



## CFVGA Produce Labor Conference

Wednesday, December 5, 2018

Labor recruiting and retention affects all Colorado produce farms. Join CFVGA in our first in-depth conference devoted to understanding the current condition, learning updates on current and new programs, and finding innovative solutions for Colorado fruit and vegetable growers. The CFVGA Produce Labor Conference will feature live labor saving technology demos and a pitch and discuss session with labor solutions innovators.

**7:00 – 8:00: registration and breakfast. Go to [www.pollev.com/cfvga](http://www.pollev.com/cfvga) to get ready for smartphone based audience polling**

**8:00 – 8:15: opening remarks with audience polling and interaction** (Reid Fishing, CFVGA Treasurer and Labor Committee Chair; Jenn Yezak, Colorado Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture)

**8:15 – 9:00: Trends in U.S. Domestic and International Farm Worker Situation**

Jason Resnick, VP and General Counsel for Western Growers, offers a perspective based on the Western Growers Labor Committee regarding factors and trends in availability of domestic and international farm workers.

**9:00 – 10:00: Domestic workers hard to find? Learn how H2A solutions may work for both small to large growers.**

Hear from a panel of professionals how to get the most out of H2A. Whether you are a seasoned H2A employer or think H2A is not a fit for you, this session will give you actionable next steps and resources.

**Kerri Owen**, Colo Dept of Labor and Employment: Optimal H2A Applications

**Kerry Scott**, MAS Labor: Joint employer H2A application for small farms

**Eric Hanagan**, Hanagan Farms: Small employer success with H2A (housing, costs, application, etc.)

**Susan McKittrick**, USDA Rural Development: New USDA opportunities for H2A worker housing

**Jason Resnick**, **Western Growers**: Farm Labor Contractors and use of H2A workers

**10:00 – 10:30: break. Visit with exhibitors**

**10:30 – 11:30: Colorado Ag and Farm Labor Summit Feedback**

**Robert Sakata**, CFVGA President

**Betty Velasquez**, Colorado Dept of Labor and Employment

Hear conference leads from the Dec 3 - 4 Colorado Ag and Farm Labor Summit in Colorado Springs, (a conference focusing on the needs of farm workers) regarding their participants' thoughts on how to improve domestic farmworker recruitment, discuss in small groups, and offer grower feedback.

**11:30 – 12:30: lunch**

**12:30 – 1:30: MAIN HALL: Innovative solutions: tech demos**

Ready to see labor saving tech demos? Participants break into small groups and see live demos of labor saving technologies up close and personal and then vote on the labor solution that could be most



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beneficial to their farms. The winner receives a free one year scholarship to the Western Growers Center for Innovation and Technology.

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1:30 – 1:45: **break. Vote for tech demo winner via PollEv.**

1:45 – 3:00: **Grower/labor Provider Speed Dating and Visit with Exhibitors**

Not for romance, but in a speed dating format, participants meet and ask questions of various domestic and international labor providers such as farm labor contractors, mobile workforce providers, web based job finder services, etc.

H2A providers/labor contractors/other labor providers seated while growers rotate to them.

**Farm Labor Contractors:**

Catarina Dominguez  
JR Seasonal Harvest Inc.  
RFMCS LLC  
Los Perez Contracting Co.  
Tino's Harvesting Contracting  
McNeil Labor

**H2A Agents:**

MAS Labor  
Snake River Farmer's Association  
Western Growers  
Labor Consultants International  
Farm Labor USA  
Colorado Dept of Labor and Employment

**Temp agencies:**

Advance Services, Inc.

**Workforce App:**

Sebenza

3:00 – 4:00: **Innovative solutions: pitch and discuss. Vote for pitch and discuss winner via PollEv.**

Hear innovators pitch up-and-coming solutions including but not limited to finding qualified ag labor, technology and management, discuss ideas with presenters in small groups, give feedback and then vote on a winner! The winner receives free two day 2019 Annual Conference registration.

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**Turn in your evaluation at the registration desk.**