



# FARMLAND TRANSITION PROGRAM

(Currently available for California and Minnesota producers)

The Farmland Transition Program provides holistic support to farmers, ranchers and land stewards through training in the field of regenerative agriculture, one-on-one mentorship, and soil testing to gather data and give feedback on baseline soil health information on the farmland they manage.

Providing resources to support training, and technical support like soil testing, can dramatically reduce barriers to farmers seeking to transition their land management. This program, and the resulting shift in mindset, catalyzes change in land management that will have immediate and lasting effects on the health of the soil and the people living on it.

Initial training is imperative, but soil testing to monitor progress and field consulting for troubleshooting are equally important. The program is designed to support a diverse range of farmers and facilitate an experience tailored to their needs. Click on the links below to purchase and/or learn more.

Our ultimate goal is to deepen our collective understanding of the needs, capacities, and capabilities inherent to different producers, systems, crops and regions. This will ultimately lead to more thought leadership on the front line of soil health and regenerative agriculture, leading the way towards a new future of food production.

## TRAINING

These courses will provide foundational knowledge on soil health and regenerative farming and ranching. Farmers and ranchers can choose from a curated selection of agricultural training courses that provide the knowledge and resources needed to successfully transition to agricultural landscapes that contribute to a healthy living ecosystem. The pioneering farmers leading these trainings provide technical advice, best practices, and strategies to successfully regenerate soil and create a resilient and profitable operation.

## SOIL TESTING

Each farmer agrees to have their soil testing conducted within one year of their entry into the program. We collect a robust set of soil health indicators: pH, soil organic matter (SOM), available nitrogen, structure, texture, bulk density, water infiltration, and microbial biomass and diversity (PFLA). These tests are conducted by a leading soil health professional, processed by scientific labs, and returned to the producer with an accompanying report that translates the content into relevant and actionable information to inform management decisions.

Soil tests provide the opportunity to measure and assess the change in state of different soil health indicators as on-farm practices are implemented, reduced or removed. This data can be used to analyze the effectiveness of a management protocol and can highlight specific practices and their contribution to farmland health as it changes over time. We know that there is a need for measurable changes to be seen by farmers, businesses, investors, and policy makers to show that soil carbon sequestration is possible and regenerative agriculture is profitable and more efficient (in regards to inputs and natural resource use).



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## MENTORSHIP

Over the course of the program, each farmer will receive support from an experienced farmer mentor in the field of regenerative agriculture. Our mentors are chosen because they've been through this process themselves, and can help others who are beginning their transitional journey. This one-on-one mentorship serves to engage producers around the purpose of their work, address what barriers and opportunities are present, identify and manage valuable resources, and help them work towards a highly functional and resilient agricultural landscape.

This includes quarterly one-on-one calls with the mentor and biannual group webinars with their regional cohort. The mentor will also help to connect local resources and other experts.

To effectively address the complexities of diverse integrated agriculture, each producer will be asked to consider the unique context in which they are operating (landscape, climate, community), and the values they prioritize as part of their operation. The intention of this process is to identify and clarify the interconnectedness of a holistic food system, through the lens of the individual producer, and reveal the unique potential they can each contribute to the revolution of our agricultural system.

We aim to help farmers and ranchers deeply understand and incorporate the principles of healthy soils, water cycles, nutrient cycles, and community dynamics into their decision making process. We do so by reflecting on the content and experience of the training courses, reviewing the soil monitoring results, and discussing this new information in the context of each unique producer and landscape. Along the way, different practices will be considered within the context of their operation and each individual or group will develop their own implementation techniques for their chosen practices.

**RESOURCE HUB:** A library of scientific papers, publications, videos, tools and equipment, and other resources on regenerative farming.

**FARMER NETWORK:** In this community you will have the opportunity to be a part of a growing network of regenerative farmers & ranchers, inspire thoughtful conversation and share resources.

## FARMER TRANSITION GRANTS

We have created this Farmer Transition Grant to serve and support those who either currently or traditionally have a higher barrier of entry to this education, whether due to economic or systemic disparity.

Please note that our grant funding, provided by a combination of corporate and individual donations, grants, and collaborations between local farms and restaurants, is limited. If you need support, we urge you to apply! If you can pay for the program, please leave room for others in need and keep in mind that as a nonprofit, all of our funds go to furthering our mission and serving those in need.

