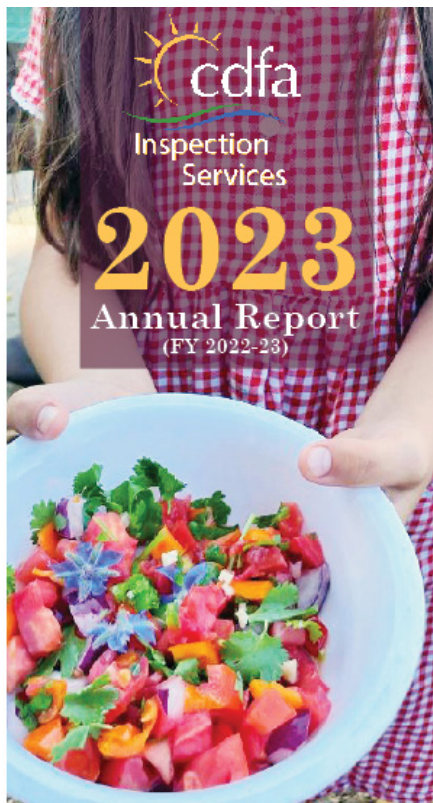


This photo collage on the cover shows Inspection Services Division staff members at work, as showcased in the pages of this annual report. The center photo is from Farm to School Incubator Grant Program grantee Davis Farm to School using grant funds to provide elementary school students with educational opportunities in the garden, such as learning about plant parts and then making the shown garden salsa.



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DIVISION DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



In the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Inspection Services Division (ISD), our executive team is working hard to break down silos, cooperate across CDFA and industry, and build synergy in the spirit of collaboration while striving to be the best public servants possible.

We are accomplishing this through employee satisfaction surveys, stakeholder surveys, collaborating with industry and federal partners on food safety, embedding farm to school personnel in regions across the state, listening to industry needs through our boards and committees, and more.

A large portion of our funding to accomplish ISD's important work comes from industry fees. The purpose of this annual report is to showcase to the industry and public how funding during fiscal year 2022-23 (July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023) was utilized to fulfill our ISD Mission (see p. 11).

At Inspection Services, we inspect fruits, vegetables and nuts to ensure quality, maturity, size, packaging

and labeling meet industry quality expectations; we perform food safety inspections and verification audits to ensure good handling and agricultural practices; we help ensure fertilizer, animal feed and livestock drugs are safe and effective, as well as meet the quality and quantity guaranteed by the manufacturer; we conduct chemical analyses in support of food and environmental safety in a state-of-the-art chemistry laboratory; and we are committed to helping all Californians access healthy and nutritious California-grown food.

I am proud of the work performed by every hardworking member of the Inspection Services Division, some of which is showcased in this annual report. And as we look to the future, we will build upon the goals in our Strategic Direction and implement best and new practices to allow innovation to flourish.

With gratitude,

Natalie Krout-Greenberg, Director
CDFA Division of Inspection Services

Division of Inspection Services Leadership Team



Natalie Krout-Greenberg

Director, Inspection Services Division

Carla Bocanegra-Sanchez

Assistant Director, Inspection Services Division

Marcee Yount

Branch Chief, Inspection and Compliance

Amadou Ba

Branch Chief, Feed, Fertilizer and Livestock Drugs Regulatory Services

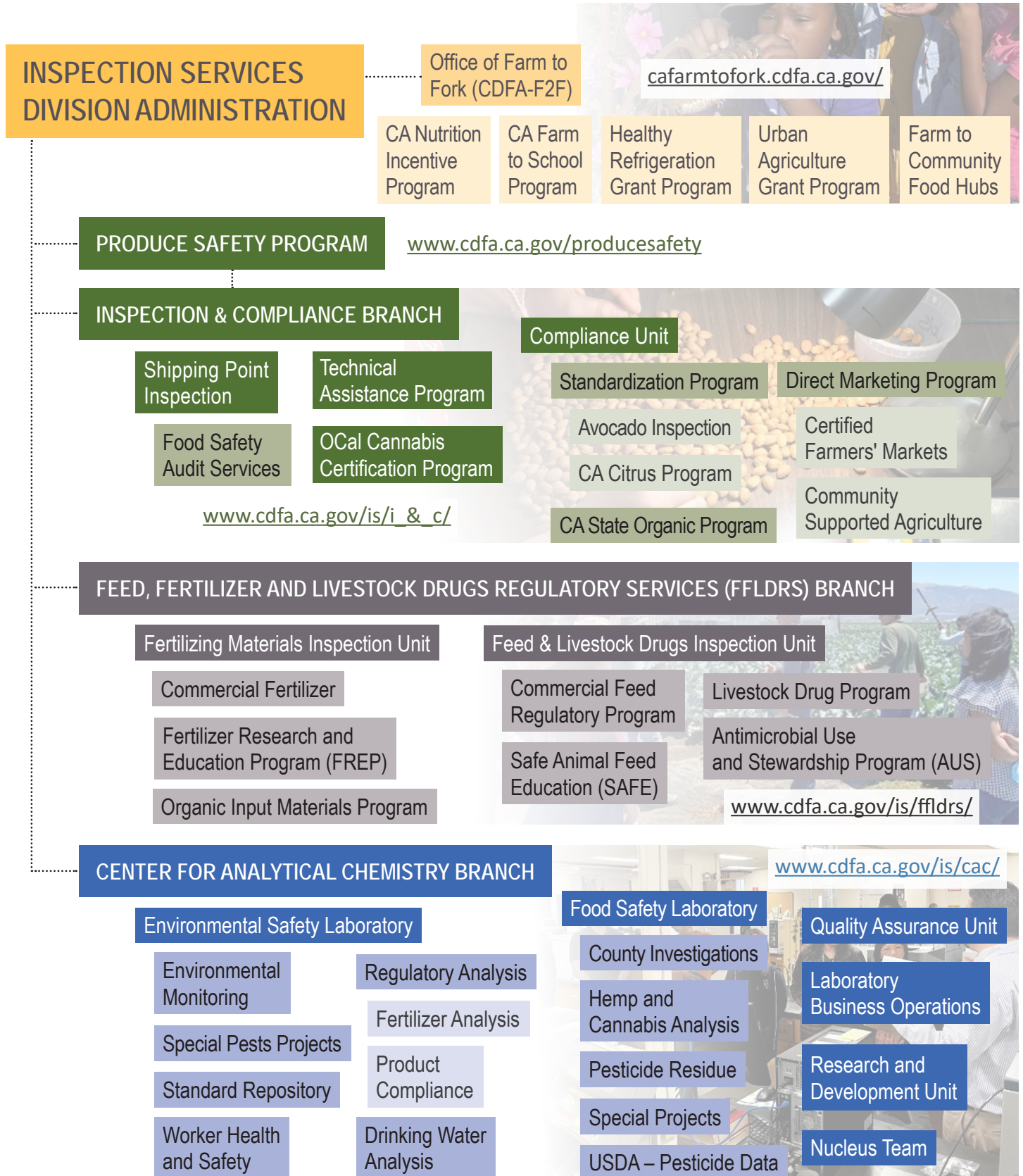
Barzin Moradi

Branch Chief, Center for Analytical Chemistry

Elysia Fong

Special Assistant, Office of Farm to Fork

BRANCHES, OFFICE & PROGRAMS



DIVISION OVERVIEW

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Advisory boards and committees are the **voices of California agriculture**. Members have the opportunity to **make a difference** through **direct involvement in the enforcement and rulemaking** that govern their industry. Advisory committee and board members serve in an advisory capacity to the CDFA Secretary and make recommendations on inspection and enforcement programs, research and education, the annual budget, necessary fees to provide adequate inspection services, and regulations required to accomplish the purposes of the Food and Agricultural Code (FAC).

INSPECTION & COMPLIANCE BRANCH

Avocado Inspection Advisory Committee



- Six voting members: three avocado producers and three avocado handlers.
- Length of term is two years.
- Pursuant to FAC Sections 45011-45021.

Certified Farmers' Market Advisory Committee



- Fourteen voting members: six certified producers, six certified farmers' market operators, one public member and one agricultural commissioner.
- Length of term is two years.
- Pursuant to FAC Sections 47010-47013



California Citrus Advisory Committee



- Twelve voting members: eight citrus producers and four citrus handlers.
- Length of term is two years.
- Pursuant to FAC Sections 48000-48003.

Shipping Point Inspection Advisory Committee (SPI)



- Nine voting members: nine shippers of fruit and vegetables who use the program inspection services.
- Length of term is two years.
- Pursuant to FAC Sections 40571-40577.5.

California Organic Products Advisory Committee (COPAC)



- Fifteen voting members: six producers, two processors, one wholesale distributor, one certifier, one consumer representative, one environmental representative, two technical representatives and one retail representative.
- Length of term is three years.
- Pursuant to FAC Sections 46000-46003.

Standardization Advisory Committee (STDZ)



- Thirteen voting members: six representatives from fresh fruit commodity groups, six representatives from fresh vegetable commodity groups and one representative from any other fresh fruit or vegetable commodity group.
- Length of term is two years.
- Pursuant to FAC Sections 42809-42815.

DIVISION OVERVIEW



The California Organic Products Advisory Committee conducts a meeting at the 2023 EcoFarm Conference at the Asilomar Conference Grounds in Monterey. If interested in serving on a [CDFA board or committee](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/egov/press_releases/press_releases.asp), stay tuned for vacancy announcements (www.cdfa.ca.gov/egov/press_releases/press_releases.asp). To view notices, agendas and minutes of Inspection Services Division meetings, visit www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/uploader/postings/hearings/.

FEED, FERTILIZER AND LIVESTOCK DRUGS REGULATORY SERVICES (FFLDRS) BRANCH

Feed Inspection Advisory Board

- Nine industry members (eight board member licensees and one public member).
- Length of term is three years.
- Pursuant to FAC Sections 14971-14979.



Fertilizer Inspection Advisory Board

- Nine industry members (eight board member licensees and one public member).
- Length of term is three years.
- Pursuant to FAC Sections 14581-14586.



Feed Inspection Advisory Board Technical Advisory Subcommittee

- This subcommittee provides technical and scientific advice to the Feed Inspection Advisory Board and CDFA on animal food nutrition, safety and efficacy data review of new and unapproved feed ingredients, research project oversight and other issues that will affect CDFA's Commercial Feed Regulatory Program, Livestock Drug Program and Safe Animal Feed Education (SAFE) Program.



Fertilizer Inspection Advisory Board Technical Advisory Subcommittee

- This subcommittee serves as an expert scientific panel on matters concerning plant nutrition and environmental effects related to fertilizing materials use. It reviews all research and education proposals for the annual Fertilizer Research and Education Program (FREP) Grant Program, and recommends to the Fertilizer Inspection Advisory Board which projects should receive funding.

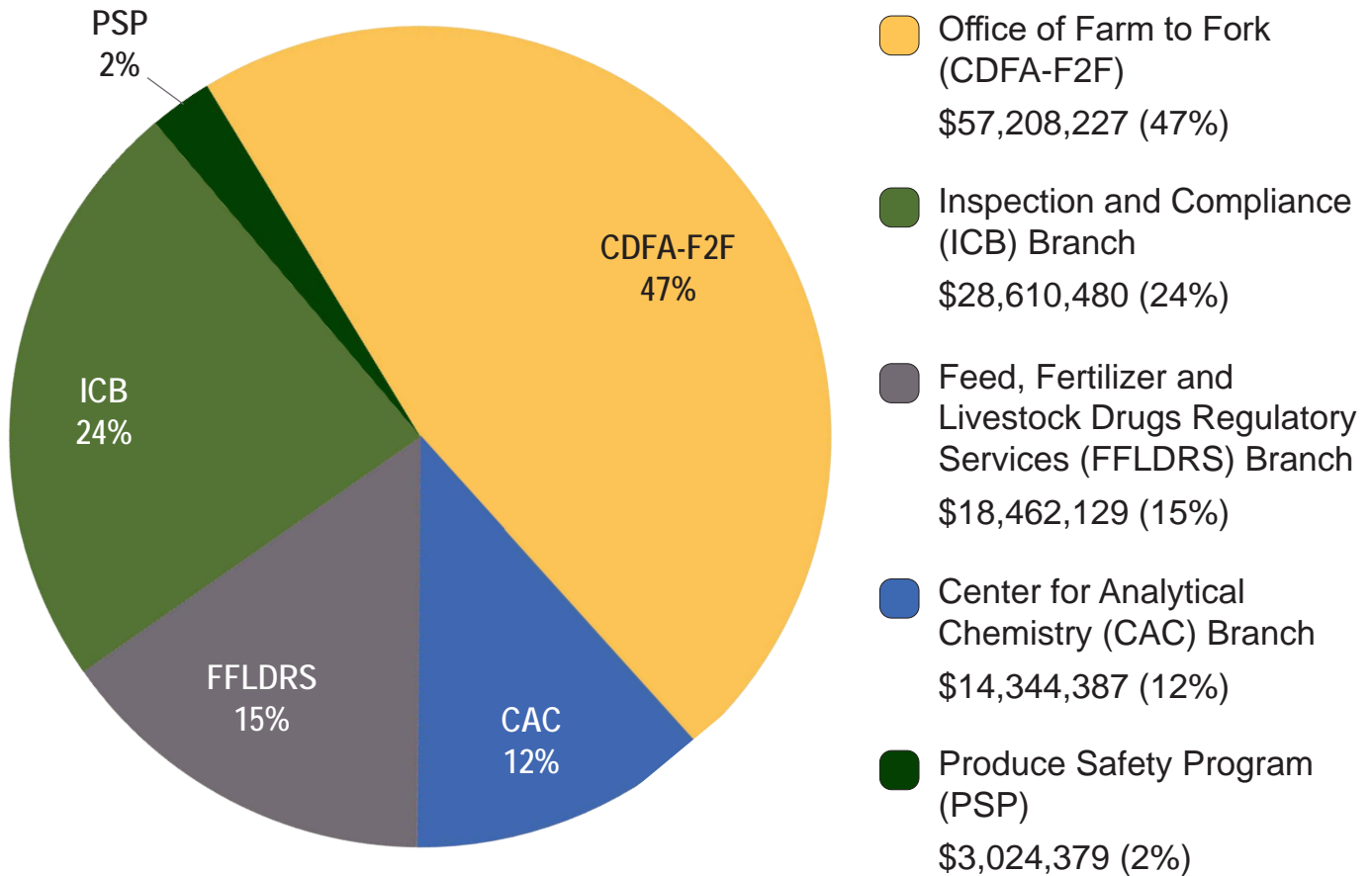


FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 SUMMARY

DIVISION EXPENDITURES

\$121,649,602

DIVISION EXPENDITURES BREAKDOWN



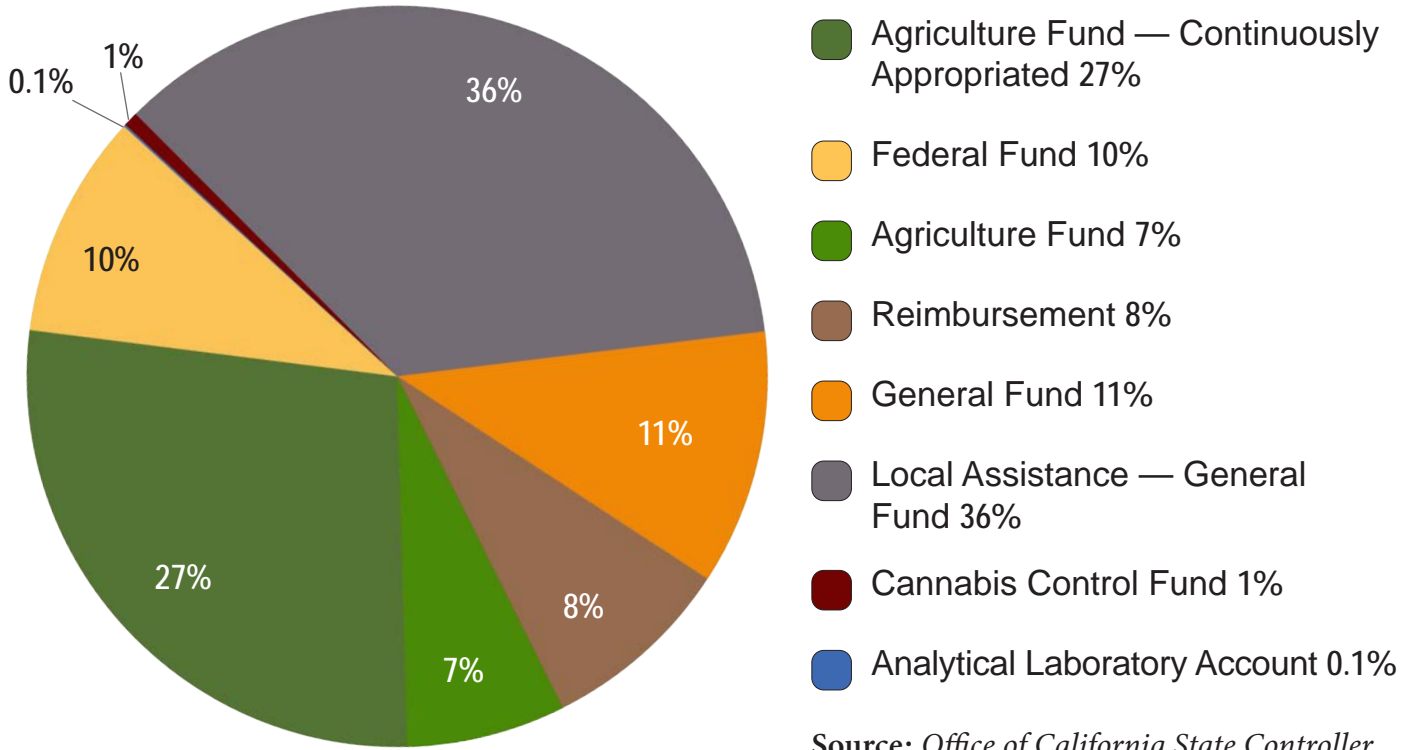
Note:

The budget from the General Fund for CDFA-F2F is in fiscal year 2021/22, however, CDFA-F2F may continue to spend in the out years. The last day to encumber was 6/30/23 but program has until 6/30/25 to liquidate all grants/contracts. Expenditures from that funding is \$41,025,118.

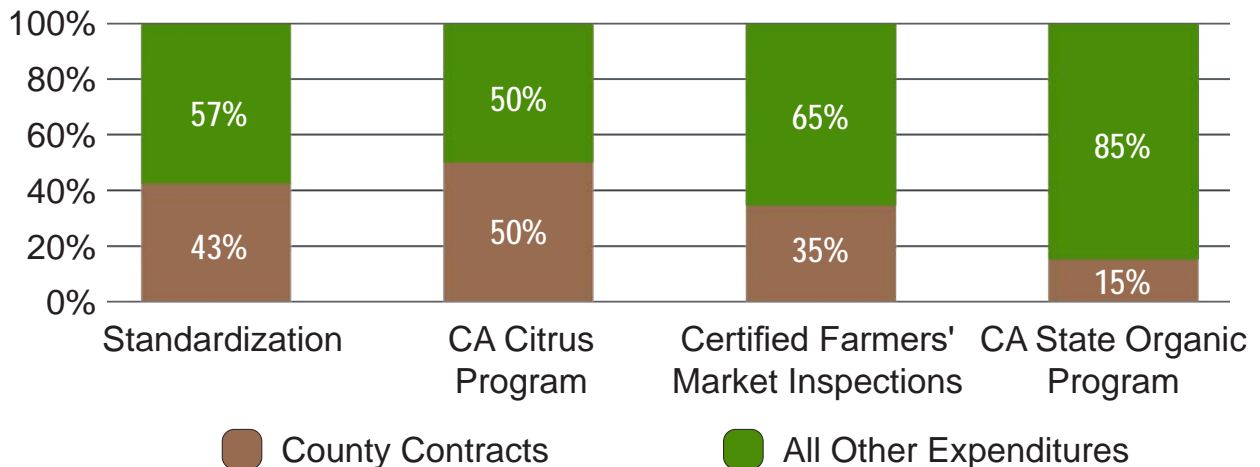
Source: Office of California State Controller

FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 SUMMARY

DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS PERCENTAGE



PERCENTAGE OF INSPECTION & COMPLIANCE EXPENDITURES IN COUNTY CONTRACTS



Source: Office of California State Controller

MISSION, VISION, STRATEGIC DIRECTION

CDFA AG VISION FOR THE NEXT DECADE

Purpose Statement Making California a better place to live because of what we grow and how we grow it.

Vision California agriculture is growing opportunity – for farmers and ranchers, farmworkers, individuals and communities – and is demonstrating leadership on climate action.

Strategic Priorities

Foster Climate-Smart, Resilient and Regenerative Food Systems: Support efforts that improve agriculture’s effect on the environment, encourage wise stewardship of water and natural resources, eliminate waste and are regenerative, e.g., practices that enhance ecosystems and improve the land.

Build Healthy, Local Communities: Invest in local and socially disadvantaged communities—with emphasis on the diverse populations who often work at and with, and live adjacent to California farms—while supporting equity and the California economy through nutritious, California-grown farm products.

Drive Next Generation Talent and Tools: Support workforce development programs aimed at attracting, supporting, and providing high-quality jobs and leadership opportunities for a diverse agricultural workforce, while also driving research and real-time feedback from farmers and ranchers to stimulate and accelerate innovation to solve problems and build opportunities.

Enhance Understanding of Agriculture: Serve as the voice for California farmers and ranchers within the administration and with other agencies, and support the engagement of urban and rural audiences.

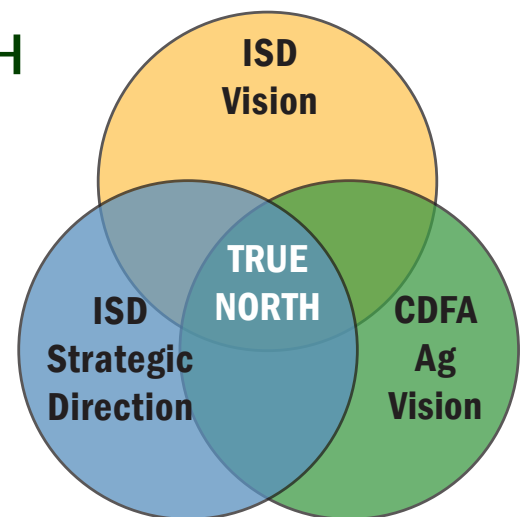
Collaborate on Smarter Regulations: Work with other state agencies, stakeholders, and the administration to explore and support smarter regulations that rethink ways to both meet public obligations and support farmers with regulatory compliance and implementation. We do this through: 1) permitting and regulatory processes, 2) grant and loan programs, and 3) communication, coordination and collaboration.

— Released by the California State Board of Food & Agriculture in Spring 2023

INSPECTION SERVICES TRUE NORTH

“Whether performing daily activities or establishing long-term work goals, True North represents the most straightforward direction we should pursue to fulfill our mission.”

— Natalie Krout-Greenberg,
ISD Director



MISSION, VISION, STRATEGIC DIRECTION

INSPECTION SERVICES MISSION

To provide professional services that support and contribute to a safe and quality food supply, environmentally sound agricultural practices, an equitable marketplace for California agriculture and increased access to healthy, California-grown food.

INSPECTION SERVICES VISION

Create a lasting, thriving division by providing **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT** and meaningful careers in the delivery of services to our stakeholders. Provide open and transparent **COMMUNICATION** with all stakeholders, internal and external. **MAXIMIZE RESOURCES AND SERVICES** through collaboration, innovation and process improvements.

INSPECTION SERVICES STRATEGIC DIRECTION

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Invest in Employee Development: Pilot a coaching program for staff.
- Foster Development of Administrative Foundational Skill Sets: Identify project-based opportunities for cross training led by subject matter experts.

COMMUNICATION

- Division Engagement: Conduct an annual employee satisfaction survey.
- Division Education: Conduct quarterly brown bag sessions to bring awareness of branch/program activities across the division.
- Showcase ISD Program Contributions: Convene periodic meetings with advisory boards, Ag commissioners, federal agencies and food access groups to maintain strong partnerships and showcase program contributions toward maintaining California's safe and environmentally sound food supply while ensuring food access and marketplace equity.

MAXIMIZE RESOURCES AND SERVICES

- Lead and Strengthen ISD Reputation for Innovation: Leverage technology and new ways of doing business.
- Optimize Services for California Farmers and Ranchers: Connect California's farmers and ranchers to the division's suite of professional services.



<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/pdfs/ISD-StrategicDirection2022.pdf>

FOOD & ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY

California Bounty That Goes Above and Beyond

California's agricultural bounty provides more than one-third of the country's vegetables and nearly three-quarters of the nation's fruits and nuts. CDFA's Inspection Services Division (ISD) helps ensure this bounty, as well as imported produce, meets safety and quality standards for California consumers year-round. From food safety to chemical safety, fertilizer safety and more, ISD works to ensure food on the plate is safe for all Californians.



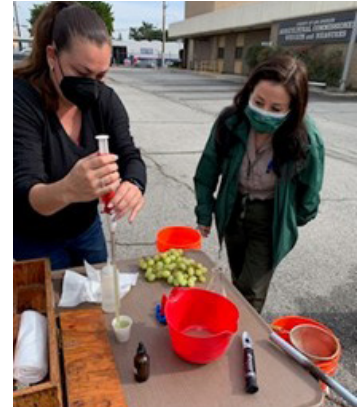
AVOCADO INSPECTION

The Avocado Inspection Program certified **199.7 million** lbs. of avocados, performed **5,198** size/count tests, **210** maturity tests on domestic avocados, **108** maturity tests on foreign avocados and **744** informational maturity tests.



STANDARDIZATION

The Standardization Program and county staff inspected **79,836** lots / **9.4 million** containers of produce through a standardization cooperative agreement with **18** counties.



Standardization Southern District Supervisor Anna Carrasquillo trains LA County staff on inspecting table grapes.

CALIFORNIA CITRUS PROGRAM



The California Citrus Program oversaw county inspections of **3,260** lots / **3.2 million** containers of navel oranges and performed **3,115** maturity tests.



A county inspector (left) performs a navel orange color inspection and (right) checks navel orange sugar content.

Above is a selection of highlights from the work ISD completed in FY2022-23; it is not comprehensive.

FOOD & ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY



cdfa
PRODUCE
SAFETY
PROGRAM

The Produce Safety Program conducted **326** farm inspections and performed **27** On-Farm Readiness Reviews while working to help California produce farmers understand how to comply with the federal Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule.



Produce Safety Program conducts an On-Farm Readiness Review workshop in Live Oak.



The Commercial Feed Regulatory Program (CFRP) received report of **23.5 million** tons of finished feed sold in California. CFRP performed **58** routine California feed inspections and took **818** samples of feed products, including **511** for food safety and **307** for label compliance. The food safety samples included **19** heavy metal screens, **124** mycotoxin screens, **98** medicated feed samples and **488** contact sheets with licensees.



SHIPPING POINT INSPECTION



Shipping Point Inspection staff inspects almonds.

The Shipping Point Inspection Program inspected **238,621** lots / **18.9 million** lbs. of fresh produce. Included were **25,315** lots / **661.3 million** lbs. of almonds, **14,785** lots / **536.9 million** lbs. of tomatoes, **6,724** lots / **316.2 million** lbs. of table grapes, **1,777** lots / **128.6 million** lbs. of cherries and **958** lots / **79.9 million** pounds of kiwifruits.

Above is a selection of highlights from the work ISD completed in FY2022-23; it is not comprehensive.

FOOD & ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY

FERTILIZING MATERIALS INSPECTION PROGRAM



The Fertilizing Materials Inspection Program (FMIP) reviewed and registered **4,472** conventional fertilizer labels from **1,461** in-state firms, **1,126** out-of-state firms and **261** international firms. FMIP received report of **5.3 million** tons of fertilizing materials (*both conventional and organic - see p. 19 for Organic Input Material figures*) sold in California. FMIP obtained **1,423** fertilizer samples for laboratory analysis from **389** manufacturers, including **719** conventional products. FMIP investigated and resolved **14** complaints about conventional fertilizer products or manufacturers.

FMIP Environmental Scientist Leo Campos samples liquid commercial fertilizer using a restricted fill device in Sonoma.



Food Safety Partnership

CDFA Secretary Karen Ross and U.S. Food and Drug Administration Commissioner Robert Califf (top photo) take a tour of Gotham Greens in Davis before joining a roundtable discussion with ISD staff, academia and industry to identify opportunities to coordinate and advance a strategy to enhance food safety in California.

The Center for Analytical Chemistry (CAC) ran **17,958** laboratory analyses on **10,911** samples, resulting in **5 million** data points.



CENTER FOR ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



A new Sciex 7500 LC MS/MS in the CAC Environmental Safety Laboratory enhances inspection sensitivity by up to 10 times.

Above is a selection of highlights from the work ISD completed in FY2022-23; it is not comprehensive.

Access for All to California-Grown Food is Essential

CDFA is committed to helping all Californians access healthy and nutritious California-grown food. This is facilitated through ISD's Office of Farm to Fork grant funding, Certified Farmers' Markets and more.



The California Farm to School Incubator Grant Program awarded **\$25.5 million** in funding for **120** farm to school projects throughout the state. In total, these projects represent **1.5 million** students, **163** school districts and educational entities, over **50** farms and **4** food hubs.



Oakland Unified School District is using grant funds to provide hands-on experiential learning across Oakland.

FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM



The Farm to School Program began hiring for **16** new positions across **8** California regions to establish regional California Farm to School Network collaboratives, facilitate relationships with partners across the school food ecosystem, support California Farm to School Incubator Grantees, organize regional convenings and events, and provide value chain coordination for schools, producers and partners looking to sell foods to schools and institutional buyers.

The focus is on small to midsize farms, BIPOC farmers and ranchers, and climate-smart agriculture.

Above is a selection of highlights from the work ISD completed in FY2022-23 it is not comprehensive.

FOOD ACCESS



CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKETS

Direct Marketing issued **699** Certified Farmers' Market (CFM) Certificates and **2,325** Certified Producer's Certificates. Direct Marketing staff and county staff performed **1,650** CFM inspections and **200** production site inspections.

Visit <https://youtu.be/EYsAnrKp0JI> to view this video of Davis Farmers Market, highlighting the benefits of having access to a Certified Farmers' Market. (Inset) Direct Marketing Southern District Agriculture Program Supervisor Dominic Hickman inspects the Ocean Beach Certified Farmers' Market in San Diego County.

CALIFORNIA NUTRITION INCENTIVE PROGRAM



CDFA OFFICE OF
FARM to FORK
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

The California Nutrition Incentive Program (CNIP) distributed **\$7.8 million** in incentives to **13** CNIP grantees throughout California at over **310** sites. CNIP improves the health of low-income Californians through providing monetary incentives for shoppers using nutrition benefits, such as CalFresh. For every benefit dollar spent on California-grown fresh fruits, vegetables and nuts, CNIP provides a dollar-for-dollar match, within set parameters, at participating Certified Farmers' Markets and other retail outlets.



"[CNIP] helps a lot," a CalFresh shopper told the Nutrition Policy Institute in a research study.
"It makes my food dollars go further. And I love being down here at the farmers' market every week."

Above is a selection of highlights from the work ISD completed in FY2022-23; it is not comprehensive.

URBAN AGRICULTURE GRANT PROGRAM



The Urban Agriculture Grant Program held a public comment period about the request for applications for awarding up to **\$12 million** in the inaugural round of grants. The grant has two tracks, one for funding community-based organizations in various regions to provide pass-through funding for local urban ag projects, and one for directly funding urban ag project costs. Awards will be announced in early 2024.

At Hot and Cool Cafe LA in Los Angeles County, Urban Agriculture Grant Program Lead Sara Bernal presents on the upcoming grant before an interactive listening session planned to gather input directly from the community.

HEALTHY REFRIGERATION GRANT PROGRAM



CDFA OFFICE OF
FARM to FORK
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

The Healthy Refrigeration Grant Program (HRGP) awarded **\$900,000** in grants to seven technical assistance providers to help reduce barriers to entities seeking refrigeration equipment through HRGP. Applications also were accepted for the next round of up to \$9 million in HRGP grants to fund energy-efficient and climate-friendly refrigeration and freezer equipment in corner stores, small businesses, and food donation programs in low-income or low-food access areas throughout the state. The equipment is funded to stock California-grown fresh produce, nuts, eggs, meat and dairy products, as well as minimally processed and culturally appropriate foods.



"Every day we rescue hundreds of pounds of food

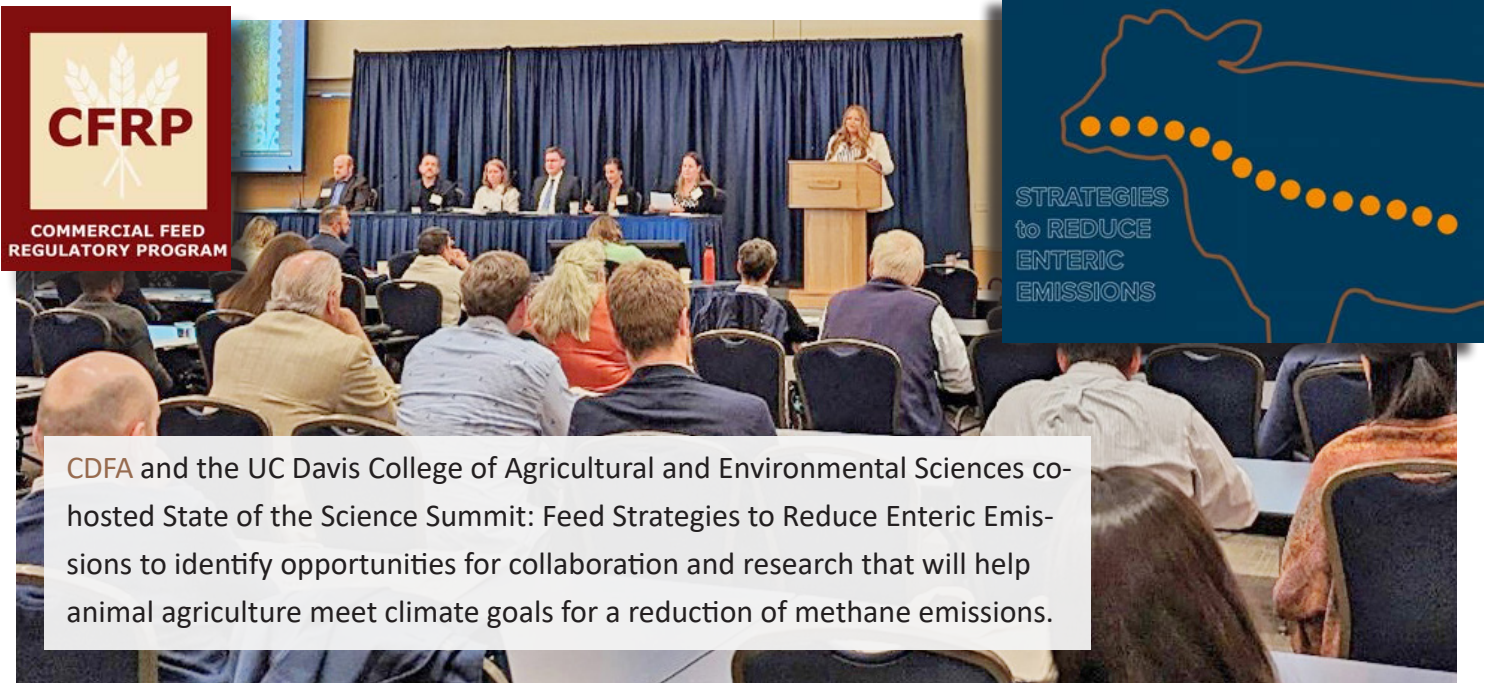
from supermarkets," Gregory Makaron from L.A. County said about receiving HRGP funding for refrigeration units. "Or, otherwise this food will end up in the garbage. And then we need to store it somewhere. So this program was like BINGO for us! ... Please support this program! It's important. It's important for community. It's important for people who otherwise wouldn't be able to put the quality food to their kids, to their family.

Above is a selection of highlights from the work ISD completed in FY2022-23; it is not comprehensive.

CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE

Elevating Climate-Smart Food Systems

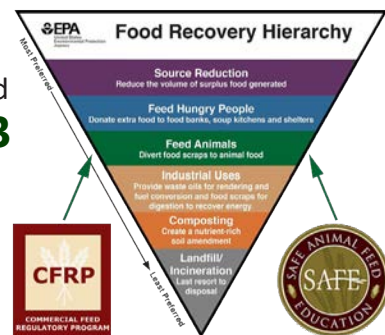
Inspection Services supports the CDFA priority of fostering climate-smart, resilient and regenerative food systems through working with industry, academia, government and stakeholders to facilitate innovation, incentivize upcycling of by-products from human food, fiber and biofuel production to livestock feed, and fund research to help farmers maintain environmental stewardship.



CDFA and the UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences co-hosted State of the Science Summit: Feed Strategies to Reduce Enteric Emissions to identify opportunities for collaboration and research that will help animal agriculture meet climate goals for a reduction of methane emissions.

CDFA Commercial Feed Regulatory Program Manager Jenna Leal presents as part of a panel at the State of the Science Summit: Feed Strategies to Reduce Enteric Emissions, May 2-3, at UC Davis.

The Commercial Feed Regulatory Program (CFRP) received report that the California feed industry diverted **747,903** tons of human food byproducts to livestock feed instead of landfills, reported at half the tonnage rate.



The Fertilizer Research and Education Program (FREP) awarded **\$653,067** in grant funding for three projects to advance California growers' understanding and implementation of improved nitrogen and irrigation management practices. This adds to the **30+** years of research the FREP Grant Program has funded for guidelines to gain bountiful yields while maintaining environmental stewardship.

Above is a selection of highlights from the work ISD completed in FY2022-23; it is not comprehensive.

ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

Maintaining Organic Seal's Integrity

To maintain the integrity of organic agriculture for farmers purchasing fertilizer and consumers buying organic produce, ISD protects the organic label through enforcement, education and outreach.



The California State Organic Program conducted **1,779** inspections, investigated **118** complaints and collected **443** samples for pesticide residue testing.

State Organic Program Special Investigator Leslie Fernandez (in black jacket) joins L.A. County officials in a spot inspection.

COST SHARE PROGRAM

The Organic Certification Cost Share Program, administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency, received **\$2 million** to distribute to organic producers and handlers to reduce the costs of organic certification.



The Organic Input Material Program (OIM) reviewed and registered **1,488** organic fertilizer labels from **325** in-state firms, **365** out-of-state firms and **172** international firms. OIM obtained **704** organic fertilizer samples for laboratory analysis. OIM investigated and resolved **6** complaints about organic input material products.

The OCal Cannabis Certification Program



oversaw the certification of **22** companies to be able to sell cannabis with an OCal seal, signifying the cannabis products are produced in a way comparable to organic standards of the National Organic Program.

Above is a selection of highlights from the work ISD completed in FY2022-23; it is not comprehensive.

SERVICES FOR CA FARMERS & RANCHERS

Optimizing Services for California Farmers and Ranchers

Inspection Services works to connect California's farmers and ranchers to the division's suite of professional services to help maintain California agriculture's reputation for innovation and adaptability.



The Fertilizer Research and Education Program (FREP) continued to lead the **Nitrogen and Irrigation Initiative** consortium to implement a demonstration-and-out-reach approach to help farmers improve nitrogen fertilization and irrigation practices.

Nitrogen and Irrigation Initiative (NII) training sessions take place in Monterey County.

FREP participated in **7** agricultural conferences and events and helped coordinate **54** courses for a total of **120** hours of continuing education that allowed **165** growers to become eligible for self-certification in online irrigation and nitrogen management training.

FREP announced the **CDFA Grower Training Self-Study Platform** is now available online where water quality coalition members in the Central Valley and Ventura County who must have their Irrigation and Nitrogen Management Plan Worksheets Certified, can self-certify upon completing the CDFA Training Program.



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM The Technical Assistance Program (TAP) offered one-on-one food safety technical assistance to **729** farmers. TAP also conducted **29** food safety training sessions to **326** participants in English, Spanish, Mien and Hmong.



CALIFORNIA NUTRITION INCENTIVE PROGRAM The California Nutrition Incentive Program (CNIP) continued to facilitate CalFresh shoppers to be able to use CNIP incentives to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables from local farmers at approximately **250** participating farmers' markets.

Above is a selection of highlights from the work ISD completed in FY2022-23; it is not comprehensive.

SERVICES FOR CA FARMERS & RANCHERS

ISD programs participated in many conferences, including:



(Left) A pistachio irrigation project is presented during the pre-conference tour of the Fertilizer Research and Education Program and Western Plant Health's 30th Annual Nutrient Management Conference in Visalia Oct. 26-27. (Right) At the January 2023 EcoFarm Conference, (L-R) ISD's Leslie Fernandez and Wei Wu host a booth.



(Left) The CDFA booth at World Ag Expo led by (wearing a green jacket) Shipping Point Inspection Program Supervisor Kevin Batchelor. (Right) Maria Tenorio-Alfred (left) and Leslie Fernandez attend the Latino Farmer Conference in November 2022.

The full list of conferences ISD programs attended, spoke at or tabled at includes:

- Agilent Technologies Conference
- Almond Conference
- Animal Feed Regulatory Program Standards (AFRPS) meetings
- Annual Progressive Crop Consultant Conference
- Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) meetings
- Association of American Plant Food Control Officials (AAPFCO) meetings
- Association of Food and Drug Officials conferences
- California Agriculture Day
- California Association of Standards & Agricultural Professionals (CASAP) Conference
- California Grain and Feed Association (CGFA) Grain and Feed Industry Conference
- California Rare Fruit Growers Chapter Meeting
- County Workshops
- Earth Day events
- EcoFarm Conference
- Environmental Laboratory Technical Advisory Committee (EL-TAC)
- Emerald Cup cannabis event
- Green Hydrogen Coalition's annual Catalyst H2 event
- International Scientific Conference
- Latino Farmer Conference
- National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) meetings
- Organic Grower Summit
- Organic Produce Summit
- Plant and Soil Conference
- Produce Safety Consortium
- Regional Water Board Meetings
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services and UC Davis seminars
- USDA Pesticide Data Program meetings
- Western Nutrient Management Conference
- World Ag Expo

Above is a selection of highlights from the work ISD completed in FY2022-23; it is not comprehensive.

SERVICES FOR CA FARMERS & RANCHERS

85 posts on the Inspection Services Blog: blogs.cdafa.ca.gov/CDFAInspectionServicesBlog

Inspection Services Blog



PRODUCE SAFETY RULES!

BLOG

View the Produce Safety Program Blog at <https://blogs.cdafa.ca.gov/ProduceSafety/>



View the FREP Blog at <https://blogs.cdafa.ca.gov/frep>



CA Farm to School Newsletter

To stay up to date on all things farm to school, please [sign up](#) for our newsletter.

[View previous newsletters here.](#)

Sign up for the Farm to School Newsletter at cafarmtofork.cdafa.ca.gov/CaFarmtoSchoolProgram.htm

The Commercial Feed Regulatory Program started the Run of the Mill Blog in early 2023: <https://blogs.cdafa.ca.gov/CFRP>



CFRP's Run of the Mill Blog

COMMERCIAL FEED REGULATORY PROGRAM

#1 X post with **1,478** impressions [@CDFA_ISD](#)

CA Dept. of Food & Ag Inspection Services Division
@CDFA_ISD
The interactive experience allowed CDFA to better understand how the new #UrbanAgriculture Grant Program can support the area's urban ag efforts blogs.cdafa.ca.gov/CDFAInspection...
[@ib2_real](#)



#1 Facebook post that reached **479** accounts [@CDFAISD](#)

CA Dept. of Food & Agriculture Inspection Services Division
July 28, 2022
https://www.cdafa.ca.gov/.../press.../Press_Release.asp...

CDFA Awards \$900,000 for technical assistance providers to expand access to Healthy Refrigeration Grant Program

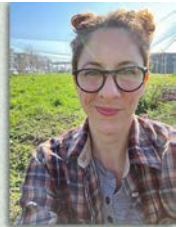


Assistance will be offered via:
→ Outreach and Application Assistance - especially in multiple languages
→ Technical Expertise - for best refrigeration equipment choices



#1 Instagram post that reached **686** accounts [@cdafa_isd](#)

CDFA welcomes Sara Bernal to lead new Urban Agriculture Grant Program



"This is a monumental time to be involved in supporting the world of urban agriculture and to find system-based strategies to elevate community work that promotes equity and creates stronger, more resilient neighborhoods."



Above is a selection of highlights from the work ISD completed in FY2022-23; it is not comprehensive.

CONTINUING INNOVATION

Leveraging Technology and Novel Ideas for Working with Stakeholders

Inspection Services has a reputation for innovation at CDFA. This comes from striving to improve processes and encouraging staff to innovate new ways of doing things.

DIRECT MARKETING The **Direct Marketing Program** launched a **new database** as the first phase of a project that will provide industry with an updated interface that will eventually take online payments and generate reports.



The **Commercial Feed Regulatory Program (CFRP)** added a new section in the **ExtraView database** where commercial feed licensees can voluntarily report data on by-product diversion that fall outside the scope of regular tonnage tax reporting to quantify the feed industry's contribution to statewide organic waste diversion goals set forth by Senate Bill 1383.



SHIPPING POINT INSPECTION

The **Shipping Point Inspection Program** added more commodities to the **National Commodity Inspection Program (NCIP)**. NCIP software allows the inspection of fruits and vegetables to be reported into electronic tablets, increasing the efficiency of each inspection.



The **Produce Safety Program** secured **\$1.3 million** from the California Department of Technology's Technology Modernization Fund to support the development of a Salesforce-based system for a database of farm data and inspection reports. The system will also allow farmers to access their farm information online to update details or view inspection reports and corrective actions.



CAC's new Agilent GCQTOF is a chemical ionization source to elevate the lab's ability to identify molecular ions.

The **Center for Analytical Chemistry (CAC)** developed **24** new scientific methods while satisfying the regulatory and monitoring needs of **26** public agencies. **CAC** also completed **16** operational improvements and **19** infrastructural improvements.

With the ability to screen for **530** pesticides, **CAC** has the most extensive routine pesticide screen in the nation for fruits and vegetables. The average turnaround time for fertilizer samples improved from more than **25** days three years prior to **8** days for the most recent **2.5** years.

Above is a selection of highlights from the work ISD completed in FY2022-23 it is not comprehensive.

NEXT GENERATION TALENT & TOOLS

Our Future Leaders Deserve Every Opportunity for Growth

ISD recognizes the importance of helping tomorrow's leaders, whether it's fostering youth to develop life-long relationships with nutritious, CA-grown food, offering development opportunities for public servants, or welcoming agriculture representatives to grow their careers by being part of an advisory committee.



Of the California Farm to School Incubator Grant Program 2022 cycle Track 1-3 grantees, **94%** reported that they would be working with schools or early care and education (ECE) sites located among Priority Populations.



The Center for Analytical Chemistry offered **90** staff development opportunities for **57** staff members.

CAC Sr. Env. Scientist, Supervisor, Jacob Oaxaca (right) discusses operations of the Environmental Safety Lab to CDFA Upward Mobility Program participants.



The Inspection Services Division coordinated **29** board / committee / subcommittee meetings, including **17** in the Inspection & Compliance (ICB) Branch and **12** in the Feed, Fertilizer and Livestock Drugs Regulatory Services (FFLDRS) Branch.

ICB COMMITTEE / SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

| | |
|----------|--|
| 9/12/22 | Certified Farmers' Market Advisory Committee (CFMAC) |
| 9/13/22 | Avocado Inspection Committee |
| 9/14/22 | California Organic Products Advisory Committee |
| 10/25/22 | Standardization Advisory Committee |
| 11/15/22 | California Citrus Advisory Committee |
| 1/19/23 | California Organic Products Advisory Committee |
| 1/23/23 | CFMAC Database Subcommittee |
| 2/6/23 | CFMAC Regulations Subcommittee |
| 2/27/23 | CFMAC Legislative Subcommittee |
| 3/2/23 | California Citrus Advisory Committee |
| 3/7/23 | Avocado Inspection Committee |
| 3/20/23 | Certified Farmers' Market Advisory Committee |
| 3/21/23 | Standardization Advisory Committee |
| 4/5/23 | Shipping Point Inspection Committee |
| 5/15/23 | CFMAC Regulations Subcommittee |

| | |
|---------|--|
| 5/23/23 | California Organic Products Advisory Committee |
| 6/12/23 | CFMAC Legislative Subcommittee |

FFLDRS BOARD / SUBCOMMITTEE MEETINGS

| | |
|----------|---|
| 7/12/22 | Feed Inspection Advisory Board (FIAB (Feed)) Technical Advisory Subcommittee (TASC) |
| 8/10/22 | Feed Inspection Advisory Board |
| 9/13/22 | Fertilizer Inspection Advisory Board (FIAB (Fertilizer)) |
| 11/3/22 | FIAB (Feed) TASC |
| 11/10/22 | Feed Inspection Advisory Board |
| 1/10/23 | Feed Inspection Advisory Board |
| 1/31/23 | FIAB (Fertilizer) TASC |
| 2/7/23 | Fertilizer Inspection Advisory Board |
| 4/12/23 | Feed Inspection Advisory Board |
| 5/19/23 | FIAB (Fertilizer) TASC |
| 5/31/23 | Fertilizer Inspection Advisory Board |
| 6/22/23 | FIAB (Feed) TASC |

Above is a selection of highlights from the work ISD completed in FY2022-23; it is not comprehensive.

Workforce Development

The Inspection Services Division (ISD) is focused on investing in employee development, fostering development of administrative foundational skills and improving the onboarding process for new employees.



In line with ISD's Strategic Direction goal of investing in employee development, two cohorts have now participated in the ISD Coaching Program, including these graduates in a December 2022 ceremony.

Communication

ISD is focused on division engagement and education, as well as showcasing ISD program contributions to farmers, ranchers and the public.



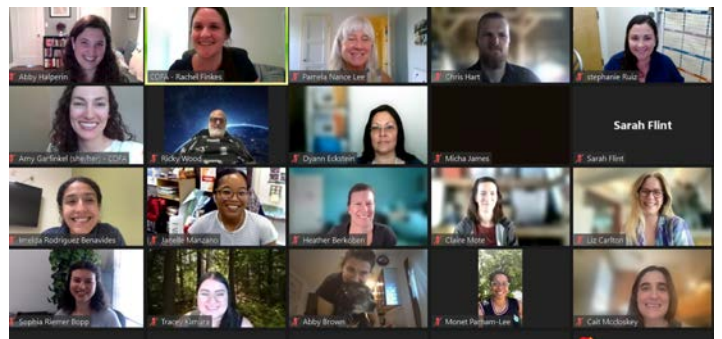
Produce Safety Program inspectors give a food safety presentation in Spanish to more than 50 organic growers at a workshop hosted by the Agriculture and Land-Based Learning Training Association in Salinas.

Spanish-language sessions expand outreach to organic growers about Produce Safety Rule



Maximize Resources and Services

ISD is focused on leading and strengthening the ISD reputation for innovation and optimizing services for California farmers and ranchers.



The California Farm to School Network offers Community of Practice Zoom calls to foster peer-to-peer learning and collaborative solution-building.

STAFF SPOTLIGHTS

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Kimber Collins-Florian

PEOPLE WORKING FOR THE FOOD SUPPLY

NAME, TITLE, PROGRAM: Kimber Collins-Florian, Senior Environmental Scientist, Fertilizing Materials Inspection Organic Input Material Program
YEARS AT CDFA: 9

HOW DO YOU WORK FOR THE CALIFORNIA FOOD SUPPLY? *Organic crop and food production is a very important industry in California, and Organic Input Materials (OIMs) are essential components of this. When organic growers or organic certifiers use a fertilizing material registered as an OIM with our program, they can trust that it meets National Organic Program standards and is suitable for organic crop and food production.*

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Dinesh Chand

PEOPLE WORKING FOR THE FOOD SUPPLY

NAME, TITLE, PROGRAM: Dinesh Chand, Environmental Scientist, Environmental Safety Laboratory

YEARS AT CDFA: 9

HOW DO YOU WORK FOR THE CALIFORNIA FOOD SUPPLY? *I provide accurate and legally defensible analytical data to various programs within CDFA as well as to the Department of Pesticide Regulations and County Ag Commissioners so that these enforcement and regulatory agencies can effectively carry out their function of protecting the California environment and food supply.*

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Mai Err Chang

PEOPLE WORKING FOR THE FOOD SUPPLY

NAME, TITLE, PROGRAM: Mai Err Chang, Program Coordinator, California Nutrition Incentive Program (CNIP)

YEARS AT CDFA: 1

HOW DO YOU WORK FOR THE CALIFORNIA FOOD SUPPLY? *I coordinate grant programs to support California organizations and agencies to deliver a nutrition incentive program throughout California. I see myself as a liaison between the government and the community who serves the local population, which includes CalFresh recipients and California farmers.*

NAME, TITLE, PROGRAM: Mayze Fowler-Riggs, Special Investigator, CA State Organic Program (SOP)

YEARS AT CDFA: 8

HOW DO YOU WORK FOR THE CALIFORNIA FOOD SUPPLY? *I provide integrity to the organic food supply system by ensuring that producers, handlers, processors and retailers are meeting the organic standards set forth in regulations. Additionally, facilitating announced and unannounced inspections, sampling and investigations contributes to the vital role that we play in protecting the value to the organic seal and organic product food supply system.*

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



Mayze Fowler-Riggs

PEOPLE WORKING FOR THE FOOD SUPPLY

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

RETIREMENTS

Inspection Services Division recognizes with gratitude these staff members who retired during FY22-23:

Steve Patton (ICB), after 45 years of state service
Jim Echelberry (CAC), after 41 years of state service
Tiffany Tu (CAC), after 33 years of state service
Stephen Siegel (CAC), after 26 years of state service
Cydney Mayo (ICB), after 22 years of state service
Shelley Phillips (PSP), after 22 years of state service
Roland Carlson (CAC), after 16 years of state service
Marilyn Boehnke (FFLDRS), after 15 years of state service

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Stacey Hughes (ICB)

Danny Lee (ICB)

Jennifer Leidolf (ICB)

Lina Nguyen (ICB)

Laura Oliver (ICB)

Thomas Osborn (ICB)

Steve Patton (ICB)

Scott Renteria (ICB)

Samuel Santander (ICB)

Marcee Yount (ICB)

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT
OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

DIVISION OF INSPECTION SERVICES

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