



## 2018 Farm Crew Agriculture Skills Course

*Join Sierra Harvest Farm  
Institute for a season of  
hands-on learning.*



To register visit [www.sierraharvest.org](http://www.sierraharvest.org)

*Classes meet every-other Tuesday, 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm*

*\$45/class \* Entire course 25% off \* Half course 10% off \* payment plan available*

<b>May 29<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Class 1: Plant Propagation, Transplants and Green House Management with Deena Miller, Sweet Roots Farm</b></p> <p>Producing high quality plants from seeds and cuttings is a critical component of farm success! Learn about soil mix, greenhouse management from seed to field, and growing plants from cuttings and divisions. Farmer Robbie Martin of <a href="#">Sweet Roots Farm</a>, will share his vast understanding of plant production. A great opportunity to see commercial scale, certified Organic plant start production.</p>
<b>June 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Class 2: Field, Soil and Bed Preparation &amp; Spring Weed Management with Jeremy Mineau, Super Tuber Farm</b></p> <p>Learn the how to identify the right time and methods for preparing the soil for planting. Best practices in preparing the ground for planting can mitigate weed pressure and promote crop success. Jeremy Mineau of <a href="#">Super Tuber Farm</a> will share his bed preparation skills. Super Tuber Farm grows a variety of crops on about 6 acres including 2 acres each of carrots and beets, which are notoriously difficult crops when it comes to controlling weeds.</p>
<b>June 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Class 3: Best Practices in Row Crop Irrigation with Antonio Garza, Riverhill Farm</b></p> <p>See efficient and effective irrigation systems in action. Learn the water needs of crops and the best methods to get water to the plants. Antonio operates <a href="#">Riverhill Farm</a>, a beautiful and diverse 10-acre vegetable farm in Nevada City that hosts a weekly farmstand and sells at local Farmers' Markets, restaurants and grocery stores.</p>
<b>July 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Class 4: Identifying Pests, Beneficial Insects and Management Options with Cindy Fake, UCCE Horticulture &amp; Small Farms Advisor</b></p> <p>Learn to identify what's a pest and what's beneficial. Learn about Integrated Pest Management to prevent damage from key fruit and vegetable pests and how to manage pest problems in an eco-friendly manner. <a href="#">Cindy Fake</a> has supported farmers in Placer and Nevada counties for decades and is an expert on crop production in the region.</p>
<b>July 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Class 5: Understanding Soil and Plant Nutrient Needs with Amigo Bob Cantisano, Organic Ag Advisors</b></p> <p>One of the most influential figures in California organic agriculture, <a href="#">Amigo Bob Cantisano</a> is perhaps best known as the founding organizer of the annual Ecological Farming Conference. His search for a reliable source of organic inputs led him to found a farm supply company, Peaceful Valley Supply. Organic Ag Advisors, has assisted hundreds of farms in transitioning from conventional agriculture to organic.</p>
<b>August 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Class 6: Let Animals work the Land! Integrating Animals and Vegetables with Leo Chapman, Harmony Valley Farm</b></p> <p>See a small, diversified farm in action. Leo Chapman at Harmony Valley Farm will introduce us to a diversified farm system that integrates animals into a No-Till fruit and vegetable system. If you can grow it in Nevada County, Leo has! Leo founded the Living Lands Agrarian network and has trained countless aspiring farmers in the area.</p>



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<b>August 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<p><b>Class 7: Diversified Farming: Livestock and Crops- Creating Compost with Tim Van Wagner, First Rain Farm</b>  <a href="#">First Rain Farm</a> has been producing high quality fruit, vegetables and fresh goats milk since 2012. This exciting class will look at the closed farming system that Tim has created, using waste from his goat dairy to create compost for his fruit and vegetable crops.</p>
<b>Sept 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Class 8: All about Sales, From Field to Customer with Aleta Barrett, Starbright Acres Family Farm.</b> Sell it before you grow it! Understand how crops move from the field to the customer at Farmers markets and Farm Stands, and to restaurants, food hubs and grocery stores. Aleta Barrett owns and operates <a href="#">Starbright Acres Family Farm</a>, an intensive farm that produces \$100,000 of vegetables per acre for local markets.</p>
<b>Sept 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Class 9: Small Farm Machine Operation and Maintenance with Paul Glowaski, Dinner Bell Farm.</b> You go into farming to get your hands in the dirt, but every farmer spends a good amount of time with wrench in hand. Knowing how to keep equipment in good working order is an essential skill. Learn tools and tips for keeping your farm machines in great working order. Regular maintenance can save you time and money! Paul Glowaski runs <a href="#">Dinner Bell Farm</a> and has rebuilt everything from walk-behind tractors to weed whips, chainsaws to tractors. He apprenticed with the infamous Lowell Webb of <a href="#">Webbs Farm Supply</a>.</p>
<b>Oct 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<p><b>Class 10: Cover Crops and Soil Health with Patrick and Diane Bollinger, Foothill Roots Farm.</b> Cover cropping is one of the building blocks of ecological agriculture. Learn how to feed your soil microbes, and plants by growing thick stands of cereals, legumes and other cover crop. Understand what and when to plant and see methods of seeding and incorporating cover crops into the soil. Patrick and Diane Bollinger run <a href="#">Foothill Roots Farm</a> in Meadow Vista where they grow a diversified menu for their successful CSA.</p>
<b>Oct 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Class 11: Seed Production and Seed Saving with Sarah Silverheels, For the People Seeds.</b> With the current loss of our seed heritage from large corporations purchasing so many seed companies, seed saving has become paramount to life saving. We will learn what and how to plant for seed harvest and be shown some seed saving, cleaning and storage techniques. Sarah Silverheels blends her vegetable crops with many varieties of traditional native plants for basketry and forage. Sarah will share her knowledge of production seed farming and teach us to be seed keepers.</p>
<b>Oct 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Class 12: Crop Planning, Successions and Rotations with Missy Neville, <a href="#">Mountain Bounty Farm</a></b> The foundation of every farm is a great crop plan. Learn to plan your season and extend your harvest window with well-timed crop successions and thoughtful plant rotations. Missy Neville has been farming with Mountain Bounty for 7 years, and along with an amazing crew of folks, runs one of the oldest CSA's in the Sierras, cultivating 18 certified Organic acres of fruits and vegetables.</p>
<b>Nov 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Class 13: Growing Crops in Fall, Winter and Spring with Kristen Draz and Will Holland, Fog Dog Farm</b> "Shoulder" season crops can be a great way to increase sales and find a niche market. Explore various methods of extending crops into cold and wet weather and learn more about how to plan for these different growing seasons. <a href="#">Kristen and Will</a> started <a href="#">Fog Dog Farm</a> in 2016 and have been successfully growing their mixed vegetable, mostly no-till operation since.</p>