



## 2019 AgriSummit Program Session Descriptions

### 8:30-9am – Welcome/ Opening Remarks (in Ballroom)

- Welcome to AgriSummit, Andrea Earley Coen, Executive Director, Guidestone Colorado
- Envision Chaffee County- Greg Felt, Chaffee County Commissioner

### 9-10am – Workshops Sessions

#### **I. Multi-level Marketing/how to capture every dollar:**

Look at your farm with fresh eyes, see every possible revenue stream without having to work harder. We strive to present every farm visitor with multiple opportunities to spend their money at the farm! We work with our neighbors to expand our cross-marketing to each other so each of our clients have access to our neighbors products as well.

*Presenter: Jane Levene, Jefferson Farms*

#### **II. Greenhouse Growing:**

Our greenhouses perform on their own year round with absolutely no fossil fuel, we don't even have to plug in a fan. Stored water, balanced design, double glazing and natural convection are just some of the ways to greenhouse freedom.

Learn more about what you need to create a year round growing operation!

*Presenters: Penn and Cord Parmenter, Penn & Cord's Garden*

#### **III. Greener Grass on Your Side of the Fence:**

We will learn how grass grows related to grazing management. Strategies such as, determining carrying capacity, implementing rotational grazing, and keeping grazing records will be covered. This talk will help managers improve pasture health and production regardless of property size. Presentation will conclude with an overview of resources. *Presenter: Kara Harders, CSU Extension Grazing Specialist*

### 10:15-11:15 – Workshop Sessions

#### **I. Water Conservation and Water Efficiency in Agricultural Water Use**

Here in Colorado, our water might just be the “hardest working” water in the US. Our state is fortunate to have the magnetic Rocky Mountains which capture this water, mostly in the form of snow, and release it when conditions are right. Waiting downstream for this water is a number of important water users like farmers, cities, businesses, and

fish. In many parts of Colorado, there is more of a demand for water than is typically available to satisfy this demand.

Because agriculture accounts for an estimated 75% of our water use in Colorado, farmers and ranchers throughout the state are pursuing many strategies to find ways of being more efficient with, or conserving, water. This session will help you develop skills to better understand, and differentiate between, water conservation and water efficiency, and give examples of how these two distinct and important terms are manifesting on farms around Colorado to meet multiple goals.

*Presenters:*

Aaron Derwingson, *Agricultural Coordinator, The Nature Conservancy*

Blake Osborne, *Water Resource Specialist, Colorado Water Institute*

## **II. Opportunities for Food Markets and Agritourism:**

As a part of the Colorado Blueprint for Food and Agriculture, communities throughout Colorado highlighted opportunities for farmers and ranchers to benefit from changing markets. In this session we will highlight some key market opportunities relevant to the region, including Denver-focused food supply chains and new Colorado agritourism programs. *Presenters: Dawn Thilmany & Becca Jablonski, Department of Ag and Resource Economics, Colorado State University*

## **III. Goats 101 Essentials to know before you get goats**

Are you thinking of adding goats to your farm? I will present on the must-haves of owning goats. Goat husbandry basics, as well as housing, fencing, feeding and breeding your goats. Introduction to kidding. First aid essentials to have on hand. Breaking down myths about goats and the realities of adding them to your farm family.

*Presenter: Jill Sobel, Fetchin' Farms*

### **11:30-12:30 - Lunch**

### **12:30-1:15pm – Keynote Speaker: Sheldon Rockey, Rocky Farms**

Brothers Sheldon and Brendon Rockey are co-owners of Rocky Farms, a third generation family farm, carrying on the tradition of growing fingerling potatoes in the San Luis Valley. Since the 1930s, the family has embraced creative and adaptive strategies for maintaining their family farm legacy--from quinoa production to organics to biotic soil health management. Their partnership with White Mountain Farms—White Rock Specialties— is another example of the collaborative approach to agricultural business that has kept them as relevant leaders in the state for close to 100 years!

### **1:15-2:15 – Workshop Sessions**

#### **I. Building an Equitable Food System from Farm to Fork**

Program and culinary staff from LiveWell Colorado will discuss ways they are working to improve access to healthy foods with under-resourced communities through integration of more local agricultural products and stronger relationships with local growers.

Culinary staff will share tips for working with local institutional buyers, and program staff will discuss ways to get involved with programs like Double Up Food Bucks, Farm to School, and state and federal policy advocacy that supports regional food systems and brings fresh, healthy foods to local residents.

*Presenter: LiveWell Colorado Presenters: Wendy Peters Moschetti, Director of Food Systems, and Jessica Wright, Procurement & Culinary Programs Manager, LiveWell Colorado*

## **II. High Altitude Seed Adaptation**

We will cover vegetables, herbs and flowers and take a look at the world seed situation and what you can do about it in your own backyard. This session is intended to inspire you to make full use of the abundance given to you from your own garden.

*Presenters: Penn and Cord Parmenter, Penn & Cord's Garden*

## **III. Agritourism Opportunities in our Community and Colorado**

Join in this session to learn about the wide variety of activities that fall under the title 'agritourism' and are being developed and implemented on farms and ranches both in our area and across Colorado. Whether you're a producer exploring this idea for your own property/ business model, or a community member interested in finding ways to participate in agritourism activities, this session is for you.

*Presenters: Kelli Hepler, Delta County; Natalie Allio, Badger Creek Ranch; Abby Hutchinson, Hutchinson Ranch; Jen Visitacion, Moonstone Farm*

## **2:30-3:30pm – Workshop Sessions**

### **I. Building a Local Grain Chain**

Colorado once had dozens of mills supporting local grain systems. There is an opportunity to restore that heritage in a way that is economically viable for farmers, environmentally responsible, stewards land and soil, enhances nutrition, & strengthens communities. This panel of experts-farmers/millers/brewers/distillers/malters/bakers-tell you how.

*Presenters: Dan Hobbs, Nanna Meyers Hobbs, Dawn Dennison, Robbie Vitano*

### **II. What Industrial Hemp Means to Agriculture Here**

Fully-legalized industrial hemp products are worth more than \$40,000 per acre, but it takes some work to get there. Salida Green is in their 3rd year of producing medicinal hemp products, and can now offer some advice about growing the plant and marketing the crop. *Presenter: Ed Berg, Salida Hemp Co.*

### **III. Health Begins in the Soil**

Learn the basics of soil types, soil profiles, how to find what kind of soil your land is, how to read a soil test and farm and gardening practices to improve soil health and, in turn, the quality of your produce.

*Presenter: Monica Pless, Guidestone Colorado*

## **3:30-5pm – Community Open House Hootenanny!**

- Farmers Market
- Seed Exchange
- Libations Tastings: Elevation, Woods Distillery, Vino Salida
- Live Music
- Silent Auction