



CERTIFIED

# Organic

## It Takes a Village to Raise Organic

 **California Coffee: A New Frontier  
Training for the Organic Community  
Combine Your Food Safety and Organic Inspections**





# TRUE

# TO YOUR ROOTS.

Family owned and operated, TRUE Organic Products, Inc. is the industry leader in organic fertilizers. Our products start with the highest quality ingredients, hand-selected to make the best fertilizer. At TRUE, we strive to manufacture the safest and most effective fertilizers for current and future generations.



**Experience the difference.**  
[www.true.ag](http://www.true.ag) | [sales@true.ag](mailto:sales@true.ag) | 559.866.3001





# CERTIFIED Organic



24

## It Takes a Village to Raise Organic

*"If we have any chance of being successful at all,  
we've got to do it through networks and collaboration."*

—Megan Ferman, Rogue Farm Corps

## Departments

### **05** First Words

From CCOF's CEO

### **07** In the News

Organic making headlines

### **11** Member News

Members doing great things

### **15** Foundation Programs

CCOF Foundation at work

### **21** Organic Advocacy

Supporting organic interests

### **33** Chapter Update

Staying active with your chapter

### **35** OTA Update

OTA's report from the Capitol

### **39** Certification News

Keeping you compliant

### **45** Member Listings

New CCOF members

### **45** Advertisers Index

Find our partners' ads

### CCOF, Inc. Board of Directors

Phil LaRocca, Chair, LaRocca Vineyards; Malcolm Ricci, Vice Chair, Bolthouse Farms; Vernon Peterson, Treasurer, Abundant Harvest Organics; Thaddeus Barsotti, Secretary, Capay Organic and Farm Fresh to You; Genevieve Albers, Traditional Medicinals; Karen Archipley, Archi's Acres; Nadine Lew Basile, Soter Vineyards; Grant Brians, Heirloom Organic Gardens; Chad Crivelli, Crivelli Ranch; Rich Ferreira, Side Hill Citrus; Esteban Macias, Grupo U; Renee Thresher, Lundberg Family Farms; Jutta Thoerner, Manzanita Manor Organics; Ted Vivatson, Eel River Brewing; Steve Zaritsky, SZ Ranch

### CCOF Certification Services, LLC Management Committee

Kelly Damewood, Chair, CCOF, Inc.; Charles Fowler, Fowler Ranch (retired); Jenneke de Jong, Bonanza View Dairy; Brad Samuelson, Corigin; Tom Willey, T&D Willey Farms (retired)

### CCOF Foundation Trustees

Kelly Damewood, Chair, CCOF, Inc.; Lee Altier, Ph.D., CSU Chico College of Agriculture; Karen Archipley, Archi's Acres; Allen Harthorn, Harpos Organics; Phil LaRocca, LaRocca Vineyards; Malcolm Ricci, Bolthouse Farms

### Magazine Production

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF** Laura Mathias

**SENIOR EDITOR** Rachel Witte

**PRODUCTION MANAGER** Lourdes Garcia

**ART DIRECTION/DESIGN** Sarah Watters

*Certified Organic* magazine is published quarterly by CCOF and serves CCOF's diverse membership base and others in the organic community, including consumers and affiliated businesses. Letters to the publisher should be sent to [marketing@ccof.org](mailto:marketing@ccof.org). CCOF reserves the right to edit or omit submissions and letters received. For more information, contact CCOF, Inc. at [marketing@ccof.org](mailto:marketing@ccof.org).

### Advertising

For over 40 years, CCOF has been a trusted source of information on organic farming and food production. Our information resources include full-color publications and online media targeted to all segments of the organic sector throughout the United States and beyond. For more information, visit [www.ccof.org/advertise](http://www.ccof.org/advertise) or contact [advertising@ccof.org](mailto:advertising@ccof.org).

### MAGAZINE AD DISCLAIMER

CCOF appreciates the gracious support of advertisers who make this publication possible. However, paid advertisements featured in this magazine have been provided by the advertising company and do not necessarily reflect a certification status of the company or products advertised. CCOF does not endorse or guarantee the quality or approved status of any materials, products, or services. Please direct questions regarding authenticity of advertised products and services to the advertiser. CCOF reserves the right to refuse advertisements deemed inappropriate.

For every pound of paper used to print this edition of *Certified Organic*, an equivalent number of trees are planted through Trees for the Future, an organization dedicated to planting trees with rural communities in the developing world, enabling them to restore their environment, grow more food, and build a sustainable future. Our American-made paper contains post-consumer recycled material.





CAN BE USED IN ORGANIC PRODUCTION

© 2019 Marrone Bio Innovations, Inc

# Bio With Bite.



marronebio.com



## *Organic is better when we work together.*

I recently spent an afternoon digging through the archives that have been passed down from one CCOF executive to the next over the last 45 years.

I realized that the organic movement is, and has always been, a movement of passionate, opinionated, and mission-driven individuals who overcome their differences to work in partnership and collaboration with one another.

Our archives show that CCOF has had its fair share of disagreements. Organic stakeholders have always had different opinions about, well ... almost everything! They argued about how to keep fees reasonable. They deliberated on consumer education. And they passionately debated every nuance possible before establishing a new certification process or standard.

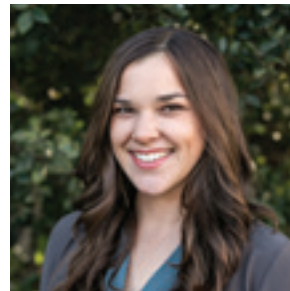
But our archives also show that the organic community has always set aside differences to work together. Whether they were volunteering time together on certification committees or advocating for the establishment of the USDA "Organic" seal, CCOF members collaborated with diverse producers, community organizers, policymakers, and educators to help establish the thriving organic sector that we know today.

As CCOF's new CEO, I have hope for the future when I think about how much we have already accomplished together despite our differences. In my previous role as policy director, I spent five years working with our members and allies to break down barriers for organic producers and to increase

public investment in organic agriculture. I know firsthand that everyone in the organic community is rarely in complete agreement, but I also know what we can achieve together when we work toward a common goal.

In this issue's feature, we highlight some of the organizations that work in partnership with CCOF today: Agriculture and Land-Based Training Association (ALBA), First Generation Farmers, the Rogue Farm Corps, the Berkeley Food Institute, and the National Young Farmers Coalition. I look forward to stewarding many more years of partnership with these organizations and our other longtime allies.

I am also eager to form new alliances, reach new stakeholders, and tap into new opportunities. As history shows, our next era of success will depend on our ability to overcome differences and continue to work in partnership to advance organic agriculture for a healthy world.



*Kelly Damewood*

**Kelly Damewood**  
CCOF CEO

## **Included With This Issue**

### *Roadmap to an Organic California — What are the Benefits of Organic?*

The CCOF Foundation's newly released *Roadmap to an Organic California: Benefits Report* analyzes over 300 peer-reviewed scientific studies to demonstrate that organic agriculture is more than a system of food production; it is an evidence-based approach to solving the issues threatening California's long-term security and prosperity. Please enjoy the one-page summary of the report included with this issue of *Certified Organic*, and visit [www.ccof.org/roadmap](http://www.ccof.org/roadmap) to download the full report and learn more.

## **Issue Contributors**

### *It Takes a Village to Raise Organic, Page 24*



**Amber Selene Turpin** is a freelance food and travel writer living in the Santa Cruz Mountains. A longtime Good Food advocate, she has worn many hats, from baker to business owner to bookkeeper. She finds the most joy in writing the stories of the farmers, producers, and makers that continue the Good Food fight. She is a regular contributor to *Civil Eats*, *Edible* magazines, and *The San Jose Mercury News*.



**NON-GMO**

# BIOSTIMULANT FERTILIZERS, PEST CONTROL & BIO FUNGICIDE

**INCREASE FLOWERING  
& FRUIT PRODUCTION  
WHEN USING PURE  
PROTEIN DRY**

99% OF NITROGEN DERIVED  
FROM FISH PROTEIN  
HYDROLYSATE, INCREASES  
WEIGHT OF  
FRUITS & VEGETABLES

## PURE PROTEIN DRY 15-1-1 PRIMO AMINOS


18 TYPES OF AMINO ACIDS  
CONTAINS 80% + AMINO ACIDS  
100% WATER SOLUBLE

7.5-1-25  
5-7-14  
11-8-8















ORGANIC CROP  
NUTRITION FOR ALL  
STAGES OF GROWTH



**Weed-a-Way**  
CONTACT AND  
PRE EMERGENT  
HERBICIDE



**EX-ICUTE™ & RID-BUGS**  
25(b) OILS MINIMUM RISK  
ORGANIC INSECTICIDES  
AND BIO-FUNGICIDE

 APHIDS	 MEALY BUG	 POWDERY MILDEW	 RUST ON LEAVES
 LYGUS BUG	 CATAPILLARS	 BOTRYTIS	 HULL ROT
 MITES	 SCALES	 ALTERNARIA	 ANTHRACNOSE
 THRIPS	 WHITE FLIES		



[www.OrganicAGProducts.com](http://www.OrganicAGProducts.com)  
Guaranteed by AZ ENTERPRISES INC DBA ORGANIC AG PRODUCTS  
2367 Brant Street • Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

SALES CONTACT INFO:  
JOE HASLETT  
(805) 748-4033  
joehaslett.oap@gmail.com

ED ZYBURA  
(805) 550-7776  
edzybura@charter.net





Organic citrus from Fruitilicious Farm

## *Hope for Effective Organic Management of Asian Citrus Psyllid*

The Organic Center recently published two useful resources for organic citrus producers: a peer-reviewed scientific literature review, "Combating Huanglongbing in Organic Systems," and a grower-friendly guide, "Combating Citrus Greening in Organic Systems." Both can be downloaded for free at [www.organic-center.org/combating-citrus-greening](http://www.organic-center.org/combating-citrus-greening).

Written by Ellen F. Cochrane of the University of Florida and Jessica B. Shade of the Organic Center, the information has been compiled from the scientific literature and distilled for relevance to organic producers. These are valuable resources for all citrus growers who face the potentially devastating disease Huanglongbing—also known as Citrus Greening and abbreviated as HLB—which is spread by an insect vector, Asian citrus psyllid (ACP).

It is important to recognize that each citrus grove is different and some solutions that work for one grower may not be effective in other situations. Most research worldwide focuses on techniques and materials—such as GMO citrus varieties—that are not available to organic farmers. The Organic Center publications are valuable because they have coalesced isolated information, both from the research literature and from grower experience, that organic growers can use.

California is inherently different than Florida, where HLB has devastated the citrus industry, in that the disease itself has not yet progressed into commercial plantings, although it appears to have taken hold in the urban areas of the southern part of the state. The ACP has spread widely throughout California and into most commercial regions. All citrus growing areas should take a proactive approach to control of ACP populations.

One of the biggest challenges in managing HLB is that trees have a latency period of six months to two years after infection, during which time there are no visible symptoms of the disease or practical methods of diagnosis. Once the symptoms emerge, it's too late; the tree declines as the roots are damaged and the phloem becomes blocked so that the tree cannot absorb nutrients well.

In the future, resistant varieties may be on the market, but none are yet available. Therefore, organic pest management must begin with physical and cultural methods. Building protective screen enclosures around mature trees in the ground or in pots has been effective but is too expensive on a large scale. Metallized reflective mulch is a highly reflective film that can be applied to planting beds and has been shown to reduce ACP populations as well as provide better tree growth and weed control. While still experimental and expensive, it is promising for new plantings.

Supporting the health of trees is critical to success. There is evidence that providing a constant elevated supply of micronutrients can help trees already infected with HLB restore root function and productivity. Current research is examining optimum levels for each nutrient required for maximum tree health.

Biopesticides are also important additions to improve tree health. Biopesticides are substances that stimulate natural plant processes and include materials that are neither fertilizers



nor pesticides, such as humic acids, microbial inoculants, and seaweeds. These substances help plants withstand stress, improve nutrient uptake, and provide growth-stimulating compounds. Healthy, vigorous trees not only will fend off HLB better, they will withstand ACP pressure as well.

For organic management of ACP to be successful, the vector-pathogen interactions must be understood so that the timing of control measures is as precise as possible. This may include different strategies and substances throughout the pest life cycle to control nymphs and adults.

Biological control is the best way to fight ACP, using beneficials that target all stages from egg to adult. Lady beetles, lacewings, spiders, and parasitic wasps all feed on ACP and some can help control other citrus pests as well. The state of California is raising and releasing the wasp *Tamarixia radiata* with some success. With the wasp, as with all beneficials, it is important that growers provide habitat for the population to complete its life cycle and get established in orchards. Intercropping citrus groves with plants that have extrafloral nectaries (nectar produced in locations on a plant other than the flower) can help support wasps. Suggested plants include cowpea and common beans.

Two parasitic fungi show promise for ACP control: *Isaria fumosorosea* (Wize) and *Beauveria bassiana*. Other materials for spray control include Grandevo (*Chromobacterium subsugae*), M-Pede (potassium salts of fatty acids), Sil-Matrix (potassium silicate), Entrust SC (Spinosad), and horticultural oils by themselves or in combination. These products can work almost as well as standard synthetic insecticides but provide control for a shorter period. Always check with your certifier to make sure the materials are allowed. Best practice is to rotate applied products and always apply materials in response to insect scouting.

Although there is no cure for HLB, the citrus industry worldwide is continuing to research ways to combat and evolve with the disease. Sharing information from other growers and researchers is an important part of future success. The Organic Center publications show that scientists have made significant strides forward for organic producers.

## Lester Family Awarded EcoFarm Susties Award

The Lester family of Dixon Ridge Farms received the Ecological Farming Association's Steward of Sustainable Agriculture Award (Sustie) at the 39th annual EcoFarm Conference earlier this year. The Susties honor farms, farmers, and organizations that have been "actively and critically involved in ecologically sustainable agriculture." Awardees are selected for their "demonstrated long-term and significant contributions to the well-being of agriculture and the planet."

The Lesters are well known for their commitment to sustainability practices in their CCOF-certified organic walnut orchards and processing facilities, and for their use of on-farm



## FOOD SAFETY IS AS IMPORTANT TO US AS IT IS TO YOU

Clark Pest Management is a leading-edge company that is fully engaged in supporting your commitment to produce safe, compliant, quality foods for your customers.

Clark professionals provide science-based approaches to pest management, resources for food safety education and facility assessments to help you meet the challenges of today and the future.



[clarkpest.com/commercial-services](http://clarkpest.com/commercial-services)

(877) 213-9903

[foodsafety@clarkpest.com](mailto:foodsafety@clarkpest.com)





generated renewable energy. The Lesters use a biogas generator that converts walnut shells into energy to power their farm and processing needs. They were also early adopters of integrated pest management practices and cover cropping to increase nutrients in their orchards.

Russ Lester and his daughters accepted the award on behalf of their family. One of the Lester daughters is Jenny Lester Moffitt, the undersecretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture under recently reappointed Secretary of Food and Agriculture Karen Ross.

Prior to serving as undersecretary, Jenny was appointed deputy secretary by former California Governor Jerry Brown to engage stakeholders on issues that affect farmers and ranchers, including climate change, land use, water policy, and food security.

Jenny Lester Moffitt has long served the organic community. She previously served on the CCOF Board of Directors, was a member of the California Organic Products Advisory Committee, an Organic Trade Association Farmers Advisory Council member, and was vice chair of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

CCOF applauds the Lesters' continued leadership in organic agriculture and their commitment to protecting natural resources.

---

## California Representatives Appointed to Key Congressional Committees

In January, the 116th Congress convened with seven new California congress members in the U.S. House of Representatives. Of the new members, Representatives TJ Cox (CA-21) and Josh Harder (CA-10) represent portions of California's agriculturally diverse Central Valley.

Congressmen Cox and Harder were recently appointed to the House Agricultural Committee along with sophomore Congressman Salud Carbajal (CA-24). They join Congressmen Jim Costa (CA-16), Doug LaMalfa (CA-1), and Jimmy Panetta (CA-20) as California's representatives on the committee. In total, the House Agriculture Committee now includes six California representatives, an increase from four in the previous Congress.

The delegation represents California's key agricultural areas including Northern California, the Central Coast, and Central Valley. Increasing the number of California representatives on the House Agriculture Committee is an important recognition of California's agricultural role in the country.

Representative Cox, of Bakersfield, is an investor and partner in CCOF-certified California Custom Processing, an organic nut processor in Madera. He will bring organic processing expertise and strong organic sector connections to Congress.

## California Solidifies Leadership on House Agriculture Committee and Key Subcommittees

The House Agriculture Committee maintains a number of subcommittees that work on a variety of topics within agriculture. Serving as chair or ranking member of a subcommittee is a powerful position that can affect how legislation is made and implemented. The chair is selected from members of the majority party and the ranking member is the most senior member from the minority party. As members of subcommittees, representatives also have a hand in the creation and oversight of legislation and agencies.

All of California's representatives, except for Congressman Costa, are members of the House Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research. This committee has jurisdiction over organic agriculture and will play an important oversight role in the National Organic Program's (NOP) enforcement actions as NOP is now required to report to Congress annually on organic enforcement. The subcommittee was created in 2010 as the Subcommittee on Horticulture and Organic but has since changed its name.

Congressman LaMalfa was appointed ranking member of the House Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. As the name suggests, this subcommittee is responsible for policies and oversight on conservation and forestry.

Congressman Jim Costa was appointed chair of the House Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture. Representatives Cox, Harder, and Carbajal were assigned to this subcommittee, which has jurisdiction over the inspection, marketing, and promotion of livestock, poultry, dairy, and seafood. It also covers animal welfare, grazing, and foreign agricultural assistance and trade.

California also gained a seat on the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee of the powerful House Appropriations Committee. Representative Barbara Lee (CA-13), a member of the House Organic Caucus, was appointed to the subcommittee. The subcommittee determines House spending priorities for agencies including the Department of Agriculture, the Farm Credit Administration, and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.



# NEW

## Navel Orangeworm Control!

Mating disruption product for conventional and organic California tree nuts!!

# LESS DAMAGE — MORE PROFIT

## SEASON-LONG CONTROL THROUGH POST-HARVEST



Navel Orangeworm,  
*Amyelois transitella*



- Up to 80% or more potential reduction in damage vs. current insecticide program
- Season-long control through post-harvest
- Easy application with ready-to-use carrier pack
- No moving parts, no batteries, no gummy deposits
- Removal not required

# CIDETRAK<sup>®</sup>

## NOW MESO<sup>™</sup>

MATING DISRUPTION PRODUCT  
FOR NAVEL ORANGEWORM IN  
ALMONDS, PISTACHIOS & WALNUTS



Made in the USA



**TRÉCÉ**  
INCORPORATED  
INSECT PHEROMONE & KAIROMONE SYSTEMS  
Your Edge - And Ours - Is Knowledge.

Contact your local supplier and order now!

Visit our website: [www.trece.com](http://www.trece.com) or call: 1-866-785-1313.



## California Coffee: A New Frontier

.....

For many of us, the day doesn't feel like it has truly begun until we've had the chance to linger on those first sips of a freshly brewed cup of coffee. That moment of appreciation is also an opportunity for curious brains to wonder, where did this complex and comforting brew begin? Most commonly it starts with one of the dozens of varieties of *Coffea arabica* grown in a tropical climate found in places like Ethiopia, Guatemala or Hawaii. But Jay Ruskey, founder of Good Land Organics in Goleta, California and CEO/co-founder of Frinj Coffee Inc., is authoring a different story.

Nestled in the foothills of Santa Barbara, Good Land Organics is the first farm to produce coffee commercially in the continental United States. Since successfully experimenting with his first coffee plants in 2002, it's been Ruskey's mission to establish an industry for coffee produced in California. In his own words, "the goal is not just to sell something that says California coffee, but to sell a quality cup of coffee. That means, when tasted blindly on the table with other coffees from around the world, it should stand out or stand up to the best coffees in the world."

When Ruskey and his parents began managing their 42-acre parcel in Goleta they were focused on avocado production, but a fascination with the intricate cultivation of cherimoyas soon took root. As co-chair of the Central Coast chapter of California Rare Fruit Growers, Ruskey honed his expertise growing exotic produce and gained invaluable leadership skills. While in his first year studying agribusiness at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, Ruskey developed an aggressive business managing the family

farm and selling cherimoyas at all the local stores and farmers' markets. As a part of his thesis, he conducted a market research study looking into consumer behavior at the produce level, comparing grocery store consumers with farmers' markets consumers. Ruskey's research also delved into organic. Because his cherimoya production was thriving with an organic program, Ruskey formed Good Land Organics and achieved certification with CCOF in 2009.

Years before, Ruskey teamed up with Mark Gaskell, a UC Davis Small Farm Program advisor, as a partner farmer growing lychees and longans in quarantined conditions for a long-term research project that provided funding for a greenhouse on the Good Land property. Gaskell's previous work with the U.S. Agency for International Development took him to tropical locales where coffee plantations were thriving. He was inspired and returned with several coffee plants for Ruskey to test on his farm. Ruskey interplanted the coffee with his avocados and the idea struck like lightning: coffee could be the next great crop for California.

Reliable yields and relief from production pressures of avocados and exotic fruits weren't the only highlights of interplanting coffee. In addition providing biological diversity in the perennial orchard, interplanting also increased protection from the winds that rapidly dry out crops and contribute to the steady increase of fire outbreaks across California. A recent study has also shown that intercropping avocados and coffee in California's Mediterranean climate improves carbon exchange and sequestration in the soil, helping to increase overall soil health and reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide.

Geisha and Caturra are the driving varieties of *Coffea arabica* at Good Land. Testing and selecting them posed a unique



challenge. Because coffee seed doesn't preserve longer than two years, growers rely on on germplasm collections ("banks" of living plants), of which there are only 19 worldwide. Germplasms are critical resources for coffee genetics and breeding. Many have already been lost to the increasing pressures of changing climate and weather conditions as well as limited care and maintenance due to lack of funding. In response, Good Land Organics has established a germplasm collection of the world's most important varieties in a disease-free location on their farm to help secure coffee's genetic diversity and create hybrids that will perform optimally in California and worldwide.



In 2017, Ruskey sequenced his coffee's genome and found that he had a flourishing collection from which he could create a large-scale supply of planting stock. To continue growing his operations and establish California as a player in the coffee industry there was a need to expand his resources. Just being Good Land Organics was no longer enough. That's when Ruskey founded Frinj Coffee, Inc., a farmer-first business that invites California farmers to grow coffee micropropagated by Good Land Organics. Frinj currently consists of 34 growers (over half of whom grow coffee organically) who sell their fresh coffee cherries to Frinj for processing at Good Land Organics' custom facility. Frinj offers hands-on production consulting and does not exclude conventional growers from their network. This creates a conduit for communication and a viable path for transition to organic production.

Good Land Organics employs the expertise of its neighboring pioneer winemakers to marry the illustrious California wine industry with the burgeoning coffee industry. Much like coveted California wines, the coffees produced by the network of growers under the Frinj brand are anything but ordinary and can successfully compete with those that have long been considered the gold standard.

To learn more about Good Land Organics, visit them online at [www.goodlandorganics.com](http://www.goodlandorganics.com).

# WE PRINT WITH THE SAME CARE YOU GROW YOUR CROPS.

COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR OVER 30 YEARS.



COMPRINTERS.COM

## The trusted name in buying & selling ORGANIC GRAINS



888.531.4888  
www.fwcobs.com

GROWING TOGETHER

reduce plastic,  
go sustainable



READYCYCLE

831-724-7581  
hello@readycyclepackaging.com



## Cosmic Apple Gardens: A Model for Animals Building Fertility in Harmony

It was not until reading the book *Secrets of the Soil: New Solutions for Restoring our Planet* by Tompkins and Bird that Jed Restuccia decided to pursue Biodynamic farming and raise livestock. Restuccia and his wife, Dale Sharkey, began farming in 2001 at Cosmic Apple Gardens, a dual-certified Biodynamic and organic farm serving the Teton area. Their operation is unique in that they own several species of livestock that each contribute to their operation in harmony. Prior to reading this book and pursuing Biodynamic practices, Restuccia was applying organic-approved fertilizers to his basil greenhouse and personal vegetable garden. He and Sharkey now own milking cows, laying chickens, and pigs, each for their own different contribution toward what he considers unparalleled fertility for his land.

They initially ventured into collecting horse manure, but quickly realized that the source of the manure was not pure enough for their operation: what the animals were eating and what they may have been treated with all trickled down from their manure into their crops. Restuccia wanted to have more control of his inputs. He began with chickens, not only for their manure as an input and their eggs to sell at market, but also for their rotational grazing in his fields, where they provide significant pest management services by consuming garden pests.

From there, Restuccia and Sharkey expanded into raising cows and pigs, and found each animal provided both labor and value-added products. Cosmic Apple's first cow was a generous donation from one of their vegetable garden volunteers who had come into an inheritance. The cow's milk is provided as feed to the chickens and pigs. In the cow pastures, the chickens break up cow pies looking for beetles, which helps the manure decompose more quickly. Meanwhile, cows rotate through their pasture and keep the grass lush and short for the chickens. The pigs have proven essential in the farm's functioning crop

rotation, as their ground-breaking ability is unmatched. When placed in the vegetable garden in the fall through winter, the pigs root out perennial weeds and get the thistle and bindweed out of the soil, which Restuccia finds extremely helpful. The pigs help prepare pasture to become ground for vegetable planting, and they consume most of the cows' organic milk, which contributes to the value-added product of the processed pork. As sources of feed, value-added products, fertility, and land management, the animals have presented a multitude of ways that they are beneficial for the farm.

Over time, Restuccia and Sharkey understood that livestock management was a central tenet of Biodynamic agriculture, which aims for complete self-sufficiency of the farm as a matter of principle. Though their livestock is not certified Biodynamic, their products such as manure and egg shells are used in Biodynamic preparations such as barrel compost, which they have been incorporating into their farm for over a decade. "It is amazing the change we have seen in the last 10 years on the property," states Restuccia. "The pigs have healthier soil with more roots and worms to eat. Our pasture system is self-sustaining during the summer months. Everywhere the chickens go there is an amazing green pasture behind them. They add a ton of fertility." He adds, "lactating dairy cows have different components in their manure [compared with beef cattle], and this is ideally what you would want to use in Biodynamic preparations." Preparations such as the barrel compost are considered a soil activator, one that "magnifies and compliments what's happening in the field, and helps bring the life force in." Restuccia sees Biodynamic preparations enhancing his certified organic farm and appreciates that their organic certification is a selling point for his customer base.

Cosmic Apple's animal products of eggs and pork are available for sale at Cosmic Apple's CSA pickup locations and are in high demand. The CSA currently has 200 members, and Restuccia notes "they appreciate the way we raise our animals and say it tastes better. They are giving us feedback that our products carry a unique flavor from the intensive pasture management, and they like to support our work."

More information about Cosmic Apple Gardens can be located on their website: [www.cosmicapple.com](http://www.cosmicapple.com).



# CALIFORNIA ORGANIC FERTILIZERS, INC.

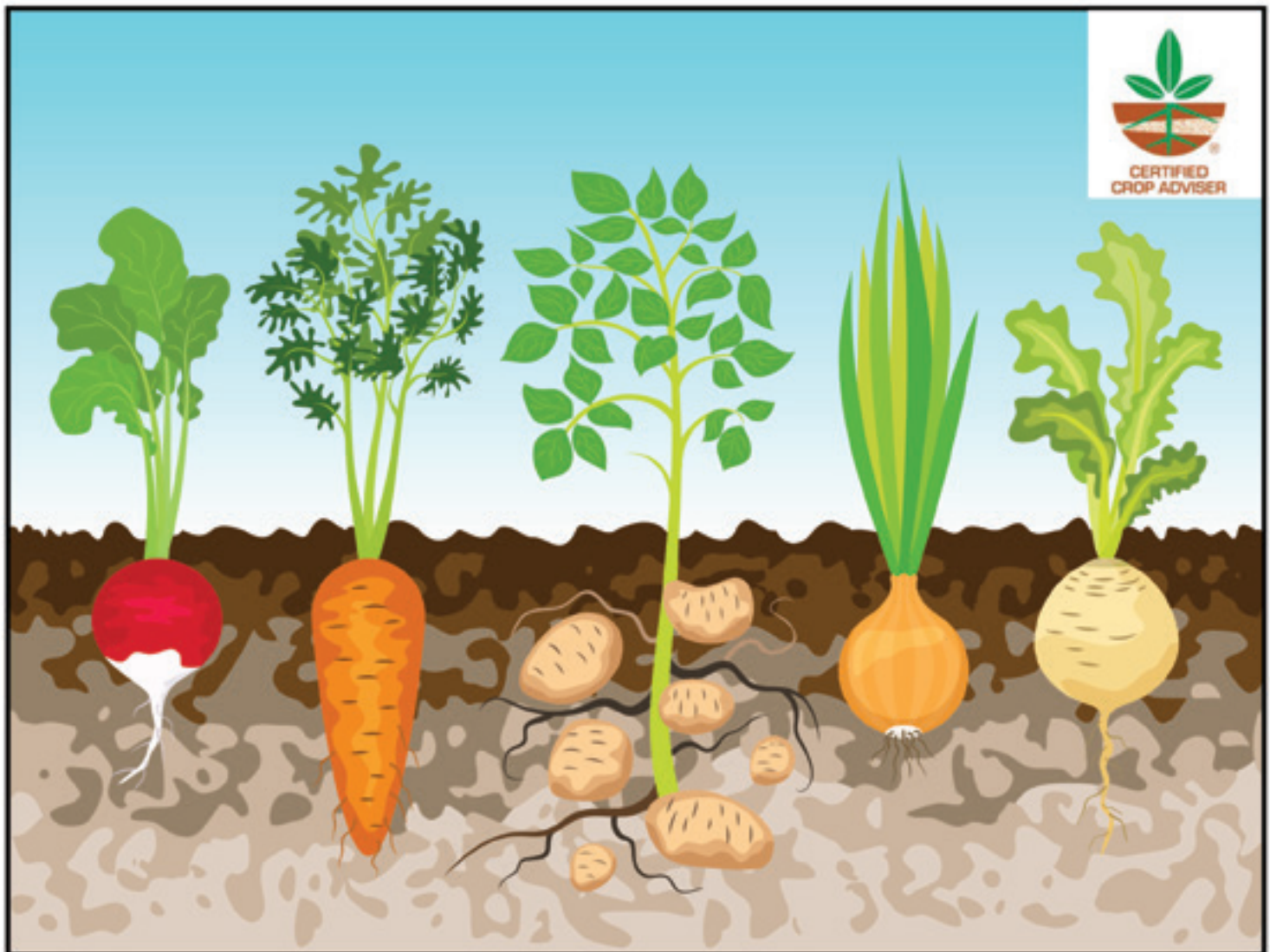
*Producing Organic Fertilizers for over 27 Years*



Our staff of Certified Agronomists are available to develop a Fertilizer Program including Nitrogen Budgeting to fit your economic budget, food safety plan and/or crop quality requirements. We are Certified Crop Advisors and are very skilled in organic crop nutrition.

If you are experiencing low yields, poor crop quality, soil health issues, excessive nitrogen usage or costs, or plant disease problems, give us a call. We can help.

COFI offers free consultations, custom nutrient planning and in-field evaluations for all crops from alfalfa to zucchini.





Workshop participants showed off their training binders at the Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) training in Santa Rosa, California.

## *Training for the Organic Community*

The Organic Training Institute began in 2011 with a simple question—would organic producers like CCOF to offer an increased array of educational programming tailored for their organic needs? The reply, by way of a survey conducted later that year, filled out by 206 organic farmers, processors, handlers, and retailers, was a resounding YES! CCOF’s educational programming was then based on the information gathered in this survey. Participants responded that webinars, workshops, and field days were preferred methods of learning, and stressed that they wanted to hear directly from the experiences of CCOF’s diverse membership. Popular certification topics suggested included organic regulation and compliance, the Organic System Plan, recordkeeping, and materials review. Growers wanted to know more about organic pest, soil, and weed management while processor/handlers wanted to know more about organic labeling and how to maintain integrity through the supply chain. Livestock producers wanted to know more about the then nascent pasture rule for ruminants and health care material evaluations and approvals.

Today, eight years later, the Organic Training Institute (OTI) has cumulatively worked with well over 4,000 producers, and topics suggested by the 2011 survey have been covered by webinars, field days, or workshops, some multiple times over the years. The method used in creating the Organic Training Institute was not novel—but it was effective. By asking producers to identify what would most make a difference for their operations, CCOF was able to create a program that


resonated throughout the organic community, and almost a decade later, is still making change.

### **Case Study: Food Safety Education Program**

One example of the difference that OTI makes for organic producers is the recent series of food safety workshops supported by USDA’s National Institute for Food and Agriculture. This two-year program focused on educating small- to medium-scale organic and Spanish-speaking produce growers on how to comply with the new Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) and was done in collaboration with ALBA (Agriculture and Land-Based Training Association) and the California Center for Cooperative Development. CCOF and our partners put on day-long Produce Safety Alliance-approved trainings that met the FSMA training requirement for produce growers. Follow-up consultations provided by food safety technical assistants provided additional opportunities to make sure that growers understood the material covered in the trainings. Just over 400 organic produce farmers took advantage of these workshops, webinars, and technical assistance.


The primary target audience for CCOF’s Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) trainings were small-scale, organic, and Spanish-speaking farmers. Thirty one percent of the PSA training participants attended Spanish-language workshops and 71 percent of attendees worked for or owned an organic operation. Post-workshop surveys identified that 14 percent of workshop attendees reporting sales were small-scale farmers averaging between \$250,000 and \$500,000 in annual produce sales. It is interesting to note that 58 percent of those who reported sales reported annual produce sales below \$250,000. This indicates that owners and operators of very small farms took advantage







# SUNVIEW<sup>®</sup> ORGANIC

**CERTIFIED**  
CALIFORNIA TABLE GRAPES  
AND RAISINS

 We proudly support the CCOF Foundation in their ongoing efforts to advance organic agriculture through certification, education, advocacy and promotion.




 



**Cal-Organic**  
FARMS<sup>®</sup>  
Healthy by Choice Since 1984

**COMMITTED TO PRESERVING  
OUR ENVIRONMENT FOR  
GENERATIONS TO COME.**

 We proudly support the CCOF Foundation in their ongoing efforts to advance organic agriculture through certification, education, advocacy and promotion.

[www.calorganicfarms.com](http://www.calorganicfarms.com)   

**HIGH QUALITY  
NUTRIENT RICH  
COMPOST**



Helping Farmers Grow  
*Naturally*  
Since 1974



**NEW ERA FARM SERVICE**  
[www.newerafarmservice.com](http://www.newerafarmservice.com)  
(559) 686-3833

*Certified Crop Advisors on Staff*

- Compost
- Gypsum
- Limestone
- Liquid Compost
- Liquid R/S
- Foliar Nutrients
- Liquid Calcium
- Liquid Potassium
- Seaweed Extract
- Humic Acid
- Yucca Saponin Extract

**BENEFICIAL  
BIO-FRIENDLY  
FERTILIZERS**



## Looking ahead, OTI will continue to offer food safety education in the form of webinars over the next two years.

of CCOF's PSA trainings as well. In addition to employees and owners of farms, attendees also included extension educators, government employees, and professionals from the produce industry. Most respondents had been farming for ten years or less (48.6 percent) and grew leafy greens (27.9 percent) or mixed vegetables (45 percent).

Beyond having the target community attend, CCOF's goals were for producers to increase their knowledge of food safety requirements, to feel confident in their ability to implement recommended practices in their operations, and to show commitment to changing practices. The vast majority of survey respondents either "strongly agreed" or "agreed" that the PSA training modules increased their knowledge, particularly regarding soil amendment and produce safety requirements and worker health, hygiene, and training requirements.

The PSA training workshops also helped participants increase their confidence in implementing these requirements. Respondents were most confident that they could implement production and post-harvest water practices as well as worker health, hygiene, and training practices. Overall, 91.9 percent of PSA training attendees said they were committed to implementing produce safety practices on their farms.

In a follow-up survey conducted in the fall of 2018, participants offered positive feedback regarding the impact made by the PSA training and technical assistance efforts, with the majority having taken action to further comply with FSMA standards, such as improving their food safety practices, writing or revising a food safety plan, or preparing for an audit. Most farmers and farm staff also noted that, thanks to the trainings, they were confident in knowing where to get the help they needed to deal with food safety issues on their farms.

These workshops were effective in meeting their goals. CCOF's PSA workshops helped farmers and agricultural professionals gain knowledge about FSMA food safety guidelines, as well as confidence in implementing them. After taking part in CCOF's food safety education series, a large proportion of respondents acted to improve food safety behaviors and meet FSMA regulations.

### The Future of the Organic Training Institute

Looking ahead, OTI will continue to offer food safety education in the form of webinars over the next two years. Over the next three years, in collaboration with Kitchen Table Advisors and the Ecology Center, the Institute will also focus on working with growers to help make farmers' markets work. Workshops will cover innovative marketing and business plan strategies to increase profitability at farmers' markets, while other in-depth trainings will work with farmers' market managers.

Interested in attending an Organic Training Institute event? You'll find a partial list of the Organic Training Institute's calendar below. Please visit [www.ccof.org/OTI](http://www.ccof.org/OTI) for the most up-to-date event information.

*Food safety workshops were based upon work that is supported by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under award number 2017-70020-27242.*

## The CCOF Foundation's ..... **ORGANIC TRAINING INSTITUTE** .....

Through hands-on trainings, workshops, and seminars, the Organic Training Institute provides resources to aspiring and current organic professionals about the latest organic research and best production and marketing practices.

Trainings focus on topics requested by organic professionals, including organic recordkeeping, food safety practices, and more.

All event dates and locations are subject to change—check online for the latest details.

### MAY 21, 2019

*Online Webinar (in collaboration with California FarmLink)*  
**Pathways to Farm Ownership**

### JUNE 18, 2019

*Online Webinar (in collaboration with Community Alliance with Family Farmers/Farmer Guild)*  
**Organic and Food Safety Recordkeeping for Produce Growers**

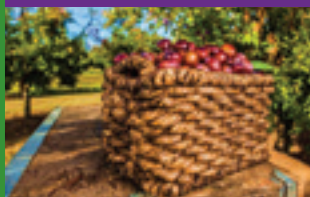
**Register for these events and more at [www.ccof.org/events](http://www.ccof.org/events) »**

The Organic Training Institute's 2019 spring events are supported in part by funding from the following entities within the U.S. Department of Agriculture: Rural Development and the Agricultural Marketing Service.



# TAYLOR

TAYLOR BROTHERS FARMS  
CALIFORNIA PRUNES



Taylor Brothers Farms, Inc. is the world's largest organic prune grower and processor.  
Yuba City, CA • 530-671-1505 • Visit our website for more information [www.taylorbrothersfarms.com](http://www.taylorbrothersfarms.com)



## Essential Minerals For Certified Organic Farms

Higher Yields. All Natural. Better Quality.

K<sub>2</sub>O

22%

Potassium

Mg

11%

Magnesium

S

22%

Sulfur  
as Sulfate



Call 1.800.451.2888 or learn more at [intrepidtrio.com](http://intrepidtrio.com)

# The scientific explanation.

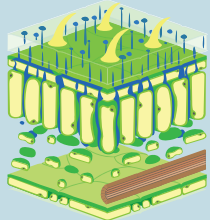
## Reduction of surface tension

OROBOOST® reduces tension of pesticide droplets to deliver more droplets in more uniform sizes to leaf surfaces.

When applying contact pesticides this more complete coverage eliminates the risk of leaving areas untreated that could result in reduced control.



**OROBOOST**  
dramatically  
improves spreading  
and wetting



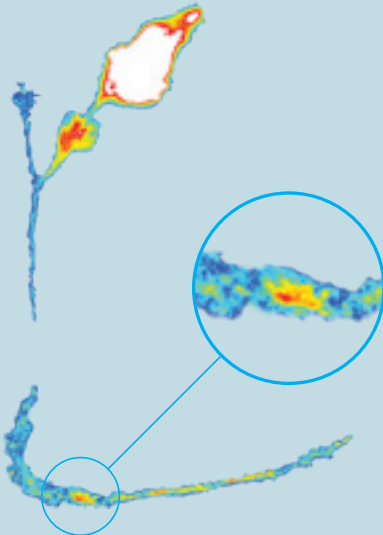
**OROBOOST**  
opens channels  
through the  
epicuticular wax

## Increased penetration of systemic pesticides

At higher label rates, the proprietary OROWET® technology in OROBOOST softens the waxy protective lipid-containing structures to improve penetration of the pesticide solution on plants and insects for better pesticide performance.

## Improved translocation

OROBOOST, with proprietary TransPhloem® technology, accelerates the movement of systemic pesticides and foliar nutrients into a plant's phloem for rapid translocation throughout the plant for improved efficacy.



University of Illinois  
phosphorescent image  
of a glyphosate and C14  
radio isotope foliar  
application shows  
translocation of the  
herbicide and OROBOOST  
spreading throughout a  
lambsquarter weed and  
delivering material to  
roots within 12 hours.

Benefits of OROBOOST include:

- WSDA Certified Organic Material
- Contains proprietary, patented OROWET and TransPhloem technologies
- Superior spreading, wetting and penetrating properties
- Enhanced rain fastness due to superior cuticle penetration
- Increases efficacy of pesticides and foliar nutrition programs

Learn more at [oroagriusa.com](http://oroagriusa.com)

OROBOOST, OROWET & TransPhloem are proprietary trademarks of Oro Agri Inc.  
Always read and follow label directions.

Proof of Performance:



Better organic pesticide results.

**OROBOOST**

**ORO AGRI**  
GROW WITH CONFIDENCE





# CLEAN

## NO Compromise - Organic Nutrition



**Don't settle when it comes to your organic nutrition program – choose AGRO-K and see the difference CLEAN delivers on your farm.**

Focused efforts on combining the “5R’s” of crop nutrition – Right Nutrient, Right Time, Right Form, Right Mix, Right Place – in the plant will deliver the highest quality, highest marketable yield and highest return on investment.

Agro-K's certified organic **CLEAN™** line of foliar nutrients and soil biological products are manufactured to ensure maximum uptake and biological activity. We integrate our superior formulations with our deep knowledge of plant physiology and peak nutrient demand timing to build complete, high efficiency, cost effective nutrient programs that provide better value to organic crop production. The **CLEAN** line is specifically designed to address the nutritional needs of organically grown fruit crops. Our formulations are soft on plant tissue, rapidly taken up, highly bio-available and compatible with most organic crop protection products. **CLEAN** nutrition helps fruit growers meet peak nutrient demand timing and address nutrient deficiencies quickly while easily being integrated into crop protection programs.

Fruit quality has many different components: size, color, visual appeal, internal texture, storability, shelf-life, reduced shrinkage & bruising. All these factors, are directly affected by nutrition and influence ultimate crop quality and marketable packout. Agro-K has a 40 year track record of helping growers increase profitability.

**CLEAN ZN, MG, MN, MO, FE, CU, B, Micro-Mix** – A complete line of organic micronutrients - zinc, magnesium, manganese, moly, iron, copper and boron designed for fast uptake and high availability so critical peak nutrient demand timings are not missed, preventing yield drag and quality issues.

**CLEAN SYMSPRAY** – A seaweed based foliar nutrient designed to complement a support plant growth and function. CLEAN Symspray is

also an excellent tool to prevent and/or reduce both environmental and physiological stress, leading to higher quality fruit at harvest.

**CLEAN CALCIUM** – An organic foliar calcium designed to increase calcium levels in both tissue and fruit while improving the nitrogen to calcium ratio. Higher calcium levels in the crop helps build stronger more disease tolerant cell walls. Thicker more durable fruit cells generate higher yields, less bruising, less shrinkage and longer shelf-life – in short better quality and increased grower returns.

**CLEAN CAL-BORON** – A calcium boron blend to address both nutrients. Boron synergizes calcium and works with calcium to improve cell wall integrity during the cell division window. Boron is also key in the pollenization process and seed development.

**CLEAN SEACAL** – An organic calcium fertilizer designed for foliar application to correct calcium deficiencies combined with a seaweed fertilizer to help improve stress tolerance and plant health.

**CLEAN BIOMAX** – A fermentation derived food source for beneficial soil borne bacteria and fungi. Designed to increase nutrient cycling of compost and other organic matter while also maximizing plant-available nutrients in the rhizosphere. Increasing soil available nutrients is the basis for increased crop quality and higher yields.

If you're looking to increase marketable yield in your organic farm talk to Agro-K today about tailoring a nutrient management program to improve results and deliver higher economic returns.

**Science-Driven Nutrition<sup>SM</sup>**



© 2018 Agro-K Corporation



**AGRO-K CORPORATION**  
8030 Main Street, NE • Minneapolis, MN 55432  
800-328-2418 • [www.agro-k.com](http://www.agro-k.com)

## California Water Policy Enters New Phase

Farmers in California are on the leading edge once more, though in this case they'd probably prefer not to be. In 2003, the state responded to decades of nitrogen fertilizer overapplication with the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP), a set of regulations aimed at preventing drinking water contamination from agricultural nutrients, pesticides, and sediment. Since then, this program has required farmers who irrigate to comply with increasingly complex and costly monitoring and reporting rules.

Farmers in other states may soon be subject to similar regulations as state agencies finally address the legacy of groundwater and surface water contamination from profligate fertilizer and pesticide use.

### Legal Basis

The state gained authority for the ILRP from the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, a state law passed in 1969 which gave the State Water Resources Control Board authority over the state's water rights and water quality policy.

Porter-Cologne also established nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (regional boards) to manage water quality on a regional basis. More recently, in 2018, the State Water Board issued a decision establishing precedent-setting rules that will be required in all regions.

### Who is Regulated by the ILRP?

Under the ILRP, regional water boards issue Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) or conditional waivers of WDRs that regulate agricultural discharges to groundwater and surface water. WDRs or waivers are set forth in regional Agricultural Orders, or Ag Orders.

**Commercial farms** that irrigate are subject to the regulations. This includes nurseries, irrigated pastures, land planted in commercial crops not yet in production, and irrigated wetlands.

**Dairies and feedlots** are covered under separate orders.

**Processors** are not covered by Ag Orders, but if their activities or discharges affect or could affect California's surface or coastal waters or groundwaters, they need to apply for a permit from the appropriate regional water board.

### Impact of Ag Orders on Growers

Growers pay annual fees to the state and must maintain paperwork to demonstrate compliance. In many regions, including the Central Valley, third-party coalitions offer monitoring and reporting services for a fee.

The impact of the ILRP varies depending on the region, though the precedential elements of the 2018 State Water Board decision will have to be adopted by all regions within the next five years. Some of these elements include requirements to

- participate in outreach events annually, either remotely or in person;
- develop an irrigation and nutrient management plan describing practices used to protect surface water and groundwater quality;
- test all on-farm drinking water supply wells and notify well users if nitrate exceeds safe drinking water levels;
- report nitrogen applied and crop yield for each field. These data are to be the basis for calculating the amount of nitrogen applied (A) divided by the amount of nitrogen removed (R). The A/R ratio will be used to identify outliers in a region—farms that are applying more nitrogen to produce the same amount of yield. Outliers will be subject to stricter reporting regulations and potentially to enforcement action.

### Organic Farms Not Primary Source of Nitrate or Pesticide Water Contamination

CCOF believes that unique aspects of certified organic production should be accommodated by regional Agricultural Orders. Certified organic producers are required by federal law to prevent water contamination—a requirement verified during a farm's annual inspection. Additionally, research from across the country shows that organic farming practices such as crop rotation, cover crop incorporation, and use of biologically sourced crop nutrients tend to build soils that better cycle nutrients and water. These practices result in less water contamination than on conventional farms.

### CCOF Work on the Issue

Over the past few years, CCOF has submitted comments to state and regional water boards advocating for commonsense regulation of organic farms. This year, CCOF is participating in the process of renewing the Central Coast region's Ag Order. CCOF has asked organic fertilizer companies to submit information to the water board on the breakdown properties of their organic products so that board members will better understand the nature of organic inputs. CCOF has also worked with a team from Cooperative Extension and the



**Driscoll's**  
Only the Finest Berries™

Proud partner with CCOF  
for over 20 years



*Organic*  
**PRUNES & PRUNE  
JUICE CONCENTRATE**  
Grower Owned Companies



Sacramento Packing, Inc.  
833 Tudor Road, Yuba City, CA 95991, USA  
P (530) 671-4488 | F (530) 671-7841  
[www.sacramentopacking.com](http://www.sacramentopacking.com)



Valley View Foods, Inc.  
7547 Sawtelle Ave, Yuba City, CA 95991, USA  
P (530) 673-7356 | F (530) 673-9432  
[www.valleyviewfoods.com](http://www.valleyviewfoods.com)



# *“Farmers and ranchers are hungry for data, new equipment, resources, and trainings on how to remain competitive and adapt...”*

---

Monterey County Resource Conservation District to submit a grant proposal to test and demonstrate soil nitrate monitoring tools in intensive organic vegetable production.

In the Central Valley region, CCOF made the following recommendations to the regional board:

- Work with organic farmers and advocates to develop commonsense regulation of certified organic farms and ranches that is proportional to the degree of nitrate leaching and pesticide and sediment runoff they cause.
- Instruct third-party coalitions to accept input application and crop sales records that certified organic farmers provide annually to their organic certifiers as valid formats for submitting Agricultural Order data.
- Clarify the Exceptions to Nitrogen Reporting Requirements language so it provides adequate detail for a clear pathway for small-scale and other operations to be granted exemptions.

We encourage CCOF members to participate and engage on Ag Orders as opportunities arise in their regions. Consider offering public comments to your regional water board about Ag Orders' impacts on your organic farm. You can make a difference! For more information, contact [policy@ccof.org](mailto:policy@ccof.org).

---

## **New Legislation to Help Prepare Farmers for Extreme Weather, Changing Climate**

Between last summer's heatwaves and unprecedented wildfires, farmers and ranchers are increasingly experiencing more extreme and unpredictable weather that threatens their livelihoods. This year, Assembly member Monique Limón (D-Santa Barbara) introduced legislation to develop the tools farmers need to adapt to this new and fast-changing reality.

The “Ag Adaptation Tools” Bill (Assembly Bill 409) would establish a competitive grant program to develop climate adaptation tools and trainings for farmers and the technical assistance providers that serve them. California Climate & Agriculture Network (CalCAN) is sponsoring the bill based on lessons learned from our adaptation listening sessions last fall. You can read more about these lessons at <http://calclimateag.org/climate-impacts-on-agriculture-lessons-from-calcan-listening-sessions>.

“Climate change has taken a toll on farmers throughout the state and in my district,” said Assemblymember Monique

Limón. “To protect our agricultural businesses, the livelihoods of hardworking Californians, and address a changing climate, we need to invest in our farmers and support their effort to face these growing challenges. I’m proud to author this bill.”

To better understand agriculture’s unique vulnerabilities and strategies for adapting to a changing climate, the state and the University of California have done significant research, including the state’s recently released “Fourth Climate Change Assessment” (2018), “Climate Change Trends and Impacts on California Agriculture: A Detailed Review” (Pathak, 2018), “Climate Change Consortium for Specialty Crops” (CDFA, 2013), and the “Agricultural Vulnerability Index” (Jackson, 2012). This research makes clear that there are many tools in the toolbox—from business planning to conservation management—to help farmers stay on the land and thrive in ways that are good for their farms and our communities.

But not enough has been done to assist producers in becoming more resilient to climate change. Agricultural adaptation planning tools like Agroclimate and the Adaptation Workbook have been developed for other regions of the United States, but none have been developed for California’s uniquely diverse crops, farmers, and climates.

“Devastating heat and unseasonal Santa Ana winds this past year have made even the most skeptical farmers and ranchers in our community believers in climate change,” said Helen McGrath of Flying M Ranch in Fillmore. “Farmers and ranchers are hungry for data, new equipment, resources, and trainings on how to remain competitive and adapt our operations to the fluxes caused by climate chaos.”

Assembly Bill 409 would establish a competitive grant program to fund resource conservation districts, UC Cooperative Extension, and agricultural nonprofits to develop science-based, farm-level agricultural adaptation planning tools and then pilot the tools with local farmers, ranchers, technical assistance providers, and ag organizations.

The bill would also fund trainings for technical assistance providers and agricultural organizations. According to a 2017 survey of 144 University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources staff members, 88 percent of respondents believe it is important to incorporate climate change information into farm extension programs, but only 43 percent actually do. Respondents cited a lack of access to climate information relevant to farmers and expressed interest in trainings on technical tools, information resources, and climate science communication.

*CalCAN is a statewide coalition that advances policy to realize the powerful climate solutions offered by sustainable and organic agriculture. CCOF is a founding member of the CalCAN coalition.*





# IT TAKES A VILLAGE

*to Raise Organic*





**WRITTEN BY** Amber Selene Turpin

**We've all heard the saying, "It takes a village to raise a child," and for those of us who are parents, we certainly know the truth in that.**

While the origins of the phrase remain somewhat ambiguous, the meaning is crystal clear. It refers to the central role community serves as a support system for family. But it doesn't have to stop there. We can easily see the value in that phrase across all projects and plights, especially as we move further apart from close-knit community in our digital age. The organic movement is a perfect example of a village mentality, where countless organizations create a patchwork—from farming to education to policy research—that helps the collective organic whole to thrive.

Needless to say, CCOF is one of the leading organizations in this movement, charging forth to build up the organic community in a multitude of pathways. One exciting solution that CCOF has invested in to address America's dwindling farmer population is the Future Organic Farmer Grant Fund (FOFGF). This fund provides direct financial support for organic education, from kindergarten through college, to promote the development of new organic farmers and entrepreneurs. But this is just one example of many opportunities, programs, and projects working toward the same goal. Meet some of the other organizations CCOF works with that are contributing to organic in unique ways and learn how you can get involved.





Attentive participants at the 2014 conservation funding training with the CCOF Foundation and ALBA in Salinas, California.

## Agriculture and Land-Based Training Association (ALBA)

ALBA began in 2001 with a mission to “create economic opportunity for limited-resource and aspiring organic farmers through land-based education in the heart of the Salinas Valley.” With the nexus of their work in the “salad bowl of the United States,” ALBA is well-placed to impact this highly productive agricultural region in California through their five-year Farmer Education and Enterprise Development program. Patricia Carrillo, executive director of ALBA says, “The U.S. is facing a crisis with an aging farmer population and lower entry rates for beginning farmers. ALBA is helping to train the farmers that will be taking over for the older generation.”

In the first year of the program, ALBA student farmers enroll in the bilingual Farmer Education Course, which is a 300-hour curriculum, including both classroom instruction and field-based trainings. Carrillo explains that if they successfully graduate from that first year, students who have demonstrated the necessary commitment it takes to start their own farm are invited to enter ALBA’s farm-business “incubator.” While in the Organic Farm Incubator program, participants lease acreage over a four-year period at the ALBA Farm in Salinas and launch their own independent organic farming operations. Once these new farmers are on their own, they do not get cut off from the ALBA support system. They continue to have access to technical assistance and workshops on organic agricultural practices, pest control, food safety, business management, and marketing—all essential elements to creating a successful farm business.

This program provides a very important asset for the surrounding community. Since 2001, over 500 participants have gone through ALBA’s program and over 150 have

established their own independent organic farm businesses. Carrillo says that these farms generate about 90 jobs per year. “If we estimate sales at a low of \$15,000 per acre, this translates to \$1.5 million in sales generated by the ALBA farmers just off the Incubator program. This is all money that goes back to our local community,” she says.

ALBA is a starting point for aspiring farmers who gain the training and tools that they need to launch their organic farm businesses in a reduced-risk environment. Carrillo is also quick to point out the network of other organizations that come into play, all integral to the ALBA program: “During their time in the program, the farmers learn from experts in the field. Our Farmer Education Course features speakers who are industry professionals. We also work in close collaboration with CCOF for organic certification, California FarmLink for land access and financing opportunities, Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF) for assistance in marketing to farmers’ markets and institutions, Kitchen Table Advisors for business advising, and many other partners. This supportive network of partners is the key to becoming a successful organic farmer.”

The public can get more involved by touring the ALBA farm and doing volunteer work. People can also meet and volunteer with the ALBA farmers as well. Also, ALBA holds two Family Farm Days a year for the community. To learn more about ALBA, visit [www.albafarmers.org](http://www.albafarmers.org).

## First Generation Farmers

Today, Alli Cecchini can boast titles like founder and executive director of First Generation Farmers (FGF) and CCOF Big Valley Chapter vice president, but back in 2013, she was an early twenty-something talking her parents into letting her convert a few acres of their asparagus farm into diversified organic production. Since then, FGF has found many outlets to share their organic goods, from restaurants to farmers’ markets



and farm stands to hunger relief organizations. And perhaps Cecchini's understanding of farm life, having grown up watching her parents go through it, is the key to what makes FGF a successful and robust operation.

That viability paved the way for the second arm of FGF, which is all about education. Farm Manager Ellie VanHof explains: "FGF hosts youth programs throughout the year; these include on- and off-farm field trips, after school programs, and farm summer camp. For adults we have two different programs. The first is through WWOOF-USA; this allows people to come to our farm for a month or up to a season to immerse themselves in farming. The second is called Urban Edge Sustainable Farming Program, which is a nine-month formal training and incubator program to create new opportunities for beginning specialty crop farmers in California."

The full-time Urban Edge residential program launched in 2017 when FGF received a two-year grant from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program, allowing FGF to expand their individual farm apprentice system into a more formal, intensive farming curriculum. The program is an immersive nine months long, imparting the fundamentals of organic agriculture, business management, marketing, and bookkeeping.

If a trainee is interested in continuing along the farming path, they can move forward to phase two, which is the second-year incubator program. Trainees create a business proposal and a plan for growing, managing, and ultimately selling crops from their own plot of land on the FGF property, the 550 acres of protected farmland that Cecchini's family has been farming for a hundred years. This supports FGF's greater vision "to build a community of 30-50 committed, independent enterprises to cooperatively farm the entire 550-acre parcel for the long term—all benefitting from shared access to tools, labor, distribution, collective purchasing, product aggregation, and other cost efficiencies. It won't happen overnight, but FGF has enough experience to know that getting there is half the fun."

The best ways to become more involved or to support First Generation Farmers, which is a nonprofit organization, are to buy their produce, enroll kids in their youth education programs, or donate. To learn more, visit [www.firstgenerationfarmers.org](http://www.firstgenerationfarmers.org).

## Rogue Farm Corps

Rogue Farm Corps is a farm training program in Oregon. It began in 2004 with a group of first-generation farmers in Applegate Valley who felt the desire to create something that would benefit others just starting out in farming—to essentially "pay it forward or pay it back," explains current Rogue Education Director Megan Ferman. Those founders, who had all learned the trade via internships and apprenticeships, felt that it would be even more beneficial to add curricular, classroom-type learning to the mix, so that the hands-on farming experience would be enhanced by study and conceptual learning.

When it started 15 years ago, Rogue Farm Corps' program sites were comprised of a group of four farms, all in central Oregon. Now, there are four chapter locations which have four to five farms each, all running a beginner farmer internship program and the more advanced apprenticeship program. The bulk of the internship experience is on-farm training, but there are also classes, farm tours, independent projects, discussion circles, and potlucks within each smaller pod of interns. This makes for an immediate network among the beginning farmers, who can help each other advance, learn, and grow. "A peer network forms automatically," explains Ferman, "which is one of the things that makes it different from other programs. Usually the cohort peer interaction is missing."

The second level apprenticeship is also all about on-farm training, but with a deeper focus on management and farm ownership, imparted by the mentor farmer at each farm site. Apprentices also attend classes and go through weekend intensives, rotating around the chapter locations so that





they can host each other and experience alternate growing regions. Additionally, since it is designed to be a two-year program, apprentices will likely play a role in the actual organic certification if the host farm goes through that process.

Rogue interfaces with CCOF in a variety of ways, from simply using CCOF teaching materials in the student binders to encouraging program participants to get certified organic by CCOF. For the past three seasons, many of the Rogue students have received assistance from the CCOF Future Organic Farmer Grant Fund, “which is huge ... it’s a real game changer for them,” says Ferman.

A primary result of these programs is perhaps an unspoken confidence that these beginning farmers are not alone. They know that “wherever they are, there are organizations that can help support them,” explains Ferman. Oregon Farm Link, EcoFarm, CCOF, Oregon Tilth, and The National Ag Apprenticeship Learning Network are just a few of the resources that Rogue taps into.

Ferman says that the “village” is crucial. “For me it’s about connecting the dots and making sure that we all know what we’re doing, because we don’t have enough resources to be doing this on our own. It’s a collaborative process and we are all really invested in this vision that there are young farmers on the land again. And land stewardship is a huge part of the ethic of what they’re doing. If we have any chance of being successful at all, we’ve got to do it through networks and collaboration.”

A fun way to get involved with Rogue Farm Corps is to attend their Farm Olympics, held in October. Also, they are in the process of setting up their own scholarship fund to be able to serve a larger and more diverse audience, so donations are always needed and welcome. To learn more, visit [www.roguefarmcorps.org](http://www.roguefarmcorps.org).

## Berkeley Food Institute

Berkeley Food Institute (BFI) was established in 2013 as an interdisciplinary research, education, and policy center on the UC Berkeley campus. They are working to find solutions for some of the systemic issues in our food system that pose frequent stumbling blocks and looking at complex questions like why we have so much food waste yet have so many people dealing with food insecurity. BFI is a good example of an organization that serves to connect people, as much of their work is to build networks between academia, farmers, producers, nonprofits, governments, and the public.

Interim Executive Director Nina Ichikawa explains that “Berkeley has a long history of research relevant to the organic community: from Miguel Altieri’s groundbreaking work on agroecology, to Tyrone Hayes’ research on herbicides, to Brenda Eskenazi’s team and their long-term looks at human health impacts of agricultural pesticides. BFI seeks to bring together this legacy and share it widely. We also work with many students and faculty doing research on certified organic production agriculture in California and elsewhere, and hope those findings enhance and improve California agriculture overall.”

BFI has a unique policy focus as well. In 2017 they published *Growing Organic, State by State*, which was an analysis of state government support for organic producers. Ichikawa explains that this report took a unique look at how how government agencies at all levels can be informed on the benefits and challenges of organic, and how they can do more to support the growth of organic agriculture.

CCOF serves as a resource for BFI, especially when it comes to the needs of organic farmers. “We sometimes call on [CCOF] when we need to be put in touch with farmers or farm experts for research projects. Some of our students want to leave academia and become organic farmers, in which case we send them to CCOF!” says Ichikawa.



CCOF Foundation Future Organic Farmer Grant Fund recipients, Renee Zavos and David Robles.



CCOF Foundation Future Organic Farmer Grant Fund recipients, Renee Zavos and David Robles.

A great way to stay up to speed on what BFI is up to is to join their newsletter. You can also subscribe to The Just Food Podcast or attend any of their wonderful events at the UC Berkeley Campus, a robust schedule that often showcases good food luminaries and leaders. Learn more at <https://food.berkeley.edu>.

## National Young Farmers Coalition

The National Young Farmers Coalition (NYFC) is a national advocacy network. Since its founding in 2010, NYFC has launched 41 farmer-led chapters across the United States. Federal Policy Director Erin Foster West explains, “We help young farmers become leaders in their communities through local chapter organizing, ensuring they have a seat at the table in local, state, and national policy decisions. We address structural barriers facing young farmers through farm bill advocacy, USDA program reform, and by training key stakeholders and service providers to better serve the next generation. NYFC also provides business services to young farmers, offering tools, resources, and technical assistance to help them navigate business challenges and seize market opportunities.”

Many of the young farmers that began in training programs such as Rogue, ALBA, and First Generation Farmers are now a part of NYFC. They are proof of the power in numbers and of how networks create strength. They are the national “village” that puts it all together and creates waves of change. And a large portion of the NYFC farmers have a strong commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable farming. West refers to a 2017 nationwide survey in which over 3,500 respondents described their operations as sustainable. “Seventeen percent of young farmers reported being certified organic, much higher than the one percent of farms that are certified nationally,” says West.

NYFC has big goals and is working toward helping 25,000 young people enter into viable farming careers by 2022. They are also well-positioned to make big policy changes, which can lead to greater access to federal programs, like the National Organic Certification Cost Share Program and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, that can support organic agriculture and organic transitions. “We also work on land access policy change to make agricultural land more available to young farmers, more affordable, and to secure solid land tenure for all young farmers, including farmers of color and indigenous farmers,” says West.

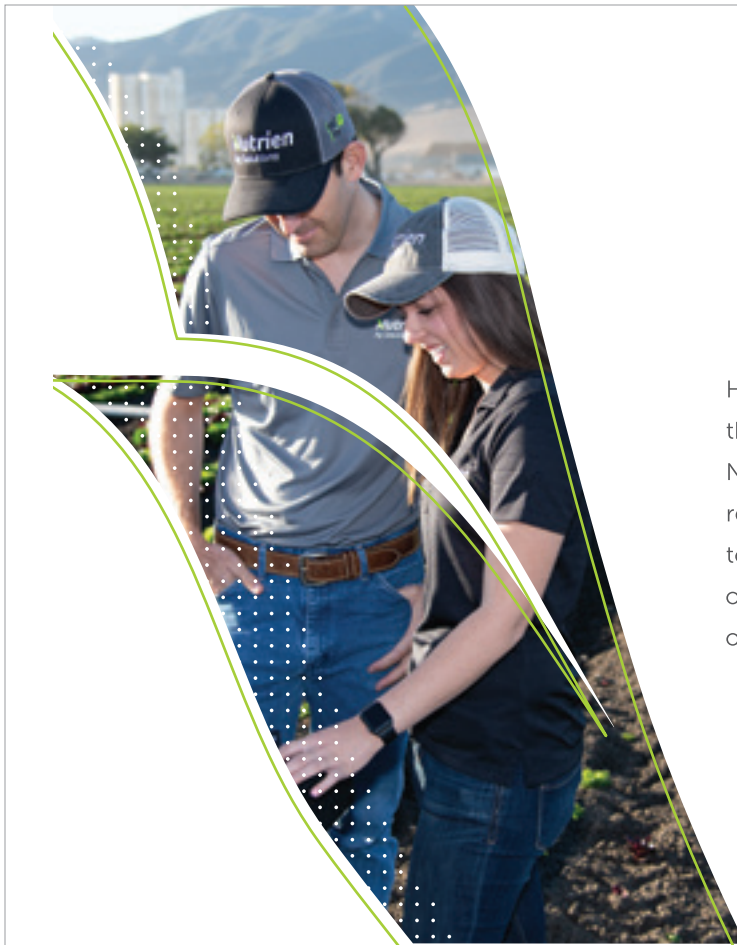
The best way to join NYFC’s efforts is by becoming a member! To join or learn more about NYFC, visit [www.youngfarmers.org](http://www.youngfarmers.org).

At the end of the day, what comes of all of this? How do these vast networks, legions of organic farmers, and mountains of information come together in a visible, real-life way? We can zero in on the people to see it—those who have made it through, marched from the ground, through the soil, in the weeds. Someone like David Robles, a CCOF Foundation Future Organic Farmer Grant Fund recipient.

West says, “David Robles used his CCOF scholarship to participate in the 2018 NYFC National Leadership Convergence in Washington, D.C. NYFC facilitated his visits with his members of Congress, and now he is starting an NYFC chapter in Santa Cruz. CCOF and NYFC’s combined efforts exemplify the power and necessity of collaborating to resource young, organic farmers for their personal success and for long-term political change.”

To join the organic “village” with CCOF, you can help us advance organic agriculture through the CCOF Foundation’s Future Organic Farmer Grant Fund and other CCOF Foundation programs. Learn more at [www.ccof.org/foundation](http://www.ccof.org/foundation).





*Prosperity begins here.*

Harnessing the power and potential of tomorrow starts with the same agronomic partner you've trusted for years. Your Nutrien Ag Solutions™ retail location delivers even greater reliability, technology and solutions to bring your vision to reality than ever before. We'll help you transform every operational challenge into another chapter of triumph for organic agriculture, year after year. [nutrienagsolutions.com](http://nutrienagsolutions.com)

**Nutrien**  
Ag Solutions™

# *Promoting a Greener Planet!*



Nature's Nectar  
Nitrogen 5-0-0  
21 Organic  
L-amino acids



Nature's Nectar  
Potassium 0-0-5  
Organic Kelp Liquid

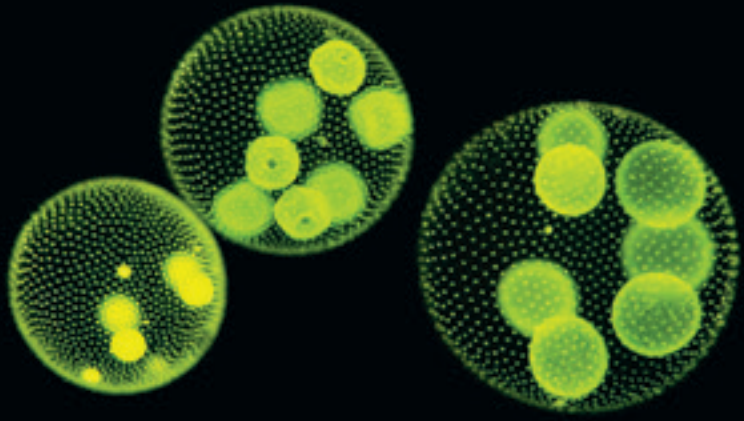


Organa Add 2-0-0  
Organic  
Micronutrients



EZ-Gro N 18-0-0  
Organic Nitrogen  
and L-Amino Acids

**1.888.544.4769 | [www.ez-gro.com](http://www.ez-gro.com)**



the  
**BIGGEST**  

---

**BREAKTHROUGH**  

---

**SINCE**  

---

**IRRIGATION**

PhycoTerra® is powered by innovative microalgae that boosts the soil microbiome naturally. PhycoTerra® creates healthier soil, healthier plants, and better yields, all while making soil and plants naturally resilient to industry stressors.

**For a limited time all full truck-load orders on 20 totes will get a \$3,500 discount (per full load order)\*.**



**PhycoTerra®**

Loyal to Soil

Ready to see the big difference soil-boosting microalgae can make to your crops?

Find us online at [phycoterra.com/offer](https://phycoterra.com/offer), or call (800) 998-6536.

Powered by **heliae™**  
AGRICULTURE

\* Use Code #PT20-TOTOES. Some restrictions apply. Call for details.



---

# IF PLANTS WERE ROCKETS, THEN YES, THIS WOULD BE ROCKET SCIENCE.

---

Protassium+® sulfate of potash (0-0-50-17S) is the leading source of potassium for specialty plant nutrition. With less than 1% chloride and the lowest salt index per unit of  $K_2O$ , the result is quality crops and higher yields.

Benefits of Protassium+ include:

- Quality organic grades, OMRI certified
- Only U.S. producer
- Ready for shipment via truck or rail to a location near you

Visit [ProtassiumPlus.com](http://ProtassiumPlus.com)



## **Advancing Organic**

Since its inception in the 1970s, the CCOF chapter system has enriched the organic community by providing educational and networking opportunities, advocacy, and resources to help organic producers thrive. Chapters are made up of certified organic producers who are essential to the basic functions of CCOF. Chapter members and CCOF staff work together to achieve the collective mission to advance organic agriculture for a healthy world. Our chapter members have a keen sense of the most pressing and relevant issues to the organic community and their passion provides the lifeblood for CCOF and the movement as a whole. Whether through chapter meetings with guest speakers on a variety of organic food system topics, film screenings on inspirational farmers, or fairs that support local businesses, our members continually find ways to use the chapter system to advance the organic movement.

### **At-Large Chapter**

We would like to congratulate the newly elected and first At-Large Chapter board representative, Nadine Lew Basile, of Mineral Springs Ranch, in Carlton, Oregon. Recognizing the need to expand membership beyond California, the member-elected CCOF, Inc. Board of Directors voted to establish a fifteenth seat. This seat was elected by the 220 CCOF-certified organic farmers with operations in the United States located outside of California. Basile was seated at the CCOF, Inc. Board of Directors meeting on February 26, 2019.

### **Kern Chapter**

The Kern Chapter met on February 19, 2019 in Bakersfield, California, where they held successful leadership elections. We would like to congratulate and welcome President Kim Dixon of Agriculture Capital Operations, Vice President Lindsey Mebane of Tasteful Selections, Secretary Susie Rodriguez of Homegrown Organic Farms, re-elected Treasurer Pete Belluomini of Lehr Brothers, and re-elected Board Representative Malcolm Ricci of Bolthouse Farms. We'd like to thank Ben Diesl and Mark Campbell for their work as chapter leaders over the last few years. This chapter encompasses Kern County.

At the chapter meeting, Amanda May from Wonderful Citrus presented on non-regulatory On-Farm Readiness Reviews, which are offered by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). May assured members that CDFA will not document inspections and any notes taken will be given to the grower at the end of the review. May also noted that these reviews are excellent educational opportunities for inspectors and growers to learn about what to expect from routine produce safety inspections.

### **North Coast Chapter**

The North Coast Chapter's current leadership is President Dawn Russel, Vice President Carrie Hendrickson, Board Representative Genevieve Albers, and Secretary Ian Serrano. The chapter encompasses Marin, Napa, and Sonoma counties.

On January 18, the North Coast Chapter held a screening of the movie "Dreaming of a Vetter World" at the Arlene Francis Center in Santa Rosa, California. Attendees had an opportunity to engage in a discussion with the film's subject, David Vetter. Audience members, including families who brought their children, noted that the event offered the younger generation an opportunity to be inspired by and learn about the organic movement. North Coast Chapter leaders created this event to bring CCOF's mission of education, advocacy, and promotion of organic to their broader community.

### **North Valley Chapter**

The current North Valley leadership is President and Board Representative Phil LaRocca, Treasurer Bryce Lundberg, and Secretary Herman Chen. The chapter encompasses Butte, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Yuba counties.

The North Valley Chapter held a meeting on February 8, 2019 in Richvale, California. Jane Sooby, CCOF's senior outreach and policy specialist, presented on the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program and the effort to streamline regulations for certified organic growers. Rex Dufour from National Center for Appropriate Technology presented on the opportunities for organic growers in programs like CDFA's Healthy Soils program (which is accepting applications for 2020), the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), and the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).

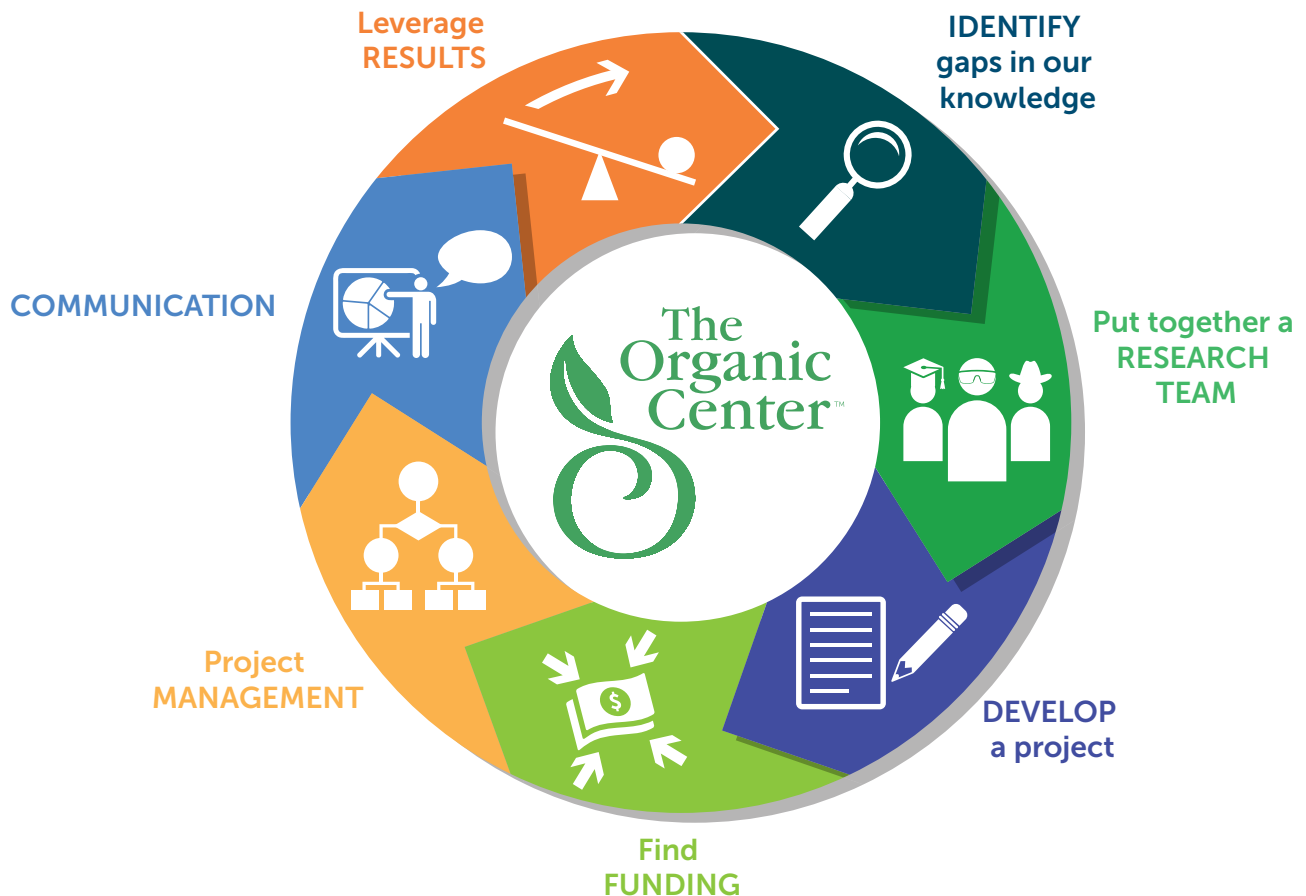
### **Yolo Chapter**

The current Yolo Chapter leadership is Board Representative Thaddeus Barsotti, President Ryan N. Warren, Secretary Susan Hassett, and Treasurer Ed Sills. This chapter encompasses Colusa, Sacramento, Solano, Sutter, and Yolo counties.

The Yolo chapter held a meeting in Woodland, California on December 7, 2018. Chapter members congratulated Barsotti on receiving the 2018 Organic Grower Summit "Grower of the Year" Award. Lee Hazeltine, an expert sheep producer from Woodland, presented on integrated livestock and crop management. Hazeltine shared his experience training sheep to avoid eating crops and focus on grazing. Hazeltine participated in a 20-year study of monitoring, livestock choice, stocking rates, crop choice, soil improvement, fire suppression, increased drought resistance, and financial returns.



# The Organic Center is a small organization achieving **BIG RESULTS.**



**Your donation  
can support  
innovation and  
provide fuel  
for growth.**

We tackle the large-scale **ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH ISSUES** that people care about. We've delivered undisputable proof points on the positive impacts of organic food on **HUMAN HEALTH**, and groundbreaking research on how organic farming mitigates **CLIMATE CHANGE**.

**THERE IS NO AMOUNT TOO SMALL** to help us advance organic through research. Contact Jessica Shade to learn more: [jshade@organic-center.org](mailto:jshade@organic-center.org)

[www.Organic-Center.org](http://www.Organic-Center.org)

## **Organic Center Study: Organic Ways to Beat Citrus Greening**



Since it was first discovered in the United States in 2005, the bacterial disease known as citrus greening, or Huanglongbing, has devastated millions of acres of citrus crops.

Citrus greening has impacted conventional and organic growers alike, but its injury to organic growers has been especially deep because most of the efforts underway to slow the progress of the deadly disease involve methods that are prohibited in organic production. In addition, the research and work that have been done on potentially organic-compliant ways to fight citrus greening have usually been conducted in non-organic settings and in combination with treatments prohibited by the organic standards, resulting in critical information not easily accessible to organic farmers and educators.

To help organic producers more effectively combat this disease that threatens their livelihoods, The Organic Center has released a paper that mines the existing body of scientific literature devoted to citrus greening, compiles relevant results, and synthesizes them to create a farmer/nurseryman-focused document that pinpoints and details organic-compliant practices for combating citrus greening disease and the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) insect, which carries the disease.

The study, funded by the UNFI Foundation and published in January in the scientific journal *International Journal of Horticulture, Agriculture and Food Science*, consolidates existing literature on allowable methods for combating citrus greening in organic groves. From this work, The Organic Center has produced a grower guide for organic citrus producers, and has co-authored a peer-reviewed publication that addresses this topic, both accessible from [www.organic-center.org](http://www.organic-center.org).

Organic citrus producers have suffered terrible losses from citrus greening, and they need to be aware of organic solutions to ward off this disease. The Center's goal is to help organic citrus growers fight this deadly disease without resorting to dangerous chemicals, genetic engineering, or other methods not in compliance with organic standards, and provide them with tactics to slow the progression of the disease while additional research is conducted.

### **An Organic Solution**

Citrus greening threatens the citrus industry on a massive scale. The highly destructive disease can spread quickly, and once a tree is infected, it cannot be cured.

Currently, the most common method for controlling citrus greening is spraying large amounts of synthetic pesticides such as neonicotinoids. These toxic sprays have had only limited success, and have been responsible for large-scale bee die-offs. Other non-organic research has focused on creating GMO varieties of citrus trees resistant to citrus greening. But these conventional strategies have not yet proven effective and have contributed to policy decisions not compatible with organic management.

Organic citrus growers need ways to control citrus greening through organic practices, without the use of toxic chemicals or genetic engineering. The challenge is that most research has focused on non-organic fields.

The Organic Center paper examines research from multiple citrus systems to distill the techniques allowed under organic certification to help control citrus greening. The report synthesizes peer-reviewed literature, unpublished research data, and grower observations to provide information on what growers can do now to combat this disease and continue to produce marketable fruit while additional research is pursued to find a holistic solution to citrus greening.

These organic strategies include strict disease prevention, diligent scouting, ACP control, nutritional support of healthy and infected trees, implementation of biological controls, and planting cultivars considered tolerant or resistant to citrus greening.

Despite the strategies highlighted in the report that can help organic farmers combat citrus greening, more research is needed to overcome this terrible disease. Conventional and organic farmers alike have had their groves decimated by citrus greening. While our report provides tools for them to help them in their struggle, without more research we'll continue to see a dramatic decline in citrus production—especially organic citrus.





**WILBUR-ELLIS®**  
Ideas to Grow With™

# FULL SERVICE ORGANIC PROVIDER

- Organic Dry/Liquid Fertilizers and Bio Stimulants
- Cover Crop and Beneficial Habitat Seed
- Organic Plant Protection Products
- Qualified Licensed Consultants at Each Branch

[ag.wilburellis.com](http://ag.wilburellis.com)

Find your local specialist at [locations.wilburellis.com](http://locations.wilburellis.com)

© 2018 Wilbur-Ellis Company, LLC. All rights reserved. Ideas to Grow With™ and Wilbur-Ellis are registered trademarks of Wilbur-Ellis Company, LLC. E-0078-07/18



**WILBUR-ELLIS**  
Ideas to Grow With™



# PAL

**PACIFIC AGRICULTURAL LABORATORY**  
PESTICIDE RESIDUE ANALYSIS

- USDA NOP Compliant Pesticides Profile for Organic Certifiers, Growers, and Processors
- Domestic and International Maximum Residue Level (MRL) Analysis
- Single Compound or Targeted Multi-Residue Analysis in Water, Soil or Plant Tissue
- ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Accredited with Decades of Experience Serving the Organic Community



[pacaglab.com](http://pacaglab.com) • 503.626.7942 • 21830 SW Alexander Ln • Sherwood, OR 97140



# Your Multi-Pest Solution For Organic Growing

## Control Soil Developing Pests With Our OMRI Listed Beneficial Nematodes



NemaSeek Pro Hb  
Beneficial Nematodes™

NemAttack Pro Sf  
Beneficial Nematodes™

NemAttack Pro Sc  
Beneficial Nematodes™

### Apply To Soil For Control Of Target Pests:



- Beetle Grubs
- Flies
- Fungus Gnats
- Leafminers
- Rootworms
- Thrips
- Weevils
- Worms & more!



### Get 10% Off Your Order

Use CCOF1018 for 10% off your order of \$150 or more. (Some restrictions apply.)

### CALL FOR FREE CATALOG

Beneficial & Predatory Insects

Biological Insecticides

Biorational Disease Control

*Serving Growers Since 1979.*



1-800-827-2847

www.arbico-organics.com





# Certified organic products aren't just non-GMO, they're **Non-GMO & More!**



Use CCOF's new "Organic is Non-GMO & More" seal on your packaging at no extra cost to recognize the many contributions organic makes to a healthier world.



Visit [www.ccof.org/non-gmo](http://www.ccof.org/non-gmo) »





## Hemp Gets Federally Recognized

Hemp has a long history of use in the United States and around the world. However, it has been illegal to grow in the United States for decades unless grown under a federal, state, or university program. The passage of the 2018 Farm Bill made hemp a federally recognized agricultural commodity. This change in classification provides the organic industry with an opportunity to diversify crops and create new products so long as all federal requirements are met.

The 2018 Farm Bill in section 297A defines hemp as “the plant *Cannabis sativa L.* and any part of that plant, including the seeds thereof and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers, whether growing or not, with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis.”

Under the new farm bill, growers must obtain a state license to grow hemp. For growers who want to incorporate hemp into their crop rotation, pursuing a state license should be a priority. Infrastructure and allowances for licensing will vary across the states. Farmers are responsible for following all regulations in the state where they plan to grow.

Growers and processors will also need to seek out seed, clones, and hemp-derived ingredients that contain less than 0.3 percent delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). THC is the psychoactive cannabinoid found in cannabis and hemp that the federal government uses to distinguish between the two.

Hemp contains less THC than marijuana, but the amount found in hemp can vary between strains and phenotypes. Growers and processors will want to avoid “hot hemp,” which is hemp that contains greater than 0.3 percent THC.

The new farm bill enables the movement of hemp and hemp-derived products throughout the United States. This authorizes trade across state lines even when passing through states that don’t allow the production and/or sale of hemp. Previously, authorized producers faced challenges trying to obtain hemp seed because it was illegal to move across state lines. CCOF believes these changes will empower growers and processors to expand their markets across the United States and beyond.

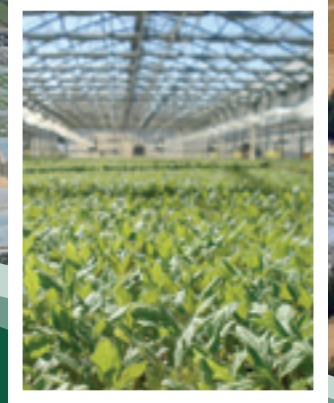
CBD, or cannabidiol, is currently a buzzword across the food and health care industries. CCOF is often asked if we can certify CBD products, including full spectrum hemp extract. Based on the farm bill definition of hemp, hemp-derived CBD and full spectrum hemp extract are federally legal. This opens the door for organic certification of CBD products. CBD can be extracted from hemp in a variety of ways and not all extraction methods are allowed in organic production. For example, butane extraction is prohibited for organic CBD.

CCOF will evaluate hemp products for compliance with USDA NOP regulations. Producers are responsible for following all additional federal, state, and local laws that apply to CBD and other hemp derivative products, including labeling requirements. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is the regulating body for products that contain CBD. They released a statement on CBD in January 2019 that all producers should consider when planning to launch a new CBD product.

Interested in certifying your hemp products? Apply online at [www.ccof.org/apply](http://www.ccof.org/apply) or contact us at [getcertified@ccof.org](mailto:getcertified@ccof.org).



Offering healthy, high quality transplants, dependable and prompt delivery, and expert advice.



# Greenheart®

California's first organic and sustainable vegetable transplant company, certified since 1994  
 902 Zenon Way, Arroyo Grande, CA 93420 |   | [www.greenheartfarms.com](http://www.greenheartfarms.com) | 805-481-2234



# Nutri-Rich



Manufactured in the U.S.A. by:

## D. Stutzman FARMS

P.O. Box 307, Canby, OR 97013  
 888-877-7665  
[stutzman@canby.com](mailto:stutzman@canby.com)




# AgroThrive® Organic Fertilizers

We believe the future of home gardening and food production lies in reducing reliance on pesticides and chemical fertilizers, increasing organic inputs, and responsible environmental stewardship.

- Farmer Trusted
- Better Root Growth
- Fish PLUS Organic Fertilizer
- Higher Yields
- Improves Soil Quality
- Household Safe



HARNESSING THE POWER OF NATURE



Fruiting & Flowering (3-3-5)      General Purpose (3-3-2)

PROFESSIONAL GRADE  
 USED BY  
 USDA CERTIFIED  
 Organic Farmers  
 LIQUID CONCENTRATE

Visit [www.AgroThrive.com](http://www.AgroThrive.com)  
 Or contact us at (831) 675-2853 or [sales@AgroThrive.com](mailto:sales@AgroThrive.com)

100% SOLAR POWERED FACILITY





# Combine Your Food Safety and Organic Inspections

As the fields dry out from the wet winter months, growers are beginning to prepare their plantings for the upcoming season. While not at the top of the list, scheduling food safety and organic inspections should be considered. CCOF would like to help!

To say the least, overlapping regulations and requirements for modern farms can present challenges for owners. The various inspections required of a farm have many producers experiencing "audit fatigue." Since beginning our food safety program, CCOF-certified members have asked for a combined organic and food safety inspection to cut down the time spent reviewing overlapping records and duplicating field inspections.

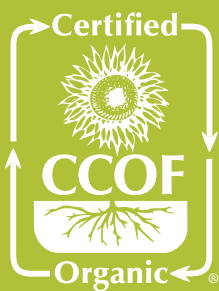
CCOF heard you loud and clear and began cross-training organic and food safety inspectors in 2015. We have been combining organic and food safety inspections ever since, saving our certified growers valuable time and money. Our cross-trained inspectors have years of organic production and food safety experience and are dedicated to reasonably and efficiently verifying your compliance during one inspection trip.

WRITTEN BY Jacob Guth

The Food Safety and Modernization Act (FSMA) is the largest change to the nation's food laws in 70 years, with eight massive rules affecting almost every aspect of the supply chain. "Small farms" (as defined by the FDA) producing fruits and vegetables generally eaten raw and grossing an average of \$250,000-\$500,000 per year are required to comply with the Produce Safety Rule as of January 26, 2019. "Very small farms" producing fruits and vegetables generally eaten raw and grossing an average of \$25,000-\$250,000 per year must comply by January 26, 2020. Despite various compliance dates and exemptions, packinghouses are currently required to verify that their suppliers comply with the FDA rules, which means many have been requiring food safety certification for their suppliers *regardless of size*.

As a solution, CCOF offers food safety certificates via the GLOBALG.A.P. standards, which are GFSI-benchmarked food safety standards that can help producers comply with FSMA. We can also certify the non-organic aspects of a farm for food safety. This season, CCOF will be offering the GLOBALG.A.P. FSMA add-on to the Integrated Farm Assurance (IFA) standard, along with piloting a program for the GLOBALG.A.P. Produce Handling Assurance (PHA) standard, which is a stand-alone packinghouse Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) audit.

Visit [www.ccof.org/food-safety](http://www.ccof.org/food-safety) to learn more about FSMA rules and CCOF's food safety services or contact CCOF for a quote.



## CCOF: Food safety by and for organic.

Applying our organic certification experience, innovation, service, and integrity to meet your needs.



Visit [www.ccof.org/food-safety](http://www.ccof.org/food-safety) »



# The Right Stuff



**Puts You Over The Top!**

Harvest removes indispensable nutrients from the soil that must be replenished. When optimum Calcium levels are reached, soil structure is enhanced, healthy cell wall development happens and crop production profits. Test your soil, get the aglime on.

	Ag Limestone	LoMg Dolo
Calcium	640 lbs/ton	480 lbs/ton
Magnesium	<40lbs/ton	140 lbs/ton
Sulfur	No Unnecessary S	No Unnecessary S



Visit us online or Call  
209-533-0127 x12  
for more information.



## HEADSTART NURSERY INC.

*Rooted In Quality*

Proud to be the west coast's premium supplier of certified organic vegetable transplants and ornamental plugs.

CCOF certified since 1993

---

**HeadstartNursery.com**  
408-842-3030

# WeedGuardPlus<sup>®</sup>

## 100% Biodegradable Mulch



### Effective, chemical-free weed control.

- ✓ Better transplant survival rates
- ✓ Excellent weed suppression
- ✓ 100% biodegradable — just till in any residual
- ✓ Porous to air and water
- ✓ Eliminates herbicide use
- ✓ Feeds the soil with organic material
- ✓ Use with drip or overhead irrigation
- ✓ Helps maintain moisture in the soil

**1-800-654-5432**  
[www.weedguardplus.com](http://www.weedguardplus.com)



**A NEW HERO**  
Coming to California  
Summer 2019



**Terramera**  
[www.TerrameraAgriculture.com](http://www.TerrameraAgriculture.com)

If we are what we eat,  
isn't it time we start thinking  
about what they eat?



**Organiq**  
Feed Intelligently.

Learn more @ [organiqfeed.com](http://organiqfeed.com)

A DIVISION OF *Associated*  
FEED & SUPPLY CO.

# VITALIS HAS THE GREENS

At Vitalis, green is a key part of what we do – providing growers with **high quality, certified organic seeds** of arugula, lettuce and spinach.

We offer a broad assortment of leafy greens in diverse types and colors with the **strongest levels of resistance** for the professional organic grower of high density crops.



For more information about the availability of our downy mildew and aphid resistant leafy varieties, please call

**831-757-2300**

or visit our website: [vitalisorganic.com](http://vitalisorganic.com)

**Vitalis<sup>®</sup> 25**  
Organic Seeds 1994-2019  
Celebrating 25 Years of Breeding and Producing Organic Seeds

soullly organic  
from Heath & Lejeune



since 1981

distribution • storage • consolidation

Los Angeles, CA  
213.614.1909

[soulllyorganic.com](http://soulllyorganic.com)  
[@soulllyorganic](https://twitter.com/soulllyorganic)

**LIVESTOCK**  
And **POULTRY FEED**  
ORGANIC AG PRODUCTS FEED

**FISH PROTEIN HYDROLYSATE FEED SUPPLEMENT**  
18 TYPES OF AMINO ACIDS  
70%+ AMINO ACIDS  
100% WATER SOLUBLE



Organic **AG** Products

Guaranteed by  
AZ ENTERPRISES INC  
DBA ORGANIC AG  
PRODUCTS  
393 Obispo St.  
Guadalupe, CA 93434

[WWW.ORGANICAGPRODUCTS.COM](http://WWW.ORGANICAGPRODUCTS.COM)

805-550-7776  
805-748-4033

COD FISH	
Crude Protein	82%
Amino Acids (18)	70%
Crude Fat	7%
Ash	5%
Moisture	5%





# GROWERS REPRESENTING GROWERS



Citrus  
Blueberries  
Tree Fruit  
Grapes

We're your organic marketing specialists. Join our family of over 150 growers and you join in on our year-round access to some of the top retailers in the nation.



559-306-1770 | info@HGOFarms.com | HGOFarms.com



The Only Sensible Choice...



Your Critical Checklist for Growing Organic:  
✓ Fertilizer Cost ✓ Organic Integrity ✓ Food Safety ✓ Fertilizer Efficacy

The Only "Prime" Source for OMRI Listed:  
✓ Feather Meal ✓ Poultry Meal ✓ Delly



and now,  
NEW "High Nitrogen" Protein Meal

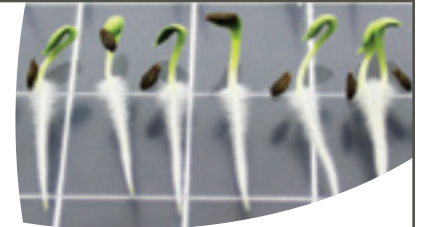
\*Prime Manufactured by Foster Farms\*



For more information visit our web site: [www.OrganicFarmsFertilizers.com](http://www.OrganicFarmsFertilizers.com) or call 209-394-1171



# Are you using organic seed treatments?



prime pellet filmcoat health

Check out our organic and conventional seed treatments at [germain.com](http://germain.com) or ask your preferred seed distributor about our ProBio® certified organic seed technologies.



We Maximize Nature's Potential®



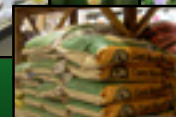
FARM SUPPLY & NURSERY

Shop Online

[www.harmonyfarm.com](http://www.harmonyfarm.com)

## Growing Organic Since 1980

- ♦ Irrigation Design & Supplies  
Water Meters: Badger & Netafim
- ♦ OMRI Listed Products:  
Pest Control  
Fertilizers & Soil Enhancers
- ♦ Certified Organic:  
Cover Crop Seed, Garlic, Bare Root,  
Vegetable Seeds



Call for farm pricing! 707.823.9125

# member LISTINGS

## New Certified Members

**Abbondanza Farms**  
Plymouth, CA  
www.abbondanzafarms.com

**Abiquiu Valley Farm**  
Abiquiu, NM  
www.abiquiuvallyfarm.com

**ADAMVS LLC dba ADAMVS**  
Angwin, CA  
www.adamvs.com

**Adeline Chemicals LLC**  
San Leandro, CA  
www.adelinechemicals.com

**Agricola Diana Laura S.P.R. de R.L. dba Hortifrut S.A. de C.V.**  
Sinaloa de Leyva, SI

**Alexander Valley Groumet dba Sonoma Brinery**  
Healdsburg, CA  
www.sonomabrinery.com

**All American Hay & Grain**  
Ketchum, ID  
www.AllAmericanHay.com

**AmByth Estate LLC**  
Templeton, CA  
www.ambythestate.com

**Ampelos Cellars**  
Lompoc, CA  
www.ampeloscellars.net

**Aqueous Labs Inc.**  
Las Vegas, NV  
www.aqueouslabs.com

**Aspen Moon Farm, LLC**  
Longmont, CO  
www.aspenmoonfarm.com

**Auster Foods LLC**  
San Jose, CA  
www.austerfoods.com

**Baagan - Plant Foods Inc.**  
San Ramon, CA  
www.baagan.com

**Barrios Bros Inc.**  
Woodland, CA

**Bella Bolettino, LLC dba Bella Bolettino Farms**  
Palisade, CO  
www.bella-bolettino-farms.com

**Berries Garrios S. de R.L. de C.V. dba Los Carriles**  
Santiago Tangamandapio, Micho

**Bird Rock Vineyards LLC**  
Bakersfield, CA

**Black Cat Farm, LLC dba Black Cat Farm**  
Niwot, CO  
www.blackcatboulder.com

**Blossom Vineyards**  
Thornton, CA

**Brian Van Dyke Farming**  
Rio Oso, CA

**Brothers International Food Corporation**  
Rochester, NY  
www.brothersinternational.com

**Camel Xecue S.P.R. de R.L. dba Camel Xecue**  
San Luis Rio Colorado, SO

**Clean Foods Inc.**  
Ventura, CA  
www.cafealtura.com

**Clearwater Organic Farms Illinois, LLC**  
Taylorville, IL  
www.clearwaterorganicfarms.com

**Coastline Partners, Inc. dba Old Town Coffee & Chocolates**  
Eureka, CA  
www.OldTownCoffeeEureka.com

**Comercializadora y Deshidratadora Alazan S.A. de C.V.**  
Rosario, SI

**Cooper-Garrod Estate Vineyards**  
Saratoga, CA  
www.cgv.com

**CraftPack LLC**  
Baltimore, MD  
www.craftpackbev.com

**Cult Crackers DBA BirDi, LLC**  
Berkeley, CA  
www.cultcrackers.com

**D'Agostini Diversity Farm**  
Plymouth, CA

**D'Arrigo Bros. Co. of New York, Inc.**  
Bronx, NY  
www.darrigonyc.com

**Daybreak Organics**  
Kingsburg, CA  
www.organic-farmstay.com

**Del Sol Food Company**  
Brenham, TX  
www.Briannas.com

**Diversified Nut Processing, LLC**  
Stratford, CA

**Driscoll's McArthur Nursery**  
Watsonville, CA  
www.driscolls.com

**Emerisa Gardens, Inc.**  
Santa Rosa, CA  
www.emerisa.com

**EMRO USA, Inc dba EMRO USA Effective Microorganisms**  
Tucson, AZ  
www.emrousa.com

**FarmEcology Inc.**  
San Jose, CA  
www.FarmEcologyInc.com

**Farmo Food Inc. dba Belfiore Cheese Co.**  
Berkeley, CA

**Flora Organica**  
McKinleyville, CA

**Flying Blue Dog Homestead & Nursery**  
Willow Creek, CA  
www.flyingbluedog.com

**Flying Coyote Farm**  
Sandy, OR  
www.fromfieldtofeast.com

**Four Winds Farm**  
Ashland, OR

**Fruitripe Ripening Services LLC**  
Riverside, CA  
www.fruitripeservices.com

**Fungi For The People**  
Lorane, OR  
www.fungi-for-the-people.org

**G & J Orchards**  
Hollister, CA

**Gem-Pack Berries LLC**  
Irvine, CA  
www.gem-pack-berries.com

**Get Fresh Produce, Inc.**  
Bartlett, IL  
www.getfreshproduce.com

**Gillies Coffee Company**  
Brooklyn, NY  
www.gilliescoffee.com

**Gore Farms dba Caney Fork Farms**  
Carthage, TN

**Grace Church dba Twelve17 Coffee Roasters**  
Mount Pleasant, MI

**Granos y Fertilizantes Sayula S.P.R. de R.L. de C.V.**  
Sayula, JA

**Green Dining Table, Inc.**  
Alhambra, CA

**Grgich Hills Cellar dba Grgich Hills Estate**  
Rutherford, CA  
www.grgich.com

**Hendrik Feenstra dba Yolo Produce Riverview Orchard**  
Orland, CA  
www.rivervieworchard.com

**HP Green Vivarium Inc. dba HP Green Vivarium**  
Watsonville, CA

**Jacobson, Elizabeth Brady dba ML Hood Organic Farms**  
Mount Hood Parkdale, OR  
www.mlhoodorganicfarms.com

**JJ Berries S.P.R. de R.L. de C.V. dba Rancho El Dorado**  
Sayula, JA

**JOA Cold Point LLC**  
Laredo, TX

**John Taverna Dairy**  
Petaluma, CA

**Joolies, LLC**  
Los Angeles, CA  
www.joolies.com

**K Trader LP**  
Torrance, CA  
www.ktraderinc.com

**Khangura Farms**  
Madera, CA

**Kizuna Matcha, LLC**  
Seattle, WA  
www.kizunamatcha.com

**KR Citrus, Inc.**  
Arvin, CA

**Kwan Hoon Inc. dba Brownly Mylk**  
Flushing, NY  
www.brownlycoffee.com

**La Fortaleza, Inc.**  
Los Angeles, CA  
www.lafortalezaproducts.net

**La Valle Sabbia, Inc.**  
El Centro, CA  
www.abattl.com

**Malibu Mylk LLC dba Malibu Mylk**  
West Hollywood, CA  
www.malibumylk.com

**Marian Trading LTD dba Marian Farms**  
Fresno, CA  
www.marianfarmsbiodynamic.com

**Mark and Kimberly Sorensen dba Triple Delight Blueberries**  
Coalinga, CA

**Mati, LLC**  
Clayton, NC  
www.matienergy.com

**Mendrin Family Trust/Dave J. Mendrin, Inc.**  
Fresno, CA

**Moctezuma Medjool Gardens S. de R.L. de C.V.**  
San Luis Rio Colorado, SO

**Mountain Quality Marketing**  
Olathe, CO  
www.mountainquality.farm

**Musco Family Olive Co.**  
Tracy, CA  
www.olives.com

**Naturealm LLC**  
Sand City, CA  
www.naturealmco.com

**Navitas LLC dba Navitas Organics**  
Novato, CA  
www.navitasorganics.com

**Neukom Family Farm**  
Willow Creek, CA

**NutHouse! Granola Company, LLC**  
Richmond, CA  
www.nuthousegranola.com

**Oscar Ramos dba Ramos Torres Winery**  
Coarsegold, CA  
www.ramosstorres.com

**Oso Good Co., LLC dba The Oso Good Bones Company**  
Fresno, CA  
www.osogoodbones.com

**Peace and Plenty Farm**  
Kelseyville, CA  
www.peaceandplentyfarm.com

**Pondini, Inc.**  
Sayreville, NJ  
www.pondini.com

**Porter Creek Vineyards LLC dba Porter Creek Vineyards, Porter Creek, Porter Creek Winery**  
Healdsburg, CA  
www.portercreekvineyards.com

**Portofino Ranch, LLC**  
Porterville, CA

**Prima Frutta Packing Inc.**  
Linden, CA

**Productora Agrícola La Herencia S.P.R. de R.L. Mazamitla, JA**

**Puma Springs Vineyards, LLC**  
Healdsburg, CA  
www.pumasprings.com

**Rancho Agrícola de Frutilla S.P.R. de R.L. de C.V.**  
Quila, JA

**Rancho Guadalupe, LLC**  
Santa Maria, CA

**Rancho La Purisima LLC**  
Santa Ynez, CA

**Rancho Moises Vences Mejia**  
Ensenada, BC

**RealStuff Inc. dba Yellowbird Foods**  
San Marcos, TX  
www.yellowbirdsauce.com

**Rich Nature Organic LLC**  
Ontario, CA  
www.richnature.com

**Rivas Farms**  
San Marcos, CA

**Rose Ranch**  
Kenwood, CA  
www.roserranch.com

**Salud Juice**  
Long Beach, CA  
www.saludjuice.com

**Santé Sainte Company dba Brite Snacks**  
Newark, DE

**Schill Ranch**  
Fresno, CA

**SIGS, Inc.**  
Raleigh, NC

**Silesia Flavors, Inc.**  
Hoffman Estates, IL  
www.silesia-aroma.com/en/

**SJBBF S.P.R. de R.L. de C.V. dba Hortifrut S.A. de C.V.**  
Sayula, JA

**Soter Vineyards dba Mineral Springs Ranch**  
Carlton, OR

**Spezia LLC**  
Parsippany, NJ

**Spring Hill Jersey Dairy**  
Petaluma, CA  
www.springhillcheese.com

**Stoops Ranch**  
Valley Center, CA

**Sunnyside Organic Seedlings**  
Richmond, CA  
www.organicbiz

**Sunsweet Growers Inc.**  
Yuba City, CA  
www.sunsweet.com

**Sweet Spot Farm**  
Ramona, CA

**Tablas Creek Vineyard, A CA Limited Partnership dba Tablas Creek Vineyard**  
Paso Robles, CA  
www.tablascreek.com

**Tangerine, LLC**  
Irvine, CA  
www.philosophytobacco.com

**Tea Bath Products LLC**  
Las Vegas, NV  
www.teabathproducts.org

**TeraGanix, Inc.**  
Tucson, AZ  
www.teraganix.com

**The Apple Farm dba The Apple Farm LLC**  
Philo, CA  
www.philoapplefarm.com

**The Farm at Miller's Crossing**  
Hudson, NY  
farmatmillerscrossing.com

**The Jasmine Pearl, LLC dba Jasmine Pearl Tea Company**  
Portland, OR  
www.thejasminepearl.com

**The Mullins Family Farm**  
Termecula, CA

**Tods Nuts**  
Lakeport, CA

**Trager Brothers Coffee**  
Lovingson, VA  
www.tbcoasters.com

**Treasure8 LLC dba Treasure8**  
Richmond, CA  
www.groundrulesfoods.com

**Ukiah Wine Cache, LLC dba Ukiah Wine Cache**  
Ukiah, CA  
www.ukiahwinecache.com

**Upriver Cacao LLC**  
Austin, TX  
www.uprivercacao.com

**V V Farm dba Sunshine Organic**  
Watsonville, CA

**Valley Heart Ranch, LLC**  
Santa Barbara, CA  
www.valleyheartorchard.com

**Wheatgrass Valley**  
Citrus Heights, CA

**Will Yums Packing Mexico, S.A. de C.V.**  
Guaymas, SO

**Winderlea Wine Company, LLC dba Winderlea Vineyard and Winery**  
Dundee, OR  
www.winderlea.com

**Yguazu Co.**  
Santa Barbara, CA  
www.yguazuco.com

## Recent CCOF Foundation Donors

**Lee Altier**  
Chico, CA

**ASA Farms dba Braga Fresh Family**  
Solead, CA

**AT&T**  
Monterey, CA

**Susan F. Barquist**  
Jenner, CA

**Jessica Beckett Parr**  
Santa Cruz, CA

**Bennett Farms, Inc.**  
Exeter, CA

**Cathy Calfo**  
Santa Cruz, CA

**ChuckJoe**  
Los Angeles, CA

**Jim Cockrell**  
Moffett Field, CA

**Jesse Cowan**  
Santa Cruz, CA

**Peggy da Silva & Dan Hodapp**  
San Francisco, CA

**Kelly Damewood**  
Santa Cruz, CA

**Michelle Eaton**  
Forest Knolls, CA

**Hubert Edrington**  
Winton, CA

**John Estevo**  
Eureka, CA

**Philip & Katherine Foster**  
San Juan Bautista, CA

**Gaia Fund**  
San Francisco, CA

**Gopal's Healthfoods**  
Sidney, TX

**Ranbir Grewal**  
Madera, CA

**Charles & Branka Harris**  
Sebastopol, CA

**Mary Kaems**  
Sloughhouse, CA

**Phil LaRocca**  
Forest Ranch, CA

**LiDestri Foods & Beverage**  
Rochester, NY

**Live Earth Farm**  
Freedom, CA

**Lundberg Family Farms (H)**  
Richvale, CA

**Ron McGill**  
Klamath Falls, OR

**Victoria Michealides**  
Riverside, CA

**Karen Miner**  
South Lake Tahoe, CA

**Ghassan Nashat**  
Thousand Oaks, CA

**Neil Bassetti Farms, LLC**  
Greenfield, CA

**Network For Good**  
Washington, DC

**Oils Of Paicines**  
Paicines, CA

**Organic Farming Research Foundation**  
Santa Cruz, CA

**Organic Produce Network**  
Monterey, CA

**Organics Unlimited**  
San Diego, CA

**Pacific International Marketing**  
Salinas, CA

**Panorama Meats**  
Woodland, CA

**Patagonia**  
Ventura, CA

**Quinco, Inc.**  
Marysville, CA

**Ray Moles Farms**  
Fresno, CA

**Shawna Marie Rodgers**  
Los Gatos, CA

**Fritz Ruegger**  
Brawley, CA

**Jane Sooby**  
Santa Cruz, CA

**Josaphine Stevenson**  
Santa Cruz, CA

**Straus Family Creamery**  
Petaluma, CA

**Sunview Vineyards of California**  
Delano, CA

**Sustainable Futures Fund**  
San Francisco, CA

**Sweet Earth Foods**  
Moss Landing, CA

**Valent U.S.A. Corporation**  
Memphis, TN

**Whole Foods Market**  
Medford, MA

**Jonathan & Susan Wittwer**  
Santa Cruz, CA

## New Business Partners

**Trace, Inc.**  
Adair, OK

Agro-K Corporation.....20	Clark Food Safety.....8	Headstart Nursery, Inc.....42	Oro Agri, Inc.....19	Taylor Bros. Farms Inc.....18
AgroThrive, Inc.....40	Community Printers.....12	Heath & Lejeune, Inc.....43	Pacific Agricultural Laboratory.....36	Terramera Inc.....42
ARBICO Organics.....37	Compass Minerals Plant Nutrition.....32	Hellae Development, LLC.....31	Pacific Gro.....46	The Catalyst Product Group.....46
Associated Feed & Supply.....43	Driscoll's Inc.....22	Homegrown Organic Farms.....44	Sacramento Packing, Inc.....22	Trace, Inc.....10
AZ Enterprises Inc. and Organic Ag Products LLC.....6, 43	EZ-GRO.....30	Intrepid Potash, Inc.....18	Sambraio.....12	True Organic Products, Inc.....2
Blue Mountain Minerals.....42	F. W. Cobs.....12	J & D Fertilizers (dba D. Stutzman Farms).....40	Scurich Insurance Services.....46	Valent U.S.A. Corporation.....BACK COVER
California Organic Fertilizers Inc.....14	Foster Farms dba Organic Farms.....44	Marrone Bio Innovations.....4	SoilBiotics.....46	Vitalis Organic Seeds and Enza Zaden Research RSA.....43
Cal-Organic Farms.....16	Germaines Seed Technology.....44	New Era Farm Service.....16	Sunshine Paper Company.....42	Westbridge.....47
CCOF Certification Services, LLC.....38, 41	Greenheart Farms, Inc.....40	Nutrien Ag Solutions.....30	WeedGuardPlus.....42	Wilbur-Ellis Company.....36
	Harmony Farm Supply & Nursery.....44	Organic Trade Association.....34	Sunview Vineyards.....16	



# PACIFIC GRO

Seafood for the Soil™

Liquid Salmon, Shrimp and Crab  
for diverse soil biology

Increases plant-available nutrients

Calcium from fish bone and shell

Amino acids chelate nutrients

Fish oil feeds beneficial fungi

Proven on thousands of acres

[www.pacificgro.com](http://www.pacificgro.com)



# Scurich Insurance Services

License #0436405

Serviceing the Agricultural Community Since 1924



783 Rio Del Mar Blvd, Suite 7

Aptos, CA 95003

Phone: (831) 661-5697

[www.scurichinsurance.com](http://www.scurichinsurance.com)



## SoilBiotics®

[www.soilbiotics.com](http://www.soilbiotics.com)

SoilBiotics products are formulated to provide a continuous and highly beneficial program that will enhance plant performance.

### PRODUCTS

- Humic and Fulvic Acid products
- Micronutrient products
- Natural microbial products



### BENEFITS

- Conservation of applied fertilizers
- Decreased environmental contamination
- Increased soil microbial activity
- Increased availability of other soil bound nutrients
- Increased crop yields due to greater fertilizer efficiency



Providing Full Circle Improvement for Soil  
Health and Plant Growth.....Naturally



The Catalyst Product Group (TCPG) is a manufacturer of Humates (Humic and Fulvic Acid extracts), mined minerals, organic fertilizers, and organic based fertilizers.

TCPG has developed and successfully marketed the use of organic materials used to enhance the production of farmers, landscapers, home owners, and golf courses. With an environmentally health conscious consumer, the implications of stricter government regulations, farmers, landscapers, home owners, and golf courses are beginning to see the benefits of adding natural ingredients to current cultural practices in an effort to maintain the life and health of their soil

2270 S. Boulder St. Gilbert, AZ . 85296

Tel: 480-814-8318 Fax: 480-855-3081

[humateman@earthlink.net](mailto:humateman@earthlink.net)

[www.catalystproductgroup.com](http://www.catalystproductgroup.com)



*Effective Plant Nutrients and  
Biopesticides for Certified  
Organic Crop Production*



**ORGANIC  
TRIGGRR**<sup>®</sup>  
Contains Auxiliary Soil & Plant Substances

**ORGANIC  
BIOLINK**<sup>®</sup>  
Plant Nutrients & Adjuvants

**SUPPRESS**<sup>®</sup>  
Herbicide EC

**Botector**<sup>®</sup>  
Biofungicide

**Blossom Protect**<sup>™</sup>  
Bactericide

**DART**<sup>®</sup>  
Fungicide EC

**Coming Soon!**  
California Registration  
Expected in Fall 2019



For more information, call (800) 876-2767 or visit [www.westbridge.com](http://www.westbridge.com)





**CCOF**  
 2155 Delaware Avenue, Suite 150  
 Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
 (831) 423-2263 • fax (831) 423-4528  
 ccof@ccof.org • www.ccof.org

**Non-Profit Organization**  
**U.S. Postage Paid**  
**Permit #262**  
**Santa Cruz, CA**



## Organic Solutions *that work as smart as you do.*

Valent U.S.A. LLC, the leader in solutions for organic production, offers a wide range of products to improve and protect crops—insecticides, fungicides, PGRs and soil and seed applied solutions. Our products can be used in conventional farming as part of a rotational program for integrated pest management. From root tip to leaf tip, we help you maximize your crop. Visit [valent.com/organics](http://valent.com/organics) to learn more.



Products That Work, From People Who Care® | [valent.com](http://valent.com) | 800-6-VALENT (662-5368)

**Always read and follow label instructions.**

Products That Work, From People Who Care is a registered trademark of Valent U.S.A. LLC. DiPel, DiTera, ProGibb, ProTone, ProVide, Release, RyzUp, SmartGress and XenTari are registered trademarks of Valent BioSciences Corporation. RyzUp SmartGress is covered under U.S. Patent No. 6,984,609 B2, patent-pending stress management in field corn. Azera, PyGanic and Vertran D are registered trademarks of McLaughlin Gormley King Company. MycoApply is a trademark and the MycoApply logo is a registered trademark of MycoApply Applications, LLC. Actinovate is a registered trademark of Novozyme. ©2014 Valent U.S.A. LLC. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A. 49511719

Actinovate, Azera, DiPel DF, DiTera DF, MycoApply EndoMaxx, ProGibb, ProTone, ProVide, PyGanic, Release, RyzUp SmartGress, Vertran D and XenTari are NOP-compliant and OMRI listed for organic production.



**Actinovate® AG**  
 BIOLOGICAL FUNGICIDE

**azera®**

**DiPel® DF**  
 BIOLOGICAL INSECTICIDE

**DiTera® DF**  
 BIOLOGICAL NEMATOCIDE

**MycoApply®**  
**EndoMaxx**

**ProGibb®**  
 PLANT GROWTH REGULATOR

**ProTone®**  
 PLANT GROWTH REGULATOR

**ProVide®**  
 PLANT GROWTH REGULATOR

**PyGanic®**  
 Crop Protection EC 1.4.5.0

**Release®**  
 PLANT GROWTH REGULATOR

**RyzUp®**  
 Plant Growth Regulator

**Vertran D**

**XenTari®**  
 BIOLOGICAL INSECTICIDE