



centering farmers

in climate justice

Here to share:

- the power of our collective wisdom
- the value of collective action
- the importance of collective vision

























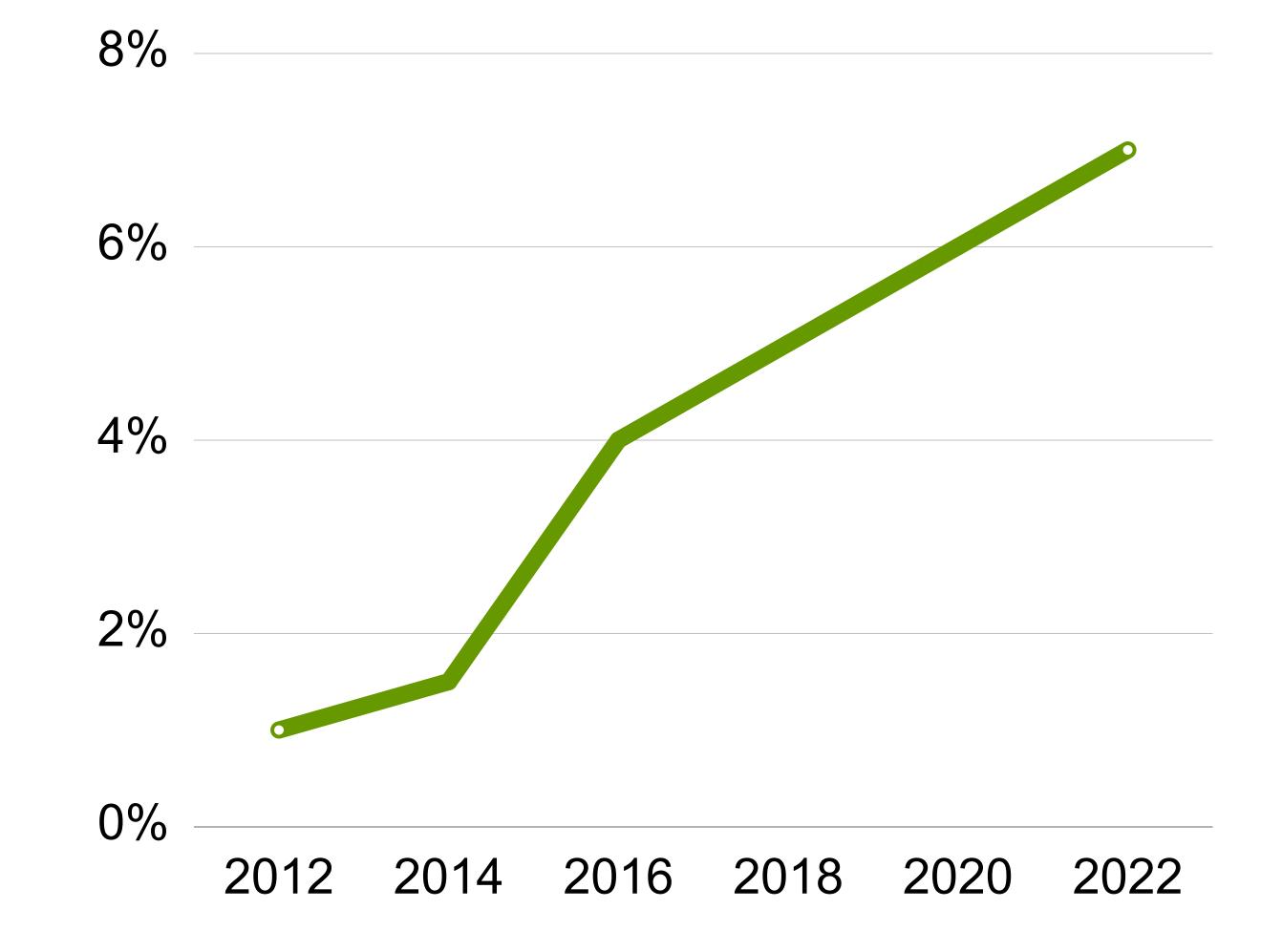
Carbon Cycle Institute





soil health change

Rising SOM at an average rate of .5% per year

















To: Honorable Chair Fletcher and Supervisors

From: Carbon Sink Farms, San Diego

Date: November 11, 2021

RE: Climate Smart Agriculture Policy in San

Diego County

Dear Mr. Fletcher.

Carbon Sink Farms is a collaboration of small farms across San Diego who are committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving climate resilience by shifting our agricultural practices. For the last few years, we have been innovating our practices and participating in training to ensure we are informed partners in the policy making process. The signatories on this letter agree that there are three areas where the Board of Supervisors and County staff can take immediate action to improve the resilience of our farms and food system.

Area One: County Climate Action Plan

It is our understanding that the CAP has restrictive requirements that limit creativity, however,

collective vision

utilized to document potential sequestration and monitor practice implementation.

COMET-Planner can be utilized to quantify the specific sequestration of each carbon farming practice. Given the availability and verification of these tools, we recommend the following actions:

Recommendation 1: The San Diego County CAP includes a <u>voluntary</u> and <u>incentivized</u> opportunity for farmers to contribute new and additional carbon farming sequestration to mitigation targets.

Recommendation 2: San Diego County provides <u>free technical assistance</u> for the <u>voluntary</u> development of Carbon Farm Plans by individual farms to calculate GHG sequestration capacity and verify practice completion.

Recommendation 3: San Diego County validates the use of COMET-Planner as the mechanism for quantifying and verifying offset amounts.

2020 Report to the California Legislature on the Farmer Equity Act









Climate Action Plan



MENU V

TAKE ACTION!

NEWS

DASHBOARD

MEASURES

PROJECTS

CAPI

Pilot Carbon Farming Program





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Project

The County of San Diego Planning & Development Services is developing a Pilot Carbon Farming Program (Program) to help avoid and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through carbon farming efforts in the unincorporated county. The Program, through stakeholder input and best practice research, will identify how the County can best support local agriculture producers in implementing different carbon farming techniques and will result in the development of options for the Board to consider along with the Climate Action Plan Update in 2024.



\$5 million to:

- 1) Establish more resilient, climate smart farms in San Diego
- 2) Incentivize more sales to the San Diego communities most vulnerable to climate change



farmers will be trained

to:

- Reduce tillage
- Increase organic matter through addition of compost and mulch
- Keep soil covered
- Increase perennial plantings
- Reduce/eliminate
 herbicides/pesticides
- Access funding at



farmers will also:

- Measure and report soil
 organic matter changes &
 other key indictators of soil
 health to County staff
- Work with Zero Foodprint (COMET Farm) to monitor & quantify volume of compost added/GHG reduction
- Work with advisors at RCD to

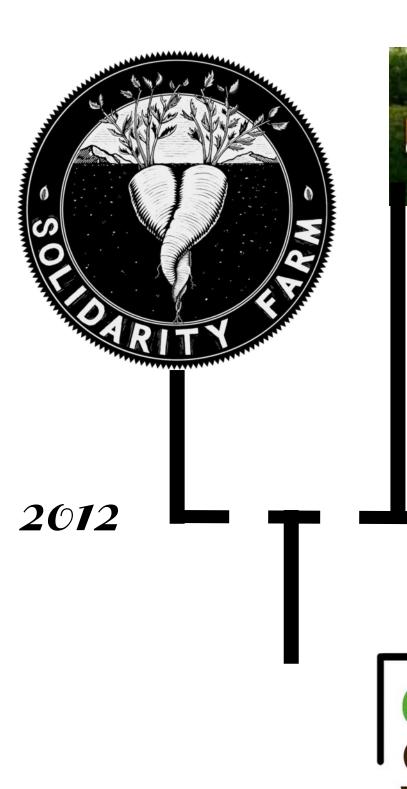


farmers will be paid 15% extra to sell climate-smart fresh

foods:

- Into communities experiencing health disparities (farmers markets, CSA, farm stands, corner stores)
- Through market channels that reach historically underserved communities (schools, hospitals,



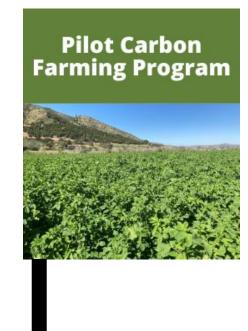


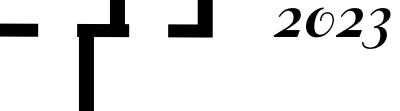












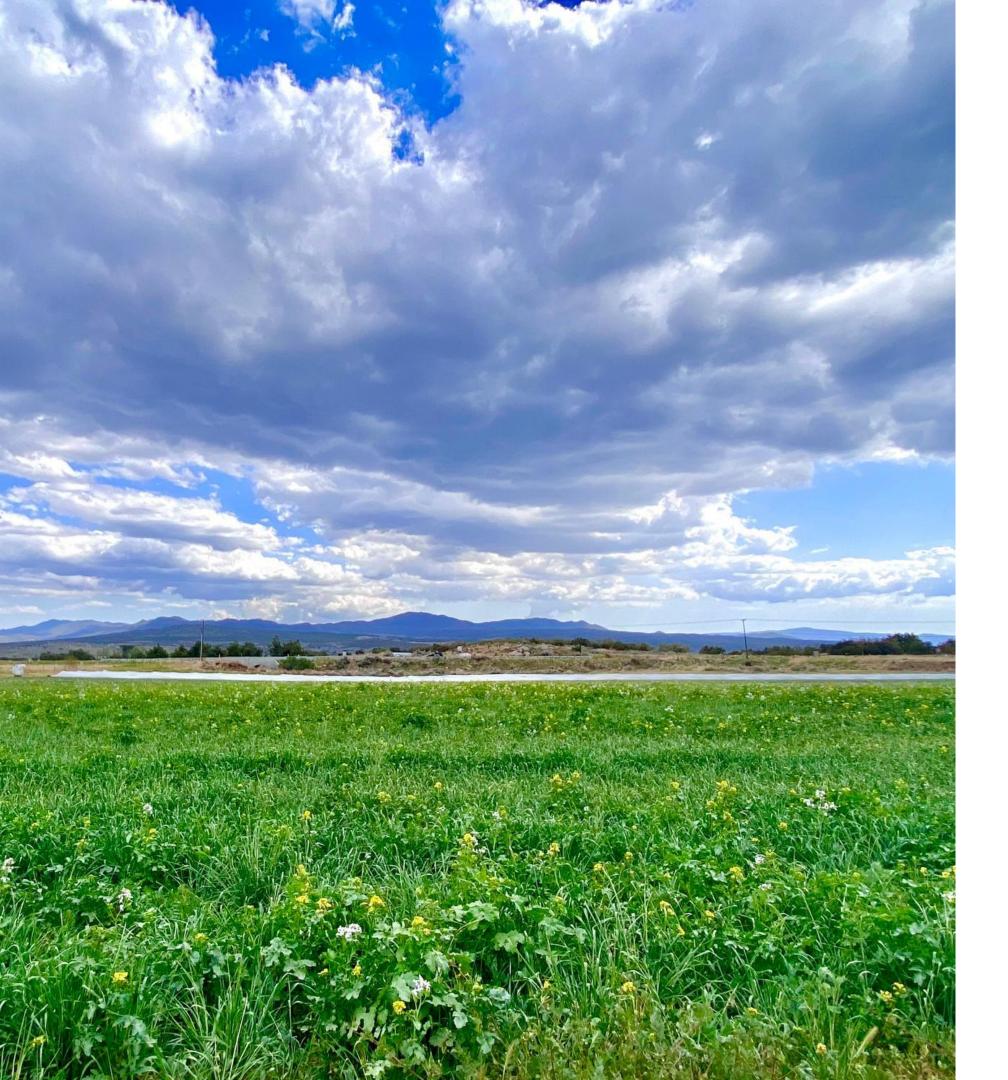












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