



CDFA Funded CAPCA Pilot Project

Ben Lee

Senior Environmental Scientist
Office of Pesticide Consultation and Analysis (OPCA),
CDFA

Kevi Mace

Senior Environmental Scientist, Supervisor
Office of Pesticide Consultation and Analysis (OPCA),
CDFA



Photo from CA Grown



Pilot study goals

- Evaluate the status of existing pest management practices in the field
- Document the PCA decision making process with a specialized TELUS Agronomy platform
- Develop gap-addressing continuing education (CE) resources.
- Cropping systems to be assessed;
 - Grape
 - Lettuce
 - Pistachio
 - Tomato



Photo from CA Grown

What we hope to achieve

- Gather baseline information
- Identify information and research gaps
- Understand PCA decision making
- Learn what PCAs need from CDFA and CE
- Produce useful, relevant SPM CE



Photo from CA Grown





Important details

- CAPCA is running the project and will select participants
- The results of the study will be shared with CDFA.
- The results will be anonymized so that they cannot be made attributable to you or your grower.



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE



Important details

- PCAs who successfully complete the study on one field location will be awarded:
 - \$2000 stipend for your time and effort
 - A one-year premium license to TELUS Agronomy
 - Free access to the resulting CE



Important details

- Growers who successfully complete the study will receive:
 - An incentive for each of two verification surveys they complete
 - Reimbursement for up to two analytical samples from the participating field.
 - Free access to the resulting CE



Photo from CA Grown



PCA participant summary requirements

1. Application process (online survey)
2. Attend online training with TELUS Agronomy
3. Ask one grower to participate and enroll one field site.
4. Use a special version of TELUS Agronomy to document your actions on this one site for one growing season.
5. Answer monthly surveys during the growing season.





CAPCA
AT THE CENTER OF PLANT HEALTH

*Details for prospective participants in
the CDFA grant-funded pilot study*

Patrick Dosier
Director of Innovation & Technology
CAPCA

Participant Qualifications

1. Hold a valid PCA license for the entire growing season
 - Retail, Independent and In-House welcome
2. You must walk the field and be responsible for providing pest management advice. You must be responsible for writing recommendations on this field site.
3. The field must contain pistachio, grape, tomato, or lettuce
4. You must be willing and able to comply with the study requirements:
 - Complete the application
 - Attend TELUS Agronomy orientation
 - Obtain grower approval for study site
 - Use TELUS Agronomy platform effectively on study site
 - Respond to monthly surveys
 - Timely responses to information request from CAPCA Staff



Stats: - up to 200 PCAs - at least 35 PCAs required per crop



Participate in Confidence

All information collected in this study will be fully anonymized before it is shared with CDFA:

- The data gleaned from TELUS Agronomy will have your name, the grower's name, geo-references, site IDs, etc. replaced by unique random codes only used for this study. CDFA will not have the key to these codes.
- Results of the study may be reported by crop commodity and by county. So, unless your grower is unique in their area, the results will not be attributable to them.
- Your application data and correspondence with CAPCA will be fully anonymized before being shared with CDFA

Study timeline

Phase	Timeframe	PCA and Grower Activities
Study Design	Jan 2024 – February 2024	PCAs join the waitlist. <i>(details are in a later slide)</i>
Participant Selection	February 2024 – March 2024*	PCAs fill application survey. PCAs seek Grower approval.
Participant Onboarding	March 2024*	PCAs (Growers – optional) to receive online training (approx. 90 min) from TELUS Agronomy and CAPCA about program requirements.
Data Collection	March 2024 – March 2025*	PCAs to use TELUS Agronomy to document practices. PCAs to answer monthly survey to fill in blanks and documents decision making.

**Fall-planted lettuce participants shall commence later, as crop seasonality dictates that the study should begin in August 2024 and run through March 2025.*

Study timeline *continued*

Phase	Timeframe	PCA and Grower Activities
Data Analysis <i>CAPCA, CDFA, UC IPM to analyze data</i>	April 2025 – July 2025	None.
CE Development <i>CAPCA and UC IPM produce online CE content.</i>	August 2025 – October 2025	PCAs and Growers may attend the online CE.
Final Reporting	October 2025 – December 2025	None.

The next steps...

1. If you're interested, get on the waitlist! →
2. Participant applications will be emailed to the waitlist on January 29th, 2024.
 - Deadline for first round selection is February 9th, 2024.
 - Participants will be notified of their application results by February 16th, 2024.
3. Share this information with your grower.
4. Spread the word!



CAPCA.com/grants

Questions?



[CAPCA.com/grants](https://capca.com/grants)

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