cdfa
The Office of
Agricultural Resilience
& SUSTAINABILITY

Current Purpose Statement for HSP Demonstration Grants

The Healthy Soils Program aims to increase statewide implementation of conservation management practices that improve soil health, sequester carbon and reduce atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHGs). The HSP Demonstration Grant funds on-farm demonstration projects that collect data, showcase conservation management practices and create a platform promoting widespread adoption of conservation management practices throughout the state.

Type A projects will demonstrate implementation of HSP conservation management practices, measure field GHGs emissions, collect soil health data, and conduct analysis on cost/benefits for adoption of the proposed practice(s) and anticipated barriers.

Type B projects will demonstrate implementation of HSP conservation management practices, collect soil health data, and/or conduct analysis on cost/benefits for adoption of the proposed practice(s) and anticipated barriers.

Proposed Purpose Statement for renamed "HSP Research Grants"

HSP Research Grants provide funding for field-based studies and extension activities to amplify the outcomes of those studies. Projects shall investigate key innovative, regenerative agricultural practices that demonstrate or have the potential to sequester carbon and/or reduce greenhouse gas emissions and have not been tested sufficiently in California or under analogous conditions. Projects must support one of the following goals:

1. To evaluate inclusion of new practices in HSP and develop baseline data for greenhouse gas and co-benefit quantification methodologies, with funding prioritized for practices identified through the HSP New Practices Evaluation Process. These projects must fund the collection of rigorous field data to characterize greenhouse gas emissions, soil health metrics, crop productivity, implementation best practices, implementation costs and food safety impacts.
2. To advance understanding of how existing HSP practices, alone or in combination, affect soil health, crop productivity, agricultural system management, profitability, and/or food safety. Project outcomes must assist growers in making evidence-based choices about benefits and risks of practice implementation.