

## Climate Smart Newsletter - May 2023

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### Events at a glance

#### Field Day: [Cover Crops in California Orchards](#)

Date: May 11,  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Location: Gemperle Farms,  
718 E. Barnhart Road,  
Ceres 95307

This free event will demonstrate a 5-year cover crop trial at an almond orchard. Speakers from Gemperle Farm, UC Davis, Project Apis m., and American Farmland Trust.

Lunch provided

[Register here](#)

#### Workshop: [Almond Replant Day](#)

Date: May 17,  
07:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Location: Kearney  
Agricultural Research and  
Extension Center  
Parlier, CA

Come learn about best management practices for replanting almonds, and view a research plot examining nitrogen and phosphorus fertilization in a young almond orchard

Registration is required, \$5 to attend. Lunch will be provided. [Register here](#)

#### Field Day: [Whole Almond Orchard Recycling](#)

Date: May 18,  
7:45 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: 3978 Orchard  
Rd, Gustine, CA 95322

Held by Fowler Brothers

## Free cover crop seeds with Seeds for Bees program



### Seeds for Bees increases sustainability of pollination and agriculture

[Seeds for Bees](#) encourages the use of cover crops to increase the density, diversity, and duration of bee forage in California orchards, farms, and vineyards, while improving soil health.

The seed mixes available through [Seeds for Bees](#) are designed to bloom at critical times of the year when natural forage is scarce but managed and native bees are active.

Applying for the program is quick and easy. **Enrollment is open until August 31st, 2023.** However, seed availability is limited and growers are encouraged to apply early. Applicants must reside and grow commercial crops in California, and plant a minimum of 4 acres with the free cover crop seeds.

If you are interested in the program, [complete the Seed for Bees application](#) or contact Stetcyn Maldonado at [Stetcyn@ProjectApism.org](mailto:Stetcyn@ProjectApism.org) or 916-287-3035, Ext. 1.

## Event in Bakersfield: Fundamentals of Irrigation Scheduling

Join us at Hodel's on May 23rd, 08:30 am - 01:00 pm.  
CCA and IA CEUs will be available.



### Fundamentals of Irrigation Scheduling

Co-Hosted by Almond Board of California  
and UC Cooperative Extension



Join the Almond Board of California, UCCE and industry professionals on this free event to learn the [fundamental principles of creating an irrigation schedule](#) that leverages evapotranspiration data, understand approaches and tools to monitor soil moisture, and what current opportunities and incentives are available from PG&E and CDFA.

[To register for the event, click here.](#)

Farming. Talks from representatives from the Almond Board of California, the SJV Air Pollution Control District, and UC Cooperative Extension, including the "father" of whole orchard recycling, Brent Holtz.

RSVP by May 11th, 2023 to Zach Fowler at [Office@fowlerbrosinc.com](mailto:Office@fowlerbrosinc.com)

Breakfast & Lunch provided

## Taller de Escritura de Subvenciones para Agricultores y Ganaderos

Unase a esta reunion por Zoom el 16 de Mayo a las 10 AM

La Oficina de Asociaciones y Participación Pública del Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos (USDA) presentara un taller de una hora dirigido a agricultores y ganaderos. El taller incluirá información acerca de:

- Cómo registrarse en grants.gov
- Proceso de desarrollo de propuestas
- Requisitos de presentación plan de trabajo
- Ejemplos de escritura de subvenciones

[Haga click aqui para registrarse a este evento en linea](#)

## Landflex Opportunities for growers in Eastern Tule and Greater Kaweah GSA

**This program incentivizes growers to limit ag groundwater use near drought-stricken communities**

LandFlex will give the ag community an opportunity to transition now to more sustainable practices and help their local communities in the face of an uncertain water future.

Potential applicants are identified based on their proximity to drinking water wells that have gone dry or are in jeopardy of going dry.

Growers can receive incentives for the following actions:

- **Provide Immediate Drought Relief by fallowing land for 1 year.** For each ac-ft of water saved in the ground, a grower will receive up to \$350 per ac-ft.
- **Long-Term Elimination of Groundwater Overdraft.** A grower will receive \$1,000/ac-ft to permanently eliminate each ac-ft of annual pumping that exceeds locally determined levels of groundwater sustainability.
- **Transition to more climate-resilient ag practices.** Depending on current land uses, the grower could receive between \$250-\$2,800/ac for the removal of permanent tree crops, purchasing upcycled ag waste for dairy feed replacement, and [planting cover crops that use natural rainfall to grow.](#)

LandFlex will provide financial incentives to farmers for each enrolled acre. A single entity may enroll up to 25% of their total acreage or 40 acres - whichever is greater. No individual grant will be greater than \$2.5 million.

To be eligible for Landflex, the ag operation must be located within the Madera County GSA, Greater Kaweah GSA, or Eastern Tule GSA; and their 3-year average Adjusted Gross Income must less than \$2.5 million.

Please visit [www.landflex.org](http://www.landflex.org) now to apply!

## New horizons for this Community Education Specialist in Kern County

First of all, I want to thank everyone that was part of this newsletter and the work I've been doing in the San Joaquin Valley.

The UCCE Climate-Smart Ag program will soon be hiring a new Community Education Specialist for Kern, Kings and Tulare counties. This person will be your new technical assistance provider for CDFA incentive programs and other grants available.

I am honored to have met so many fabulous colleagues and growers during my time here at UCCE. Muchas gracias a todos!

I will continue to provide technical assistance to farmers, but this time around their technology needs. Starting May 16th, you can find me at CAFF (Community Alliance with Family Farmers) as your new Small Farm Technology Advisor. Please stay in touch!

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