

California Department of Food and Agriculture CA State Board of Food and Agriculture

#### **SUSTAINABILITY**

#### **Plant and Animal Diseases**

Prevent the entry and establishment of foreign plant and animal pests/diseases.

- 1. Achieve North American collaboration for environmentally sound livestock disease control and eradication programs in North America.
- Expand partnerships to strengthen plant and animal pest/disease prevention and outreach funding and services including international ports of entry.
- Ensure a vigorous research effort to improve tools for plant and animal pest/disease prevention, diagnostics and emergency livestock disease control measures. Accelerate multispecies rearing capabilities for sterile release programs.

#### Conservation and Land Use

Maintain existing farm and ranchlands; discourage resource erosion; expand urban gardens.

- 4. Collaborate with the Department of Conservation and others to provide technical assistance and tools to county agricultural commissioners, COG's, planners and building officials to recognize and protect the beneficial uses agricultural landscapes provide to urban areas.
- 5. Target and fund research opportunities that enhance productivity on agricultural land and support zoning and long-term contracts to protect farmland, ranchland and conservation land.

### Regulations

Emerging regulations must be integrated into the farming and ranching business models and encourages the sustainability of our food supply.

6. Develop an interagency unit that understands how farming works and reviews all new and conflicting regulations for scientific and economic validity in the agricultural environment prior to promulgation. The unit will work with stakeholders to resolve conflicts. 7. Create a single point of contact for all public inquires regarding agricultural regulations in the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The established California Agricultural Assistance Center will provide regulatory compliance assistance in a "one-stop-shop" for California farmers and ranchers.

#### **HEALTH**

# **Food Safety**

Provide consumers a domestic food supply at the highest possible level of safety.

- 8. Ensure California's fair share of federal research funding to enhance our knowledge about how foodborne illnesses infiltrate our food supply.
- 9. Ensure that the technical competency and training of food safety inspectors and regulators is consistent with the increasing complexity of California's food supply.
- Establish a U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center of Excellence for Food Safety and Security within California that will enhance food safety and security for the state and nation.

#### Nutrition

All Californians have access to healthy food and understand the importance of meeting the Dietary Guidelines for Americans.

- 11. Ensure full participation in federal nutrition and food assistance programs, including National School Lunch, School Breakfast, Food Stamp Program, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, increasing federal funds for California and access to healthy food for all eligible families and children.
- 12. Increase access to healthy food for all Californians by allowing redemption of all nutrition program forms of payment at farmers markets, and invest in sustainable models of distribution for California grown products to retail markets in lowincome neighborhoods.
- 13. Ensure agricultural literacy and promote health for all California school children by providing access to farms and garden-based learning opportunities.

## **ADAPTABILITY**

### Renewable Energy

Generate on farms and ranches at least 25 percent of the total renewable energy produced in the state.

- 14. Foster innovations and incentives for farmers and ranchers to produce sustainable energy sources that complement our food supply and working landscapes while having a net negative carbon footprint.
- 15. Invest in green chemistry technologies using the biomass energy potential of agricultural residuals.

## Trade/Marketing

By 2030 California agriculture exports will double and consumers worldwide will view California as the supplier of the highest quality, safest and most environmentally produced products.

- Encourage collaboration and joint marketing of California agricultural products thereby streamlining marketing effectiveness.
- 17. Foster international opportunities for California agricultural exports through industry led approaches in food safety and environmental protection combined with a strong state governmental advocate for market access.
- 18. Invest in California grown agriculture by enhancing educational venues such as farmers markets, agritourism, direct-to-retail opportunities, and community supported agriculture.
- Continue California's leadership in organic production, regulations and food safety recognizing the diversity of farm size and the value of family farms.

### **RESOURCES**

#### Water

A reliable supply of water delivered from multiple sources to grow enough food to continue our food independence and provide jobs through continued export growth.

- 20. Ensure that future water policy within California recognizes protections for area of origin; acknowledges the critical beneficial use of water for agricultural production and national food security; and maintains that public trusts uses must be equally balanced with other beneficial uses.
- 21. Continue to invest in water use efficiency while recognizing the complexity of the state's diversity, varieties and growing conditions.

## Air Quality

Agriculture will have the incentives and assistance to help farmers and ranchers contribute to the state's goal of lowering greenhouse gas emissions below 1990 emission levels

22. Encourage improvements in air quality through flexibility, incentives and innovation in transportation and pesticide management that benefit food supply, the environment and public health.

# People

Encourage career development and a stable workforce.

- 23. Provide incentives through grants, tax credits and financing to develop successful strategies in addressing farm worker housing, transportation, worker safety and health care.
- 24. Foster opportunities for career technical education for agricultural workers at all levels of production.
- 25. Make agriculture one of the strategic priorities for workforce development.
- 26. Develop programs that foster recruitment and retention in agricultural careers at the local and state levels recognizing the public and private dynamic pathways that connect agriculture to a variety of disciplines.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

## **Job Creation**

Strengthen California's economic through growth of a vibrant agricultural sector by promoting healthy consumption, export market growth and job creation in green-related areas.

- 27. Equate the California Grown label with the highest standards of production, safety and quality documenting and communicating agriculture's contribution to food security, health and the environment.
- 28. Encourage private sector collaboration to create new export markets without additional state investment.
- 29. Revitalize the State Fair and county fairs entertainment and educational value.
- 30. Work with Cal EPA and the private sector to create new agricultural employment in generating clean energy, applying sustainable pesticides and reducing air and water pollution.

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