



A SYSTEM FOR MEASURING SUSTAINABLE PERFORMANCE THROUGHOUT THE SPECIALTY CROP SUPPLY CHAIN.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SISC Announces New Supply Chain Design Project – Funded by NRCS CA CIG Grant

Staff, Stewardship Index for Specialty Crops

01/25/2015

Across the entire specialty crop supply chain, businesses want to better understand their supply chains, mitigate risk, and improve the resilience of the food system by conserving natural resources. Understanding and communicating this new information across the supply chain necessitates a new supply chain protocol, one that supports the ease of collection, sharing and comparing on-farm performance metric information. The Stewardship Index for Specialty Crops (SISC) is proud to announce a new Supply Chain Stewardship Design Project that aims to create just such a recommended protocol.

SISC is spearheading the project to redesign supply chains so that they are better able to capture, communicate, and share the value of the use of on-farm performance metrics. The goal of the project is to develop a framework for supply chain systems to easily share performance metric data and continually improve sustainable stewardship and natural resource conservation by all scales of agriculture.

This multi-stakeholder project will identify and model the best practices for how to collect, share, understand, and compare the data from on-farm performance metrics. SISC will bring the entire supply chain to the table to do this important work - so that the model created is both informed by, and valuable to, each node of the supply chain as well as the chain as a whole. Project participants include: Church Brothers Produce, Taylor Farms, Compass Group, PRO*ACT, Western Growers Association, NRDC, The Sustainability Consortium, Sustainable Conservation, NRCS and Central Coast RCD's.

Focused on the fresh market supply chain, the project will work with lettuce growers on the Central Coast of CA over the 2015-16 growing seasons. The project is funded by a USDA NRCS California Conservation Innovation grant and aims to have a model illustrating best practices for collecting, sharing, comparing and using performance metric data across supply chains available to the food industry in the fall of 2016.

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