disaster relief will be presented, among others.</p> <p>Organizations include USDA Rural Development, Union of Concerned Scientists, NRCS, FSA, CDFA, Farm Link, and RKE Tierra Consulting.</p>
Delta Room	Emergency Prevention Network Technical Assistance	<p><u>Josefina Lara Chavez, Community Alliance for Family Farms</u> <u>Preventive Measure in the Era of Emergencies — Farmers Network, WhatsApp</u> The impact of emergencies, whether climate change or COVID-19, has had a substantial impact on farmers across the state. Non-English-speaking immigrant farmers are hit the hardest as current resources appear to be out of reach. What can be done? What can we do collectively to create a farmer service process that</p>

	<p>and Funding Opportunities Offered Through CARCD</p>	<p>promotes accessibility and efficiency in the dissemination of resources, information, and community? Learn what CAFF is doing to support farmer organizing and develop an agile form of bilateral communication.</p> <p><u>Nancy Wahl-Scheurich, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts</u> <u>Accessing Technical Assistance and Funding Through RCDs for Implementing Climate Smart Farming Practices</u> Join us to learn how California's 97 RCDs connect communities and individuals to the technical, financial, and educational resources they need in order to be excellent stewards of land and natural resources.</p>
<p>Mokelumne Room</p>	<p>Marketing and Organic Production</p>	<p><u>Robert Magianni, National Center for Appropriate Technology</u> <u>Being an Exceptional Producer: Connecting the Dots</u> To be a successful farmer, you must do many things well: production, harvesting, packaging, distribution, food safety, marketing, etc. This workshop will address each of those tasks and also connect their execution to some current USDA funding opportunities.</p> <p><u>Brian Coltrin, California Certified Organic Farmers</u> <u>The Fundamentals of Organic Certification</u> We will explore the core concepts of organic certification. This farmer-focused presentation on the process of organic certification will address topics such as soil building, recordkeeping, natural resource enhancements, and much more.</p>