



Advancing CA's Sustainability Goals

California produces a third of the country's vegetables and three quarters of the country's fruits and nuts, yet our farms face climate change challenges like drought, extreme heat, new pests, and rising costs.

CDFA's Office of Agricultural Resilience & Sustainability (OARS) uses science and agricultural knowledge to design and implement solutions for natural resource challenges, improving environmental and economic sustainability of food production.

How We Work



Incentivizing Climate-Smart On-Farm Practices



Informing public policy with science



Convening stakeholders to co-create solutions



Building regional capacity for technical assistance



Communicating the needs, contributions and accomplishments of the agricultural community

Current Grant Programs include:

- Alternative Manure Management
- Dairy Digester Research & Development
- Dairy Plus
- Healthy Soils
- Organic Transition
- Pollinator Habitat
- State Water Efficiency & Enhancement

Key Impacts



Our Impact through Grants



\$727 million awarded for climate-smart solutions on farms and ranches



1.6 million acre-feet of water saved



31 million metric tons of CO₂e sequestered or avoided, equal to removing 6.5 million cars from the road

Science-Backed Solutions for Sustainable Farming



Collecting data on the soil health and greenhouse gas impacts of new practices through the Healthy Soils Demonstration Program.



Providing grants for public and private research on practices and technologies to reduce manure and enteric methane emissions through LEMER and CLIM³ATE.



Assessing potential pesticide regulatory impacts and pest management alternatives through the Office of Pesticide Consultation and Analysis

Building Capacity for Technical Assistance



Many farmers need expert help planning to implement new, sustainable practices and finding financial support.



TA providers offer free multilingual support from initial planning through application support and project implementation.



Program assessments show that most producers who use CDFA-funded TA found it to be important to project success and that is especially true of underserved producers.