

Climate Strategy for California Agriculture

Why Create a Climate Strategy for California Agriculture?



- Agriculture is facing enormous challenges vis-à-vis climate change
- Agriculture is responsible for significant emissions globally (~22%; IPCC 2023); about 9% in California (2022 Scoping Plan)
- California agriculture is leading with solutions, expertise, research
- Capture California agriculture's myriad approaches to climate adaptation, resilience, and mitigation
- Communicate with agricultural stakeholders and the public about climate risks, mitigation strategies, and CDFA activities

Why - Cont'd



- No single place for agency partners, the public, legislature, or stakeholders to refer to for overview of climate/ag work
- Pursue and track climate-related objectives and commitments
- Ag Vision for the Next Decade (2023) no.1 priority is to “Foster climate-smart, resilient, and regenerative food systems”
- Communicate with the public about climate risks, mitigation strategies, and CDFA activities

Proposed Structure



- Overview of overall climate/ag issue – changing conditions, rarity of Mediterranean climates/prime soils for farming, diminished arable land globally
- Sections by topic area

Topics



- Soil carbon sequestration
- On-farm biodiversity
- Dairy and Livestock Methane
- Extreme Heat
- Water
- Nutrient Management
- Decarbonizing the farm: equipment and energy
- Sustainable pest management: addressing climate-driven pest pressure
- Building a circular economy
- International collaboration
- Labor – next gen talent and tools

Within Each Section:



- Description of the challenge
- Climate connection
- Current challenges
- Equity component
- Efforts underway
 - Other state plans that include the topic and ways of addressing it
 - Technical assistance and gaps
- Areas for additional research

EFA SAP Participation



- Guidance on identifying research gaps
- Review of the draft document
- Discussion of relevant topics at meetings to inform the document
- Other suggestions?

Progress Updates



- Working on Request for Proposals for facilitation assistance
- Hired AB 32 Climate Scientist Nina Bingham and Executive Fellow Margaret Phipps

Discussion: EFA SAP

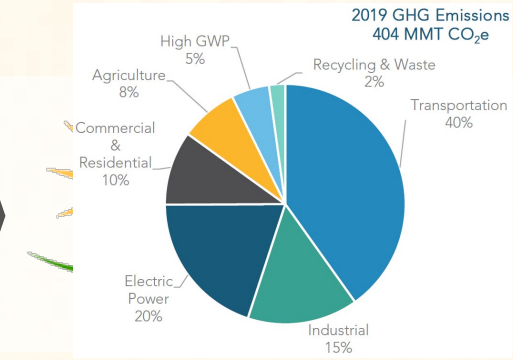


- What conversations would be most useful for the Panel to convene related to the strategy?
- What aspects of climate/agriculture have not had a robust public discussion?
- What areas of science are rapidly advancing and warrant an overview?

End of Presentation



Agricultural Sector GHG Emissions



- Agriculture is responsible for 9% of yearly GHG Emissions, broken down in graphic on left (although old)
- Consider the scale of Agricultural carbon, broken out in graphic on right for Year 2020

