

Wild Farm Alliance Farmer to Farmer Field Day: ALL THINGS AVIAN PEST CONTROL ON THE FARM



Tuesday, April 14, 2020

8 am - 1 pm

Hosted by: Medlock Ames at Bell Mountain Ranch, Healdsburg, CA

Cost: \$20, Includes lunch and a copy of WFA's Bird Booklet

8:00 am - 8:15 am - Registration

8:15 am - 9:00 am - Viewing Birds Up-Close with Mist Net Demonstration

Humboldt State University (HSU), captures birds on-site for close viewing, while discussing the insights gained from this technique for understanding avian pest control of rodents and insects.

9:00 am - 1:00 pm - Presentations and Lunch

Ames Morison, co-founder and winemaker, discusses **Medlock Ames'** overall operation.

Jo Ann Baumgartner, Wild Farm Alliance, shares highlights from their publication

Supporting Beneficial Birds and Managing Pest Birds.

Anthony Thomas, Spring Mountain Vineyard, shares their experience of how increasing Western Bluebird nest boxes is decreasing incidence of **Pierce's disease**.

Matt Johnson, PhD, Fulbright Scholar, HSU, covers his lab's work on **Barn Owl nest box occupancy**, hunting behavior in and around vineyards and reciprocity between growers and the birds they support.

Kate Marianchild, acclaimed author of **Secrets of Oak Woodlands**, explains how most animals, including birds and bats, depend on insects. Learn simple steps to reverse the insect apocalypse.

Adina Merenlender, PhD, UC Berkeley, describes the conservation of habitat corridors critical to climate resilience, watershed integrity, and **health of birds** and other wildlife.

Keith Abeles, Sonoma Resource Conservation District, shares how the RCD **supports the plantings of hedgerows and riparian areas.**

Sam Earnshaw, Hedgerows Unlimited, discusses the functionality of native plant hedgerows and **how to install one.**

Shelly Connor, WFA, describes how **up to \$100K** is available through **the Healthy Soils Program** for climate-friendly practices that can also support bird habitat.



All Things Avian Field Day

Learn about the birds flying through your vineyard and how they might be a benefit to your operation. Hear from and connect with innovative farmers, avian researchers, ecologists and other experts about practices that attract beneficial birds for pest control and manage pest birds. In addition, participate in a demonstration hedgerow planting and learn how this habitat can benefit your vineyard. You will gain valuable experience in planning for practices aimed at attracting beneficial birds and other natural enemies. Registration is \$20 and includes lunch and a copy of Wild Farm Alliance's **Supporting Beneficial Birds and Managing Pest Birds** booklet.

About Medlock Ames

At Bell Mountain Ranch, Barn Owls are encouraged with nest boxes, and hawks with perches, making rodents much less of a problem. Western Bluebirds' nest boxes were recently installed with the intention of keeping Sharpshooter numbers down. Besides boxes and perches providing this structural habitat, 80% of the land is conserved in native habitat—oak woodlands, grasslands, and chaparral—which supports the insects that songbirds need to eat during nesting season. These natural landscapes also provide Barn Owls with what they need—more foraging habitat than the vineyard itself—which ensures better nest box occupancy. With large parts of the estate dedicated to nature, safe wildlife movement corridors are present and the watershed's health is protected.

This field day is brought to you by generous support from the Foundation for Sustainability and Innovation, the Strong Foundation for Environmental Values and the following:



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