SAVE THE DATE: CFVGA Conference | Feb 17, 2016

Please save the date and join CFVGA for our second annual conference: Wednesday, February 17 in Denver.

CFVGA will collaborate again with the Colorado Agricultural Leadership Program’s “Governor’s Forum on Colorado Agriculture” and FFA’s “Farm Credit Colorado Ag Hall of Fame Banquet”.

The CFVGA conference will be in tandem with and followed by the Governor’s Forum on Colorado Agriculture on Thursday, February 18 and the Hall of Fame banquet that same evening.

Your conference planning committee has been at work selecting the venue since April. After careful deliberation and coordination with CALP and FFA, we agreed to return to the Renaissance Hotel on Quebec St in Denver for a second year.

Our goal in subsequent years is to move the conference around the State, however staying in Denver proved to be the best choice for 2016.

Building on the smashing success of our Feb 25, 2015 conference, we will offer all the elements you loved: plenary speakers, audience response clickers, roundtable discussions, and networking with buyers and exhibitors. PLUS we will add on afternoon breakout sessions to drill deeper into subject matter of specific interest to you.

We reviewed your comments on the conference evaluation and are building a great conference for the diversity of 2015 attendees.

As always, CFVGA is committed to the success of fruit and vegetable farmers of all scales, production practices and marketing channels.

CFVGA is the go-to resource for the Colorado fresh fruit and vegetable farmers. We connect Colorado growers with industry, government, academia and consumers to strengthen and expand Colorado fresh fruit and vegetable production.

SEE YOU in Denver February 17, 2016!

Joined in 2014 or 2015? New Charter Member and Sponsor Benefits

Members and Sponsors who have paid CFVGA in its inaugural years, 2014 and 2015, and continued payment to CFVGA on an ongoing annual basis shall be considered "Charter Members" and/or "Charter Sponsors" and noted in materials and at events. Benefits include:

- Reduced cost for future membership or sponsorship
- Discounted advertising rates
- Invitation to Charter events
- Early notification of CFVGA tours and events

If you have not yet renewed your 2014 membership in 2015, do so before Dec 30 and CFVGA will also give you 2016 for free!

Total members = 134
Grower = 43
Allied = 43
Partner = 30
GIM = 18
General Interest email list = 314
President’s Message

A special thanks to Western Growers for inviting CFVGA to participate in their board of Directors visit to Washington D.C. We were able to meet visit with 25 elected officials including Colorado Senators Bennet and Gardner, Congressmen Buck, Coffman and Tipton. I made sure to carry the message of the extreme need of a workable agricultural guest worker program, especially for Colorado growers because of our narrow seasonal needs. Also a big topic then was Trade Promotion Authority. Matt McInerney (WG Executive VP) and I were invited to a meeting at the White House EEOB to meet with a select group of agricultural organizations about TPA. Secretary of Agriculture Vilsack led the conversation. It was a very unique opportunity for CFVGA to have a voice in the discussion.

Looking forward the CFVGA has many things planned for the summer, including a farm tour for Shamrock Foods Sales staff, and CO Dept of Ag CO proud events. We need your help so contact us with your ideas of how CFVGA can help you!

If you have any suggestions or questions I would enjoy hearing from you so email me at rtsakata@aol.com

Sincerely,

Robert Sakata
CFVGA Board President

National Young Farmers Coalition Update—Kate Greenburg

The National Young Farmers Coalition (NYFC) is advocating that farming be added to the list of services covered in the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program, an existing program that currently includes professions such as government service, teaching, and nursing.

The Young Farmer Success Act (House Bill 2590) was introduced on June 1, 2015 by Representative Chris Gibson (R-NY) and Representative Joe Courtney (D-CT). As the majority of existing farmers near retirement we will need at least 100,000 new farmers to take their place. But between 2007 and 2012, the number of young farmers increased by only 1,220.

We are asking our national network to call, email and host meetings with their Representatives to encourage them to support this bill. Interested in hosting a meeting? Click above or email kate@youngfarmers.org

Share the campaign with #FarmingIsPublicService

NYFC is also building a Western water advocacy platform to ensure young farmers and ranchers have their voices heard on the most pressing water issues. We just wrapped up a survey—didn’t have a chance to take it? Send an email to the above address and find out about other ways to get involved.

And as always, you can become a member here.
CFVGA is deeply grateful for our sponsors!

Thanks to our sponsors! See more sponsors at: coloradoproduce.org/sponsors

We welcome those passionate about supporting Colorado fruit and vegetable growers to contribute. Sponsors will be a vital part of CFVGA serving its members.

Sponsors will receive benefits based on their sponsor level and may include:

- Logo on our sponsors page
- Recognition at CFVGA events and in outreach materials
- Free booth and attendance at the annual conference
- Opening remarks at the annual conference

Any text that is red is a hyperlink to a website or email. If you have problems opening any, please email info@coloradoproduce.org
CFVGA has a policy process!

The CFVGA Board approved a policy process that would enable the board to support and take appropriate action on matters that are within the core values of the organization: Food Safety, Labor, Water, Nutrition/Wellness, Business Development.

The following is a summary of how the process works:
- A Policy Committee Chair shall be named, currently Robert Sakata. This Chair reports to the BOD and coordinates Policy subcommittee timelines and deliverables.
- Temporary policy subcommittees are formed under all existing core issue committees named above as issues arise needing policy advocacy from CFVGA. Policy subcommittees shall be chaired by existing Committee chairs.
- Policy Committee Chair and/or Core Issue Committees may create policy subcommittees.
- Policy subcommittees shall be representative of the membership diversity of location, scale, production system, markets, etc.
- Policy subcommittees may poll grower members by electronic survey.
- Policy subcommittees shall create at least two positions on issues.
- The CFVGA BOD shall review policy subcommittee recommendations and decide on action, requiring a supermajority 2/3 vote to take action.
- Timeliness is imperative and a call to vote can occur whenever the CFVGA Board President deems it necessary for CFVGA voice to be heard prior to the next scheduled BOD meeting.
- Members shall be given at least 24 hours notice of video conference meetings where BOD will vote on policy issue and the BOD shall conduct a listening session with members attending prior to BOD vote.

A set of guiding principles and values will be presented to the membership at the 2016 annual meeting for input and vote. Examples include:
- Advance the interests of Colorado fruit and vegetable farmers of all scales, production practices and marketing channels.
- Ensure a balance between regulation and policy that creates best practices for farmer and customer success but is not regulation without clear benefit for either.

CFVGA member benefits with Western Growers

CFVGA grower and allied members receive the following member benefits with Western Growers for no additional membership fees:
- Unique online resources with human resources, insurance, labor services and other programs that may be subject to a fee for service.
- Access to all WG online resources on topics including: Health Insurance, Legal, Training and Development, Human Resources, Insurance Services, Workers Compensation, etc.
- Email notice and access to all WG webinars including the monthly Science and Technology "Lunch and learn" Webinars.
- Direct access to the WG Trade Practices and Commodity Services personnel for education and training on best practices for sales and assistance with slow pay and disputed sales contracts.
- The electronic WG Spotlight newsletter which is published twice weekly.

These grower and allied members will receive login credentials to the Western Growers website and can access these online resources.

For an overview without member login visit: www.wga.com/services
## Current Members Opt-In Listing—Full Directory Details Online
Members are given the option for newsletter and website listing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grower Members</th>
<th>Allied Members</th>
<th>GIM &amp; Partner Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arkansas Valley Organic Growers</td>
<td>North Field Farm</td>
<td>AgFinity, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Microresearch Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>BARN Media &amp; The Colorado Ag News Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspen Moon Farm</td>
<td>On The Vine</td>
<td>American AgCredit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rabo AgriFinance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berry Patch Farms</td>
<td>Osage Gardens, Inc</td>
<td>BASF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rocky Mountain Farmers Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cactus Hill Farm</td>
<td>Osito Orchards, LLC</td>
<td>Boulder County Farmers Markets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rocky Mountain Bio Products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colon Orchards</td>
<td>Rocky Mountain Pumpkin Ranch</td>
<td>Caimstack Software</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Western Growers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cure Organic Farm</td>
<td>Rossi Dairy/Produce, LLC</td>
<td>Centennial Ag Supply</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Harvest Mtn Farm Gardens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ela Family Farms</td>
<td>Sakata Farms</td>
<td>Colorado Agritourism Assoc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Moye White LLP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disanti Farms</td>
<td>Skyline Potato Company</td>
<td>Colorado Potato Administrative Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Northern Feed and Bean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmer Johns</td>
<td>Southern Colorado Farms &amp; Nature Fresh Organics</td>
<td>Crop Production Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>USDA-APHIS-WS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fossil Creek Farms LLC</td>
<td>Strohauer Farms, Inc.</td>
<td>DuPont Crop Protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Weld Food Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garden Sweet Farm</td>
<td>Talbott's Mountain Gold LLLP</td>
<td>FMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hirakata Farms</td>
<td>Turn-key Aquaponics, LLC</td>
<td>FreshPack Produce, Inc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jones Farms Organics</td>
<td>We Don’t Waste</td>
<td>Hortau Simplified Irrigation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenz Family Farms</td>
<td>White Rock Specialties, LLC</td>
<td>Keithly-Williams Seed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milberger Farms LLC</td>
<td></td>
<td>Local Food Shift Magazine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mix Farms</td>
<td></td>
<td>Logan Zenner Seeds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hill Farm</td>
<td></td>
<td>MAS Labor H-2A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Labor Committee Report
– Reid Fishering, Chair

The CFVGA Labor Committee is laying the foundations that will bear fruit for upcoming growing seasons. Our committee is focused on bringing a one-stop-shop for all labor needs, questions or concerns.

First, we are working together with CDLE to create a comprehensive list of prior year’s Labor Contractors that have registered with the state.

Second, we are finalizing a webpage dedicated for growers to post jobs openings or workers needed for specific projects.

Third, we want to consolidate and publish a list of all H2A agencies.

Fourth, we are organizing webinars surrounding the detailed process of obtaining H2A visas. Our goal is to have Immigration Lawyers, other Farming Associations and Department of Labor each give presentations on different aspects of the process with an anonymous Q&A session to follow the presentations in order to help clarify many of the questions we face as farmers but were not sure who or how to ask.

And while a lot of these items are still a work in progress, the committee, with the help of friends in the industry, was able to publish a simplification of pending legislation for Labor Housing to help compare how the new rules would affect the current housing laws in place. These are the first steps in creating value for the farming community through CFVGA Labor Committee, and we welcome any and all farmers that have strong opinions or suggestions as to how we can further strengthen our Labor situation in Colorado to please join our committee.

CSU College of Agriculture Dean Search

CFVGA participated in the recent search for the new CSU Agricultural Dean search and CSU President Dr. Tony Frank recently announced that Dr. Ajay Menon is the new Dean.

We are excited to be able to work with Dr. Menon and hope to introduce the CFVGA to him and offer our help to him. More information about his appointment can be found here.

A special thanks to outgoing Dean, Dr. Craig Beyrouty, who has taken a position at the University of Maryland. We appreciate all his work during his tenure at CSU.

Dr. Mark Uchanski to fill Specialty Crop Position at CSU - Mike Bartolo

Mark Uchanski, currently at New Mexico State University, was recently hired to fill the vacated Specialty Crop position in the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture at Colorado State University. Mark will be located on the CSU campus and will begin work in December 2015.

Mark brings a wealth of expertise to the position with over 12 years of experience in various horticultural fields. Mark has been teaching classes in various aspects of vegetable crop production and has received several accolades for his work. In addition to being a skilled educator, Mark has also developed numerous research projects. Some of those projects have been conducted in cooperation with faculty at CSU. As a result, Mark already has a good understanding of some of the issues that face Colorado growers. His specific areas of expertise include: sustainable and organic agriculture issues, hoop house production, and small and local vegetable production. He has worked with numerous crops including chile peppers, onions, and cover crops.

Mark is a native of Illinois and received his B.S. degree in Horticulture from the University of Illinois and his Ph.D. from the same institution in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences.
Colorado 2015 Legislation Summary

The Colorado legislative session ended in a flurry of activity with last minute legislation. With regards to agriculture one of the more significant bill was HB-1344 which directs the state to partner with the City and County of Denver and the National Western Stock Show to provide improvements to the Stock Show facilities with the issuance by the state of up to a $250 million in bonds which will include a CSU educational center. HB15-1057 changes the process for a statewide ballot initiative. Under this bill it requires the state to prepare an initial fiscal impact statement for each initiative submitted to the title board. Also the fiscal impact must be printed at the beginning of the initiative petition that is circulated for signatures. If the initiative makes it to the ballot the state must include in the ballot information booklet (blue book). Lots of focus was on water again this year and most of the legislation that was passed ended up being amended through the process. Bills that passed include funding for an invasive phreatophyte control grant program (HB15-1006), S. Platte Alluvial Aquifer Monitoring Network (HB15-1166), Quantification of the historical consumptive use of a water right (SB15-183), and Storm Water facilities (SB15-212). Bills that did not pass but are likely to be discussed by the Interim Water Committee include, Flex Water Markets, Rain Barrels, instream flow incentive program, and ag water efficiency.

CFVGA Video Project: We need your farm videos!

CFVGA is developing video projects to promote Colorado fruit and vegetables.

Nothing is better for showing Coloradans and out of state buyers how great our produce is than real videos from Colorado’s fruit and vegetable farms.

Videos can be made in the field on your smartphone and then uploaded to a dropbox folder. You don’t need an online account, just submit a release form, make some videos of farm activities requested, and upload to dropbox. It is simple to do and will help us create one or more powerful videos that tell the story of Colorado produce with real grower videos!

Email:
info@coloradoproduce.org

and ask about how to shoot and upload videos for CFVGA use

Water Committee Report—Robert Sakata, Chair

On behalf of the CFVGA membership, comments were submitted to the draft Colorado Water Plan. Hundreds of comments from across the state have been submitted and the next draft has just been released.

The water committee will review the new draft and see if our issues were addressed. If not we convene a meeting with the CWCB staff to see what else we can provide them to support our suggested changes.

If you would like to get involved in shaping Colorado’s water plan, you may also join meetings and/or submit online input. Click here more information.

CFVGA is an active participating member of the Colorado Ag Water Alliance and is on the committee to plan the next statewide Ag Water Summit. If you would like to be a part of this process or have suggestions on topics that would benefit growers in your area please contact Robert Sakata at rtsakata@aol.com
Food Safety Committee Webinar—
Martha Sullins, Vice Chair

August 27, 12pm – 1:15 pm

Join us for a webinar on Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs) and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) programs for produce growers. Presented by Dave Davis of Colorado HACCP.

For produce growers who have processing facilities under their control or who are considering expanding their business model into food processing and packaging, learn about:

- Differences between GAPs, GMPs, HACCP—the activities involving fresh produce that fall under each food safety risk management system, and the appropriate regulatory agencies and advisory organizations.
- Controlling food hazards through HACCP—basic HACCP principles and overview on how to write a HACCP plan.
- Adapting to Preventive Controls for Human Food under the Food Safety Modernization Act.
- Resources, tools, checklists, and service providers for follow-up, available on CFVGA web site.

Connect to the webinar by clicking here.

5 minutes prior to 12 pm start time. If prompted “Enter as a Guest”

Coming soon!

Date to be announced.
Join us for a webinar on Production Water Quality—sampling, testing and recordkeeping to support your on-farm food safety planning.

2015 Seasonal Weather Challenges— Mike Bartolo

As we all know, the 2015 growing season started off being one of the wettest on record likely due to an El Nino influence. El Nino is a warming of surface waters in the Pacific Ocean. La Nina is a cooling of Pacific Ocean surface waters.

During May 2015, many locations throughout the eastern slope received in excess of 6 inches of precipitation for the month and some locations, almost twice that amount. Other areas of the state, including the Western Slope and San Luis Valley, also received higher than usual amounts of precipitation.

This unseasonal weather had both benefits and drawbacks. In general, planting was delayed and in some instances planting was not possible at all. The storms also brought severe hail in several locations causing complete crop loss or replanting. Although there was ample water in rivers and canals, some infrastructure and diversions were lost to unusually high stream flows.

Overall, it looks like the weather is returning to a more normal pattern and despite the early season issues, it looks like many storage reservoirs were filled and there will be a good supply of irrigation water for the reminder of the season.

Understanding and living with the constant weather challenges has in part been made easier by the COAGMET weather station network (http://www.coagmet.colostate.edu/).

COAGMET, a large network of automated weather stations, has now been in existence in Colorado for over 20 years. Over time the network added internet delivery and a wide range of data delivery options and continues to improve the user interface in response to a growing interest in weather data.

The El Nino continues in the Pacific Ocean and currently the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association’s El Nino Portal predicts a greater than 90% chance that El Nino will continue through winter 2015-16 in the US and an 80% chance it will last into early spring 2016.
Nutrition/Wellness Committee Info —Amy Kunugi, Chair

Dan Buettner’s book, The Blue Zones Solution, was all over the news outlets earlier this year. In it he describes several “Blue Zones” where people tend to live longer, healthier lives. One of the ways that these people live to enjoy healthy old age is that they eat plant-based diets. Eat more fruit, vegetables, and beans! It is that easy!

Colorado produces wonderful fruits and vegetables! Apples, Cabbage, Cantaloupe, Carrots, Lettuce, Onions, Peaches, Peppers, Pumpkins, Spinach, Sweet Corn, Watermelon, and Wine Grapes are just a few of our top fruit and vegetable crops! The Nutrition and Wellness Committee will be featuring the benefits of each of these and other Colorado Grown fruits and vegetables.

Did you know that potatoes are grown on more acres than any other fruit or vegetable in Colorado? Potatoes are an excellent source of vitamin C (51% RDA), vitamin B-6 (30% RDA) and of potassium (25% RDA) per one medium potato (Source: Medical News Today).

Today, Colorado potatoes are available year round. There are many varieties of potatoes including russets, reds, yellows, fingerlings, and specialty potatoes. The main production areas are in the San Luis Valley and northeastern Colorado.

Please visit www.coloradopotato.org for more information regarding potatoes from Colorado.

"Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants." – Michael Pollan

August “Choose Colorado Produce Challenge”

The “Choose Colorado Produce Challenge” – an online photo contest complete with local challenges and produce trivia – will launch August 1 during Colorado Proud Month, to encourage Coloradans to get reacquainted with the state’s bountiful produce.

The contest runs August 1 through August 31. Contestants will learn fun facts and trivia about Colorado produce and complete up to 17 local challenges. To enter the contest, contestants are required to upload photos of their completed challenges to the Produce Challenge contest page and use #ChooseColorado in the entry description. All approved submissions will be eligible for public vote throughout the month of August.

Two winners will be selected—one for completing the most challenges and one for acquiring the most public votes on one photo entry. Each winner will receive one $500 Safeway gift card.

CFVGA Reviews Bids for Interim ED Contractor

A CFVGA committee is currently reviewing bids and interviewing four independent contractors who submitted bids in response to a “Request for Bid Proposals”.

This committee will submit its recommendations to the BOD on July 21 for a decision. The BOD hopes to have a the ED Contractor on board by August on a 12 month contract with a goal of hiring an employee ED in the future.

Work for this contractor includes:

- Coordinate annual membership and sponsorship drives
- Coordinate outreach and communication
- Coordinate annual conference and meeting
- Coordinate annual board retreat
- Coordinate and support the BOD and committees
- Carry on CFVGA correspondence
- Coordinate fiscal activities
- Secure external funding

We are excited for the potential to increase the capabilities of CFVGA and serve you better!

Stay tuned for details!
The top issues that are at a boil now:

1) International trade is at the forefront of action in Washington as the summer heats up. After passing the Senate, authority for the President to negotiate trade deals has been stalled by a reluctant House of Representatives. Agricultural groups are working, along with many other sectors, to break through this impasse. Although delayed it is likely that the trade agenda will be back on track soon, with the eventual hope that a free trade agreement with Pacific Rim countries can be finalized later this year or early next;

2) After Chinese hackers broke into the government’s computer systems many agencies have had to reexamine their systems and some have been directly impacted. One system that was impacted was the State Department’s H2A visa processing system which has become inoperative. This has stopped all H2A entries into the United States just as summer harvest is increasing labor demand in parts of the country. The State Department is working to fix the problem, and as a result of pressure from producer groups and Congress, the State Department is being pushed to place H2A visas at the head of the line for visa processing once computer systems are operational.

The top issues that are simmering:

1) With California’s drought getting massive media attention, the drought problems that have long been simmering in other parts of the West are also getting more attention and Congress’ focus. In early June, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing to bring attention to the Western drought. In the House bills are being drafted, with hearings likely soon to deal with aspects of the issue. While Congress can’t make it rain, the federal government can undertake actions to help in the short, medium and long-term throughout the West. Hopefully all this attention turns to action as the legislative year progresses;

2) In May, the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers finalized a revised “waters of the United States” rule that lays-out federal jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act. While the final regulation changed significantly from what the agencies initially proposed last year, these rules are likely to never be implemented. Both the House and Senate are moving to overturn them outright or block them. Overturning the rules outright will prove difficult since the President would veto such efforts and there aren’t enough votes to overturn his veto, but blocking the rules might be possible. In both the House and Senate appropriations bills that set spending levels for EPA and Army Corps for next year, these rules are blocked from going into effect. If Congress can avoid breaking down such as was the case when the government shutdown- then when those bills pass the new EPA rules are likely to be frozen from being implemented quite possibly frozen until there is a new President in place. In fact, if the regulations remain frozen for 18 months then whoever is the new President is likely to want to review the regulation before allowing it to go forward.

Colorado Ag Council Report

CFVGA participated in the Colorado Ag Council (CAC) summer meeting. The CAC is the collection of 24 ag organizations from across Colorado that work together to help Colorado agriculture. We had updates from state legislators including Senator Sonnenberg reviewing the past legislative session and looking forward to 2016. Discussions about the 2016 Colorado Ag Day at the state capitol were discussed as this event is one of the best attended during the session. In the afternoon the Colorado Ag Water Alliance met and discussion items included follow up with the Colorado Water Conservation Board on the Colorado Water Plan and plans for a Colorado Ag Water Alliance Ag water summit.
Advertise with CFVGA!

Want to reach over 400 produce growers, farm input suppliers, and others passionate about Colorado fruit and vegetables?

CFVGA will soon sell advertising space in our newsletter. Details are being developed. If you are interested in receiving early information about advertising rates, send an email to:

info@coloradoproduce.org

Upcoming Events, Notices and Resources: send us your events

**Events:**
- August 27, 12pm - 1:15 pm webinar on Good Manufacturing Practices (GMPs) and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) programs for produce growers.
- Colorado Proud “Choose Colorado Pop-Up Picnics” July—September
- NOCO Onion Variety Field Day, Sept 4, Brighton, call 303-637-8101 or email for details and RSVP
- Sept 11—12, 2015 SLV Potato Festival, Monte Vista
- CFVGA online calendar

**Notices:**
- Worker Protection Standard materials (poster and CDs) available from CSU CEPEP for free

**Resources:**
- National Young Farmers Coalition advocacy and resources for young farmers
- CSU Farm to Table grower food safety resources
- Western Growers
- CSU Small Farm and Specialty Crops Ag Business Management Resources: marketing, value-added, business planning, food systems, on-farm food safety
- CSU Extension Building Farmers 2015 programs
- Colorado Market Maker
- Colorado Fresh Produce and Meat Market Reports
- CDA Produce resources

Any text that is red is a hyperlink to a website or email. If you have problems opening any, please email info@coloradoproduce.org
We want YOU and those in your network as members! All can find a fit as a grower member, allied member, general interest member or partner member.

Send your friends and colleagues to our website where they can download member information or apply and pay directly online.

Go to: www.coloradoproduce.org

Subscribe to our email list

Follow us on Facebook

Meet Board Members —Marley Hodgson and Dan Long

Marley Hodgson, Chief Strategic Officer, and Dan Long, Chief Culinary Officer, founded Colorado-based Mad Greens– Eat Better restaurant in 2004. The pair were intent on addressing the lack of fresh, fast and healthy fare available to the average American consumer at an affordable price. Known for fresh, better for you, locally sourced food with a focus on fun, MAD Greens serves up “Inspired Eats,” high-quality ingredients prepared in interesting salad, wrap, soup and panini combinations. MAD Greens currently has 16 locations in Colorado and Arizona with plans to open an additional 50 restaurants over the next 4 years.

MAD Greens is committed to helping guests ‘Eat Better’, and this means sourcing local ingredients straight from Colorado farms, bakeries, and dairies. MAD Greens works with terrific partners like Petrocco Farms, Jumping Good Goat Dairy and Agriburbia to source the freshest ingredients possible.

“In a concept like ours, serving only the freshest, most high quality ingredients is paramount to our success and a key part of our brand promise. Much of what we serve is raw, so our customers know it when we don’t deliver on that promise…and that isn’t okay. In joining the CVGFA Board, we both feel a deep responsibility to the industry and its farmers who are so vital to us. Helping to ensure that Colorado fruit and vegetable growers are successful in navigating the often difficult process of bringing their goods to market is something we both are passionate about. All Coloradans should be able to enjoy the incredible bounty that our farmers and growers produce each year and we hope our membership will contribute in a small way to making that happen.”

Marley and Dan aka MAD!