

Climate Smart Newsletter – October 2022

Events at a Glance

October 10, 2022

CDFA Block Grant Pilot

Online Listening Session

09:00 AM - 11:00 AM

[Register here](#)

SWEEP and Healthy Soils Program: new grant framework proposed by CDFA



The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) will host a public listening session to receive feedback on their proposal to have a new **block grant framework** for the Healthy Soils Program (HSP) and the State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP).

What is a block grant? Under a block grant framework, qualified organizations across the state may apply for state funding and then administer awarded funds to individuals for on-farm projects.

This change would impact the SWEEP and HSP solicitations, the disbursement of funds, the application timeline, and more. The goals of this public listening session will be to discuss block grants as a potential framework and receive stakeholder feedback.

This online listening session will take place on Monday, October 10th, 2022 from 09:00 am to 11:00 am. **You can attend at no cost by registering at the following link:**

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ze7qhv0Tgg5ABquDWrfnA

October Events in the San Joaquin Valley

Harvest season has come to an end, and there are some ag events happening in our valley to celebrate, network, and stay updated.

Events at a Glance

October 08, 2022

Bounty of Kern County

05:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Contact: ragbalog@kerncfb.com
661-397-9635

Location: Kern County
Fairgrounds Building 1

[More information here](#)

October 20, 2022

Tulare State of the Basin

Time: 08:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Location: International Agri-
Center in Tulare, CA

[More information here](#)



This Saturday 8th, the Kern County Farm Bureau is hosting the **Bounty of Kern County**. This is a great opportunity to meet and mingle with a diverse group of local farmers and ranchers. For more information about reservations, please send an email to ragbalog@kerncfb.com.



The Tulare Basin Watershed Network (TBWN) is excited to announce its first **State of the Basin event**. It will focus on increasing awareness and insight to the challenges facing the **Tulare Basin**.

This public event brings together leaders, practitioners and experts from diverse industries and sectors to explore the environmental, economic, and social changes occurring and the efforts that have real potential for impact in the region.

Attendance is free of charge and includes breakfast and lunch. You can register by [clicking here](#).

Upcoming Ag Conferences

Events at a Glance

October 19, 2022

California Citrus Conference

07:00 AM - 04:30 PM

Location: Visalia Convention Center

[Agenda](#)

[Register here](#)

October 18-20, 2022

FIRA USA 2022

Location: Fresno Convention & Entertainment Center

[Register here](#)

October 25-27, 2022

FREP Conference

Location: Wyndham Hotel
Visalia, CA

[Agenda](#)

[Register here](#)



The **California Citrus Conference (CCC)** is a free [one-day conference](#) organized by the Citrus Research Board (CRB) to promote current research efforts ongoing for the benefit of California citrus growers and industry. The entire citrus industry is invited to participate on October 19, 2022, at the Visalia Convention Center in Visalia, California. You can register to the conference by [clicking here](#).



For over 25 years, the Fertilizer Research and Education Program, better known as FREP, has presented its pioneering fertilizer research. In collaboration with Western Plant Health (WPH), they host an annual **Nutrient Management Conference** that balances technical research with discussion on practical application.

The [conference registration](#) includes an tour in Kearney Agriculture Research and Extension Center on October 25th (optional), a full day of seminars on October 26th (breakfast and lunch included) and a half day of seminars on October 27th (breakfast included). The conference also provides Continuing Education Credits.



FIRA USA is the unique 3-day event for autonomous farming and agricultural robotics solutions dedicated to California and North America producers. Farmers, robot manufacturers, industrials and scientists will all meet to take part in in-field demos, business time and research projects presentations. The [registration](#) includes lunch for each day and access to the virtual platform during 6 months for networking services.

CDFA is Accepting Applications for the Conservation Agriculture Planning Grants Program

The Conservation Agriculture Planning Grants Program (**CAPGP**) is a new program that funds the development of plans that will help farmers and ranchers identify actions for climate change mitigation and adaptation, further environmental stewardship on farms and ranches and ensure agricultural food security into the future.

Applicants may apply for up to \$250,000 to prepare conservation agriculture plans. Applications are due October 23, 2022, 5 PM PT.



CDFA CONSERVATION AGRICULTURE PLANNING GRANTS PROGRAM

<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/oefi/planning/>



BACKGROUND

The Conservation Agriculture Planning Grants Program (CAPGP) is a new program in the Office of Environmental Farming and Innovation. This program will fund the development of plans that will help farmers and ranchers identify actions for climate change mitigation and adaptation, further environmental stewardship on farms and ranches and ensure agricultural food security into the future.

ELIGIBILITY

➤ **Individuals**

- Technical Service Providers (TSPs) registered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Farmers and ranchers – In collaboration with qualified experts that meet minimum qualifications criteria
- Professionals with the following certifications: Certified Crop Advisor (CCA), Pest Control Advisor (PCA), Certified Rangeland Manager

➤ **Federal and California-Recognized Native American Indian Tribes**

➤ **Organizations**

- Not-for-profit entities including agricultural industry not-for-profit entities
- Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs)
- Federal and University Experiment Stations
- University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) and Cooperative Extension (UCCE)
- Public universities such as University of California (UC), California State University (CSU) and community colleges
- Agricultural cooperatives
- Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)

FUNDED PLANS

- Agricultural Energy Design
- Carbon Farm Planning
- Comprehensive Nutrient Management
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat
- Grazing Management
- Irrigation Water Management
- Nutrient Management
- Organic Transition
- Pollinator Habitat
- Pest Management
- Soil Health Management

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers (SDFRs) applications that meet minimum qualifications.
- Non-farmer applicants that commit to expending 25% of the funding to provide planning assistance to the SDFRs.



\$15 million
funding provided by CDFA

\$6 million
reserved for organic transition plans

\$250,000
maximum award per applicant

25%
of funding to benefit SDFRs

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