harvest and hearth
Farm and Heritage Workshops

Friday, February 14
8:30 am–5:00 pm
College of Idaho
Dr. David Johnson is a molecular biologist conducting research as an Adjunct Professor at the Center for Regenerative Agriculture and Resilient Systems at California State University, Chico, CA and as a researcher at the Institute for Sustainable Agricultural Research at New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM.

He works with growers, researchers, Arizona State University, Texas A&M, USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Globetrotter Foundation, the Thornburg Foundation and the Sequoia Farm Foundation, exploring paths to improve food security, reduce atmospheric CO2 concentrations, and increase farm and rangeland productivity and profitability through the development of beneficial soil microbial communities.

David’s research, in soil microbial community structure and function, has opened a window for viewing the interdependence between plants and soil microbes. Optimization of these plant-microbe associations promotes:

- Restoration of soil fertility,
- Improved growth of crops, and
- Increased efficiencies in plant water use, soil microbial carbon-use and soil carbon storage capabilities.

These benefits provide a path to significantly increase farm and ranch productivity and profitability while also promoting the development of soil carbon as a new agricultural commodity. This will provide a robust and practical mechanism to begin reducing atmospheric CO2 within regenerative agricultural systems. You can view more of David’s work at www.csuchico.edu/regenerativeagriculture

10:00-11:00 Raising Angora Rabbits for Fiber
Angora rabbit fiber is an operation that can be done with limited space. Learn the basics of rabbit care, and the process from shearing to spinning. Carol will demonstrate the entire process, from rabbit to hat!
Carol Dunn, Angora Amore

11:15-12:15 Chickens: Laying Hens and Broilers
Chickens are the backbone of any farmstead. Learn the ins and outs of pastured chicken care, and how to raise them for eggs, meat, or both!
Josiah Barrett, J-Bar Poultry  |  Brad McIntyre, McIntyre Pastures

1:30-2:30 Turning Waste Into Profit
Waste management can be a challenge in any operation. Learn how you can use it to your advantage, whether turning it into a value-added product for sale, or using it on your own fields to improve productivity and soil health!
Tyson Meeks  |  Alayne Blickle, Horses for Clean Water  |  Nick Baltes, Urban Worm

2:45-3:45 The Basics of Sustainable Beef Cattle and Carbon Sequestration
Looking to raise sustainable grass-fed cows? Get the basics about how to manage a herd to optimize production and conservation.
Richard Bradbury, Desert Mountain Grass Fed Beef  |  Nate Jones, Kings Crown Organics
Steve Campbell, Tailor Made Beef

3:45-5:00 Networking
Join us for appetizers and local drinks in the Simplot South Dining Hall

NCAP info???
### crop production

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>10:00-11:00</td>
<td><strong>Growing Small Grains</strong>&lt;br&gt;Learn about the basics of small grain production—the equipment you need, potential markets, and techniques to help you be successful.&lt;br&gt;Brad McIntyre, McIntyre Pastures</td>
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<td>11:15-12:15</td>
<td><strong>Nursery Production: Cuttings, Bulbs and Starts</strong>&lt;br&gt;Enjoy a hands-on class to learn how to propagate plants, as well as the basics for planning, clean production, tools, basic plant materials review and post-propagation care.&lt;br&gt;Ariel Agenbroad, University of Idaho Extension&lt;br&gt;Elayne Rayne, Next Generation Organics</td>
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<td>1:30-2:30</td>
<td><strong>Vineyard Production</strong>&lt;br&gt;Idaho has a few small but ideal grape-growing regions throughout the state. Whether for wine or table grapes, find out how to successfully raise a vineyard for optimum production.&lt;br&gt;Martin Fujishin, Fujishin Family Cellars</td>
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<td>2:45-3:45</td>
<td><strong>Organic Weed and Pest Control</strong>&lt;br&gt;Organic producers are limited on products available to manage weed and pest issues. Lindsay will talk about organic integrated pest management, at what point you should reach for a certified organic pest control product, and which one.&lt;br&gt;Lindsay Schramm, North End Organic Nursery</td>
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### farmstead management

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<td>10:00-11:00</td>
<td><strong>Composting with David Johnson</strong>&lt;br&gt;Did you know there are more microbes in a tablespoon of healthy soil than there are humans on earth? Join Dr. David Johnson, renowned molecular biologist and research scientist at the University of New Mexico, to learn about the importance of microorganisms in soil regeneration and the value of healthy soil on every farm.&lt;br&gt;Dr. David Johnson and Hui-Chen Su, University of New Mexico</td>
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<td>11:15-12:15</td>
<td><strong>The Benefits of Ecosystem Restoration</strong>&lt;br&gt;Learning to work with natural systems can have a multitude of benefits for your farm. Learn how one ranching family is working to bring the native habitat back to their farm and the benefits it brings.&lt;br&gt;Sean Cunningham, Cunningham Pastured Meats</td>
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<td>1:30-2:30</td>
<td><strong>Farm and Revenue Diversification</strong>&lt;br&gt;Don’t put all your eggs in one basket! Diversifying your on-farm income through different business avenues is key to creating a sustainable company. Hear how three small Idaho farms are making it work by crop diversification, value-added goods, and always adding to their farm.&lt;br&gt;Lee Rice, Rice Family Farms</td>
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<td>2:45-3:45</td>
<td><strong>The Benefits of Native Bees</strong>&lt;br&gt;Maintaining habitat for native pollinators can be key to managing pests and disease, as well as promoting crop health and pollination. Learn how you can provide habitat for beneficial insects to improve the health of your farm.&lt;br&gt;Dr. Karen Strickler, Pollinator Paradise</td>
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10:00-11:00  Enterprise Diversification: Expanding into Cider Production
Considering expanding into the booming cider industry? Hear how one farmer has gotten into the business—all the rules and regulations, how to market, and what you really need to know to make it work before you take the leap.
Clay Erskine, Stack Rock Cidery

11:15-12:15  Creating Community
Farming can be a solitary job, but three local farmers have brought community into the soul of their operations. Tyson Meeks is the founder of the Soil Keepers, a no-till based organization sharing ideas and methods on how to benefit their farms. Henry Allsworth has gathered farmers in the Dry Creek Valley to cooperatively lease land and share ideas and tools. Ben Trieu has organized bike tours to farms, providing the community with education and the farmers with project-based help.
B. Henry Allsworth, Winnower Farm and Ferments | Tyson Meeks, Meeks Family Farm | Ben Trieu

1:30-2:30  Are You Ready to Farm?
Interested in starting a small farm in the city, suburbs or country? Wonder what you could do and if you’re ready? Whether you’re in the dreaming stages or have already begun, this engaging workshop will walk you through various enterprise scenarios and share how to evaluate them for your unique situation.
Learn what it takes to begin and sustain a small-scale farming business and how to know if you’re ready to take the leap.
Ariel Agenbroad, University of Idaho Extension

2:45-3:45  Am I Making Money?
Crunching the numbers can be daunting but making sure your farm is in the black is key for long-term success. Hear how local farmers are making sure their operations are profitable.
Maria McIntyre, McIntyre Pastures | Clay Erskine, Peaceful Belly Farm
livestock
Pioneer Room in the Jewett Auditorium (building 17)

crop production
Library Presentation Room (building 31)

farmstead management
Simplot South Dining Hall (building 5)

enterprise
Hendren Dining Room (building 5)

NCAP growers
Library, 2nd floor classroom (building 31)

Ada Soil & Water Conservation District
For more information about the Ada SWCD, call 208-685-6981 or visit www.adaswcd.org.