



COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION

# San Miguel Basin Extension Local Programs Update

**February 5, 2024**

**Hover your mouse on each page to find the arrow to scroll through the 9 pages.**



**Having trouble viewing all pages? Respond to this email and we can forward you a pdf file!**

**We look forward to seeing you at classes this year!**





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# PRUNING WORKSHOP



March 7,

2024

9:00 AM till 3:00 PM



**\$15.00 Fee (payable at door – no credit cards)**

**Dolores/Montezuma County CSU Extension Offices'  
Fruit Tree Project  
Yellow Jacket Southwest Colorado Research Station  
16898 Cty Rd Z – Yellow Jacket**

Coming from Cortez:  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles past mile marker 42 – Rd Z  
Coming from Dove Creek: 1st right after mile marker 43

**YOU MUST BRING YOUR OWN CHAIR, WATER, SNACKS, LUNCH, AND DRESS IN  
WARM CLOTHING!!**

**IF YOU WANT HANDS-ON PRUNING, BRING YOUR OWN LOPPERS OR  
HAND PRUNERS.**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL**



**970-677-2283 OR 970-565-3123**

Colorado State University, Dolores and Montezuma Counties will not be responsible for loss, accidents, damage or injury to persons or personal property.  
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# Apple

# Pruning

# Workshop

Join the Apple Core Project for an afternoon of pruning with regional experts Jude and Addie Schuenemeyer from Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project.

In this class, you will explore how to prune young and heritage trees. The class will be held at the Pinion Farm Homestead.

**When:**

**March 2, 2024,**

**1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

**Where:**

**Pinion Farm Homestead,**

**619 Main Street**

**Nucla, CO 81424, USA**

**For more information, contact:**

**Melanie Eggers**

**Tel/Mobile: 970.708-3972**

**Email: [info@applecoreproject.org](mailto:info@applecoreproject.org)**

The Cultivating Farmers and Ranchers that Thrive (CFRT) Program is accepting applications for their 2024 Cohort. CFRT provides beginning farmers and ranchers the opportunity to learn and develop their skills to become food and product providers with education, business training, mentorship, and land access.

We work with partner organizations to teach and create a strong foundation of support for beginning farmers and ranchers through Holistic Management core curriculum classes, seasonal continuing education classes, and hands-on learning. We also collaborate with our Farmer Rancher Advisory Team, a group of experienced farmers and ranchers, to build and grow the program according to lived experience and maximum benefit for the participants.

CFRT is committed to helping Hispanic, low-income, veterans, and specialty crop producers find a place in agriculture. These populations oftentimes find it hard to break into the business and we are committed to helping remove barriers to entry.

The 11-month course is valued at \$7000 but is currently available for just \$150 through a USDA Beginning Farmer Rancher Grant. Veterans can participate in the program for free through assistance from VFW and other scholarships are available!

[Find the course syllabus and application on our website](#) under programs!



**APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN**  
**CULTIVATING FARMERS & RANCHERS THAT THRIVE**

Valley Food Partnership is excited to announce that applications to join the 2023 CFRT cohort are now open! We welcome all beginning farmers & ranchers to apply by visiting VFP's website's program page or scanning the QR code.

**Apply by February 9th!**



**About the CFRT Program:**  
The CFRT program seeks to support beginning farmers and ranchers with access to holistic management education from water conservation, soil health, to business planning, seasonal continuing education offerings, local mentorship and internship opportunities, and support in accessing land. CFRT participants also receive access to the Western Colorado Soil Health Food and Farm Forum, other special agricultural events, and several farm and ranch tours throughout the year.



for more info visit [valleyfoodpartnership.org](https://valleyfoodpartnership.org)

**We have open spots but be quick to apply if interested!**

## Virtual Farm Planning Course



- ✓ Meets via Zoom
- ✓ \$25 for 10 weeks of classes
- ✓ Spanish interpretation available



**Sign Up Here!**

- Tuesdays from 1-3pm starting February 13
- Geared for vegetable farmers entering their second year and beyond
- Courses designed focus on business and crop planning
- Questions?  
[ewwhittlesey@fortlewis.edu](mailto:ewwhittlesey@fortlewis.edu)

**Some open spots but be quick to apply if interested!**

## OLD FORT AT HESPERUS **Farmer In Training**

**2024 PROGRAM INFO**

**May 14 - October 4**



### **What is the Farmer In Training program?**

Farmers-in-training (FITs) gain hands-on experience growing vegetables at high elevation. Through morning field work and afternoon classes and field trips, the FIT program provides a strong foundation for aspiring and beginning farmers. FITs work with program staff to tend about two acres of vegetables, learning new and traditional skills and techniques vital to farming at high elevation.

### **Program graduates will have completed:**

- Six farming courses
- 240 hours of work in the fields
- At least eight field trips to regional farms

### **Work and class schedules require a 22-hour/week commitment:**

- Field work T/W/Th 8 a.m. – noon
- Classes T/Th 1 – 3 p.m.
- Field Trips W 1 – 4 p.m.



### **The schedule works for students:**

- Earn the FIT Certificate
- Early summer break
- Late summer break

### **Courses include:**

- Tools of the Trade
- Intro to Market Farming
- Seed to Seed: Plant Basics for Farmers
- Growing Specialty Crops at High Elevations
- Intro to Farm Business Planning
- Practices of Ecological Farming

### **Details**

**\$15/hour**

Approx. \$3,600 for the season  
Living stipend of up to \$2,500 available for Native American farmers and farmers from other communities underrepresented in farming.

### **Course Fees**

**\$2,400**

Full and partial scholarships available.

### **Apply**

Email [ewwhittlesey@fortlewis.edu](mailto:ewwhittlesey@fortlewis.edu) with questions or to apply.  
Apply by January 31 and hear by February 15; Apply by February 28 to hear by March 15.













JOIN US FOR THE

## 2024 LIVESTOCK FORAGE AND GROWER UPDATE

LIVE WEBINAR FEBRUARY 20th and  
22nd, 2024 11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

TOPICS FOR BOTH DAYS INCLUDE:

-  Weather Updates
-  Market Updates
-  Irrigation Strategies
-  Biosecurity, Current Diseases and Outbreak Issues
-  Emergency Preparedness – Fire, Flood and Insurance
-  Influences on Meat Quality

### Registration and Information

<https://zoom.us/join/registration/tJlucuispzpGtW3sFoS-ebjH0dw3qx4mi2q>

This Webinar will be recorded.  
Pre-Registration is required to  
access the recording.



For More Information Visit:  
<https://abm.extension.colostate.edu/lfg-update/>



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[extension.colostate.edu](https://extension.colostate.edu)



The Colorado Farm Fresh Directory is celebrating its 40th Anniversary in 2024, and has given us listing forms for growers to advertise in the directory. The [listing form](https://ag.colorado.gov/markets) is also available.

The deadline for listing is February 29th and the listing fee remains the same low price of \$25.



# **San Miguel Basin CSU Extension**

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**[San Miguel Basin Extension Website](#)**



**[San Miguel Basin 4-H Instagram Page](#)**

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