



2026 Irrigation and Nutrient Management Meeting and Cover Crop Field Day

Agriculture Conference Room, 1432 Abbott St. Salinas, CA

Thursday, February 19

7:55 am to 3 pm

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Register free



- 7:30** *Sign-in and refreshments*
- 7:55** *Introduction*
- 8:00** **Increasing cover crop opportunities in vegetables systems on the Central Coast**
Richard Smith, UCCE Vegetable Crop Farm Advisor-Emeritus, Monterey County
- 8:30** **Evaluating OpenET satellite measurements of crop water use in the Salinas Valley**
Lee Johnson, CSU Monterey Bay/NASA
- 9:00** **Demand planning / demand management framework for Salinas Valley groundwater**
Piret Harmon, General Manager, Emily Gardner, Deputy General Manager, Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- 9:30** **Estimating N mineralization from organic fertilizers, amendments, and crop residues**
Daniel Geisseler, Nutrient Management CE Specialist, UC Davis.
- 10:00** **Break**
- 10:15** **Tips on using the quick test to monitor nitrate in soil and irrigation water**
Michael Cahn, Irrigation and Water Resources Advisor, UCCE Monterey
- 10:45** **Ag Order progress and requirements for the upcoming year**
Sarah Lopez, Executive Director, Suzette Santiago, Agronomist, Central Coast Water Quality Preservation Inc
- 11:15** **Natural systems are the best, most cost-effective problem solver: A Sacramento valley grower's perspective**
Scott Park, Founder, Park Farming Organics
- 11:45** **Grower Panel: Implementing reduced tillage in vegetable production systems**
Kyle Harman Braga Farming, Saul Lopez D'Arrigo Bro., Zach McDermont, Taylor Farming
- 12:30** **Pizza and Salad Lunch (free!)**
- 1:30** **Cover Crop Field Day (D'Arrigo Ranch 22)**
Michael Cahn UCCE Monterey, Eric Brennan, Research Horticulturist USDA-ARS Salinas
- 3:00** **Adjourn**

3 hours CCA continuing education credits available

For more information, contact Michael Cahn @ 831-759-7377, email: mdcahn@ucanr.edu

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