



University of California  
Agriculture and Natural Resources



Cornell University

## RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY FOR ORGANIC PRODUCE FARMS

### Project Background

- We are looking for certified organic producers to participate in a multi-regional study to fully assess current management practices affecting the survival of pathogens and soil health used by the organic industry related to raw manure/untreated manure in crops.
- The goal of this study is to provide organic farmers with science-based effective strategies that limit food safety risks when using valuable raw manure soil amendments.

### How You Can Help

- Researchers at the University of California and regional researchers partners are enrolling NOP certified organic farms in a multi-regional study.
- NOP certified organic farms in Maryland using raw manure or untreated manure (dairy cattle, horse or poultry) and growing leafy greens (lettuce, spinach), root vegetables (carrots, radish) and/or fruits (tomatoes, cantaloupe or melons) are encouraged to participate.
- The study is voluntary and all locations and names will be kept confidential.
- Researchers will visit enrolled farms 8 times over the growing season (2017- 2018) to collect produce, water, soil and manure samples. Farmers will be asked to complete a short survey.
- Samples will be tested for bacterial indicators such as non-pathogenic *E. coli* & pathogens.



### How You'll Benefit

- All farms will receive all test results for their farm
- All farms will receive a summary report of the overall study, farm specific feedback to help minimize contamination of fresh produce
- Participant farms will receive \$700 for participating in this 2 year project

### Project Contacts

For more information and to enroll:

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