Site Visit Descriptions

On August 14, 2024, members of the California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force will visit the following Fresno-area farms, listed in alphabetical order:

Dream Farm

June You Moua and Jaran Sakrungreung began farming in 2010. They became certified producers and started selling at Los Angeles-based farmers markets in 2011. June and Jaran operated Dream Farm from a single rented location for over 10 years until 2021. After the water ran out for a second time, the landowner decided to sell his property. June and Jaran moved around for the next thee years, but it was difficult to find a property without challenges amidst the historic drought. One of the properties they farmed in 2022 stopped producing water and required a pump retrofit in the middle of the summer to regain water. This caused a huge loss to their business. In 2023, they decided to look for a farm they could call their own – that property is where we stand today.

Jose Rojas Cruz's Farm

Jose Rojas Cruz had over 10 years of farming experience before moving to the Central Valley. For the last 3 years, he has grown vegetables like zucchini, cauliflower, broccoli, napa cabbages, purple and green cabbages, fava beans, and tomatoes for wholesale distribution. His primary clients are the Sunnyside Packing House in Selma, CA, and Fresno BIPOC Produce. He leases approximately 6 acres of land. However, due to increasing challenges around rent, including shared billing with other farmers and access to water, he has been interested in finding a property he can purchase. He would like to know more about resources that can assist him with his current situation.

Oliver Farms & Scott Family Farm

This visit will start at Oliver Farms with Pete Oliver, a member of the African American Farmers of California (AAFC). He is a Vegetable Farmer specializing in legacy crops including black eyed peas. Next, the group will caravan to Scott Family Farm. Owner and operator <u>Will Scott Jr.</u> is a founding member of the African American Farmers of California (AAFC) and supports new and existing farmers through education and farming opportunities. He is an organic vegetable grower specializing in legacy crops and high tunnel growing.

Wukchumni Farms

<u>Wukchumni Farms</u> was established in 2020, with the goals to provide access to fresh and healthy food for tribal elders and families, encourage a sense of belonging and deepen our connection to ancestral Wukchumni Yokuts land, and create an inter-generational learning space that uplifts the cultural lifeways and history of the Wukchumni people. Our vision is to create a sustainable and autonomous food system that honors the earth and our ancestors by integrating Wukchumni Yokuts culture, traditional ecological knowledge, and regenerative agriculture practices into our food production, land stewardship, and educational programs. Currently, we distribute fresh produce, eggs, and medicinal plants for cultural uses to tribal elders and community at our Wukchumni Farms Tribal Food Pantry.

Yo'Ville Community Garden & Farm

The <u>Yosemite Village Community Garden and Urban Farm Incubator (Yo'Ville)</u> is a 7.5 acre fresh food production space planned and designed to collaboratively enlist and serve the residents of Southwest Fresno. The project's goal is to create a just and local food system by providing residents and community members with tools, knowledge and access to land. This is accomplished by utilizing vacant land for residents to grow their own food, creating opportunities to share knowledge on growing and eating healthy food, and organizing residents to directly improve access to fresh produce and green spaces.