



GROWER RESOURCE GUIDE: CROP RESEARCH - ALFALFA

The San Joaquin Sustainable Farming Project has created a grower resource guide to help growers navigate useful topics and ideas and sustainable practices from on-line resources. Each topic contains general information and where to find current and pertinent materials and web links to that information. We hope you will find these documents worthwhile and convenient to use.

Alfalfa and other forages are an 'engine of food production' with a more than \$1.4 billion dollar per year farm gate value in California and over \$20 billion nationally. Alfalfa hay is the fourth most important economic crop in the U.S., second in acreage in California to almonds. California is the nation's leading producer of alfalfa hay.

[UC Cooperative Extension Alfalfa and Forage News](#) provides a variety of timely and new information on alfalfa production from crop experts. Topics include: Overseeding Alfalfa into Alfalfa – When it works and when it doesn't, Alfalfa IPM Survey Now Open, Flea beetles - A nuisance in early-planted, San Joaquin Valley small grains, New Online Course from UC IPM Helps Growers Prevent Illegal Pesticide Residues Glyphosate Injury in Roundup-Ready Alfalfa - A Scientific 'whodunnit'

A useful resource for all California alfalfa growers is the [California Alfalfa Workgroup](#) which offers an extensive variety of links to every aspect of producing alfalfa including variety selection and all aspects of production. This group includes Dr. Dan Putnam, agronomist and alfalfa expert.

In September 2016, the [California Alfalfa & Forage Association](#) (CAFA) ratified the California Alfalfa & Forage Research Foundation (CAFRF), a non-profit 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation. It is open for business and has received thousands of dollars in donations from growers and industry members.

The foundation's goal is to support and/or conduct research and educational activities related to alfalfa and forage crops.

University of California resources include:

[Alfalfa Pest Management Guidelines](#)

[Alfalfa Year Round Plan](#)

[The San Joaquin Sustainable Farming Project blog](#) provides a unique ground-level perspective from the field. Our mission is to promote sustainable farming systems throughout the Central Valley and provide you with the latest information about cotton, almond and alfalfa crops.

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