Cover Crop Field Day and "Open Farm" Tour

Tuesday, March 26th

9:00 am Field Day ~ 10:30 am Farm Tour

Park Farming Organics

Location: 39.102064, -121.888511

Field is in Meridian, CA on S. Drexler Rd just south of Moroni Rd (follow UCCE signs)

9:00 am Welcome and Introductions: Southwest Committee, Western Cover Crops Council

9:10 am Sarah Light, UCCE Agronomy Farm Advisor, Sutter, Yuba, and Colusa Counties
Research Updates: Cover Crop Field Trials in Annual Rotations the Sacramento Valley
Agronomic data from multiple field trials including cover crop growth, weed pressure, soil measurements, cost considerations, and summer crop yield.

9:30 am Margaret Smither-Kopperl, Director, USDA NRCS, CA Plant Materials Center (PMC)
Soil Biodiversity and Soil Health Indicators
Findings from the California soil biodiversity report as it pertains to agricultural production. Brief research updates from the PMC will be shared.

9:50 am Scott Park, Park Farming Organics
Cover Crops Are Just One Tool in the Toolbox
Dynamic on-farm management for building soil health including observations around water dynamics, costs, and managing too much biomass.

10:10 am Amelie Gaudin, Professor of Agroecology, UC Davis
Integrating Livestock in California Cropping Systems: Opportunities and Challenges
Research updates from diverse cropping systems including nutrient cycling, soil health, and soil biodiversity.

10:30 am: ***Open House and Farm Tour with Scott Park and Brian Park***

- Equipment Discussion and Demonstration
- Equipment Considerations for Cover Crop Management and Regenerative Agriculture
- Pros and Cons of Cover Cropping in Wet and Dry Years
- The California Farm Demonstration Network

12:00 pm Event End

Ten plots with different cover crop species are planted in the field for demonstration.

Please contact Sarah Light: selight@ucanr.edu or 530-822-7515 with questions. No RSVP is required.

CCA CEU: 1.5 Soil & Water Management (Approved)

This event is free, and everyone is welcome.

CALIFORNIA FARM DEMONSTRATION NETWORK