



February, 2025

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Your local TAP, here to help!

Hi all! For those who don't know me, my name is Danielle Duyst. I work as your local Technical Assistance Provider for farmers in Tulare and Kern counties. I am here to help free of cost! Reach out to me by phone or email with questions about getting grant funding to make regenerative ag changes on your farm!

Reach out to me:

dduyst@ucanr.edu

(530)902-0200

Grant Opportunities! Zero Foodprint Restore Grant Closes February 19, 2025

Let's restore the climate together! Farmers and ranchers can receive up to \$25k to implement farm practices that sequester carbon. Reach out at dduyst@ucanr.edu for help applying.

Learn more here:

[Zero Foodprint Restore Grant](#)



Grant Opportunities! Valley Air Whole Orchard Recycling

Open while funding lasts!

The Ag Burn Alternatives Grant Program provides incentives to utilize an alternative practice for the disposition of agricultural material from orchard/vineyard removals as an alternative to open burning. In addition, the program provides incentives for the purchase of new agricultural wood-chipping equipment to chip orchard and vineyard removals located within the San Joaquin Valley. Complete applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis while funds are available.

For more information, click the following link: [Compost Orchard/Vineyard Recycling](#) — Please feel free to reach out with any questions or for technical assistance!



More Opportunities: California Dairy Campaign

The California Dairy Campaign has an excellent page summarizing grant and loan opportunities, as well as other loss assistance. Check it out here:

[California Dairy Campaign](#)



News Updates

SGMA Probationary Hearing on Kern County Groundwater Subbasin



The California State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) will hold a public hearing on February 20, 2025, to consider whether to designate the Kern County Subbasin as a probationary basin pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

Public Board Hearing: Thursday, February 20, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

In-Person Location: Coastal Hearing Room Joe Serna Jr. CalEPA

Headquarters Building

1001 I Street, Second Floor

Sacramento, CA 95814

Public Comments.

Members of the public may submit written comments in advance of the public probationary hearing by contacting the Office of Sustainable Groundwater Management at SGMA-Kern@waterboards.ca.gov no later than 12:00 noon on Thursday, February 13, 2025.

Please use the subject line: "Comments – Kern County Subbasin."

To participate, visit the [agenda here](#).

Dairies Decry Draft Waste Discharge Rules

By Christine Souza



"To reduce nitrates and ensure that people have access to safe drinking water, the state has proposed tighter water quality requirements for all California dairies that collect dairy waste and apply it to land.

The dairy general waste discharge requirements regulate only existing milk-cow dairies in the Central Valley region. But the draft order, if adopted as proposed, establishes new precedential groundwater quality protection requirements that would apply to all California dairies that apply their dairy waste to land, said Kari Fisher, senior director and counsel of legal advocacy at the California Farm Bureau."

-Kern County FB

[Learn More Here](#)

California Guidance on Bird Flu for Workers & Employers



"The California Department of Health has recently released a document that addresses the most common questions and concerns regarding the H5N1 bird flu in dairy, poultry, and worker safety.

The most significant aspect of this document is that there have been no reported deaths in human cases. The symptoms have remained mild, the most common being an eye infection, and zero hospitalizations." -Kern County FB

[Learn More Here](#)

Marisa Johnson, your local Agricultural Outreach Specialist here to help!



F3 FARMS
FOOD
FUTURE

SF - ADAPT
Small Farm Alliance to Develop
Appropriate Technology

Join SF-ADAPT: Empowering Small Farms Through Innovation!

The Small Farm Alliance to Develop Appropriate Technology (SF-ADAPT) connects farmers, researchers, and technologists to create practical solutions for small- and medium-scale farms.

Why Join?

- **Innovate:** Partner with developers to trial new tech and improve farm practices.
- **Learn:** Attend workshops, earn CEUs, and explore tools at the Small Farm Tech Expo.
- **Connect:** Network with industry leaders and access travel stipends for key conferences.
- **Compete:** Participate in the annual Small Farm Innovation Challenge.
- **Share Tools:** Borrow equipment, attend hands-on demos, and receive training.

Get Involved!



Introducing Marisa Johnson, the Agricultural Outreach Specialist with UC Cooperative Extension

“The goal of this alliance is for Central Valley farmers to drive, shape, and inform the types of technology and on-farm tools that would be most useful and practical for small farms. We will regularly meet as a group to collaborate with fellow farmers, UC Extension staff, CAFF, and tech developers to get to practical technology solutions for small farms. We offer stipends for farmer participation as well.”

Interested farmers may reach Marisa at myjohnson@ucanr.edu or 530-750-1200 extension 1830 or visit their website at:

<https://www.f3local.org/sf-adapt>

Upcoming Events

Farm Bureau's Annual

Date Night Drive Thru

Friday, February 14

Valentine's Dinner for Two ... \$150 ticket

Tickets are selling quick ... Buy your

Date Night Dinner tickets soon!

Purchase tickets [here](#).

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Groundwater Subbasin

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To participate, click [here](#).

Register Now for the 2025 Kern County

Water Summit!

Tuesday, March 6th

[Register Here](#).

Upcoming Events

CA Citrus Mutual Showcase returns

Wednesday, March 12

Citrus Showcase will once again return to the Visalia Convention Center on Wednesday, March 12, 2025. The tradeshow, FREE continuing education sessions, expert seminars, and industry luncheon all offer growers and industry partners ample networking and education opportunities.

Sponsor and exhibitor opportunities are limited and filling up quickly. We highly recommend signing up soon to secure your spot if you wish to exhibit or sponsor. Tickets for the industry luncheon are also selling fast. If you want to attend the luncheon, don't delay and purchase your seats ASAP.

Exhibitor, sponsor and luncheon registration is filling up quickly.

[Register here.](#)