



## Virtual Field Day: Cover Crops in Orchard Systems

**Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 11:00am-1:00pm; Spanish – 1:30 pm-3:30pm**

11:00 – Registration Time

11:00 – 11:10 Welcome and Overview

11:10 – 11:40 Cover Crop Ecosystems and Plant Management Systems in the San Joaquin Valley

Jeff Mitchell, Cropping Systems Specialist, UC Davis

Cary Crum, California Ag Solutions

- Growth, biomass production and water use of cover crops
- Improvements in soil health and function stemming from cover crops and no-tillage
- Extending the period of green cover in San Joaquin Valley cropping systems with cover crops
- Cover crops and soil biology
- What some of the best cover croppers are seeing in terms of options and benefits
- Innovative cover crop planting approaches in almond orchards

11:40 – 12:10 Cover Crop Ecosystems in Almond Orchards

Vivian Wauters, Postdoctoral Scholar, UC Davis

- Cover crops can improve soil health
- Cover crops can benefit bees (without distracting them)
- Weed control is possible
- Frost risk from cover crops may be lower than traditionally assumed
- Economic feasibility depends on thinking medium-term
- Good harvest conditions are possible

12:10 – 12:35 Cover Crop Selections and Management in the Central Valley

Margaret Smither-Kopperl, Director of NRCS Plant Material Center in Lockeford

- Cool season and warm season cover crop options for California
- Planning, management and termination methods
- Cover crop trials and resources for cover crops

12:35 – 12:45 SGMA in Madera County

Stephanie Anagnoson, Director of Water and Natural Resources for Madera County

- Options for following SGMA locally
- Options for supply augmentation and demand management
- Nexus to best practices in farming, including cover crops

12:45 – 12:55 Chowchilla NCP Management Zone: What it is and what it's doing

Christina Beckstead, Executive Director of Madera County Farm Bureau

- Overview of current NCP Programs and next steps

12:55 – 1:00 Closing Questions and Thank You's