

Two Strong Wings, Cover Crops & Veggies: Developing the Next Generation of Integrative Farmers in California, Iowa and Kentucky

UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine-Cooperative Extension, Iowa State University, University of Kentucky, National Center for Appropriate Technology, Center for Land Based Learning, Farmer Veteran Coalition, Laurel County African American Heritage Center, Iowa Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association, Practical Farms of Iowa

PI: Pitesky (UC Davis) NIFA Award # 22-4021

Goals

Increasing # of integrative farmers with a better understanding of

- Pastured poultry husbandry and management
- Integrated pastured poultry and cropping practices
- Housing equipment and predator management
- Food safety handling and processing regulations
- Environmental management and stewardship
- Marketing/social media branding

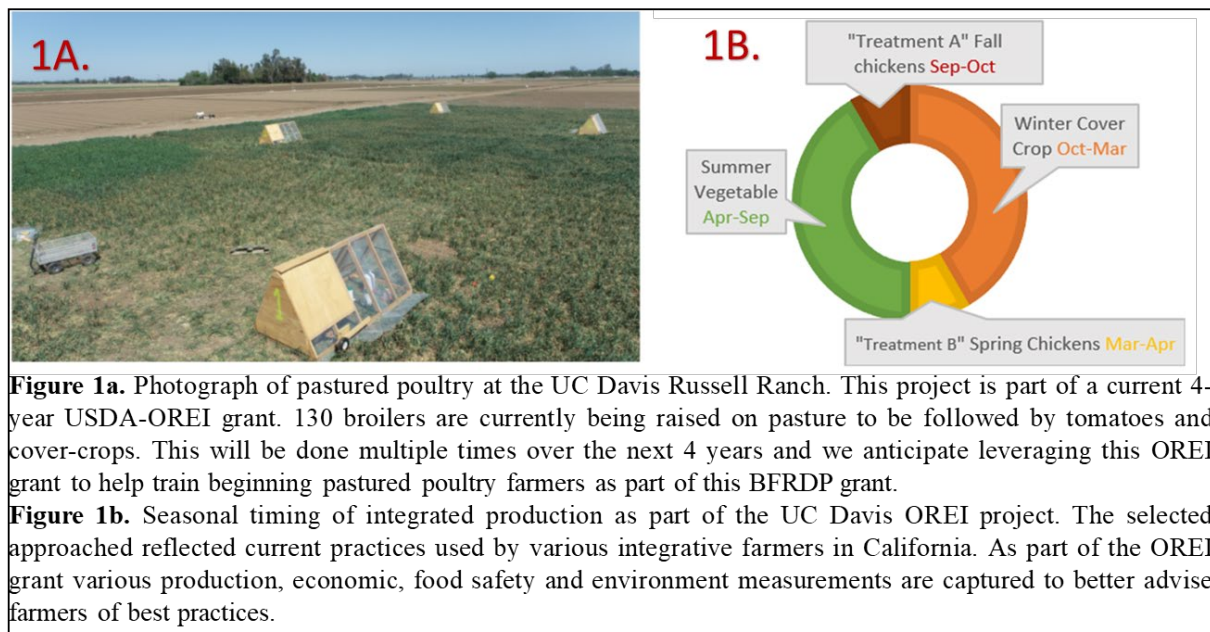


Figure 1a. Photograph of pastured poultry at the UC Davis Russell Ranch. This project is part of a current 4-year USDA-OREI grant. 130 broilers are currently being raised on pasture to be followed by tomatoes and cover-crops. This will be done multiple times over the next 4 years and we anticipate leveraging this OREI grant to help train beginning pastured poultry farmers as part of this BFRDP grant.

Figure 1b. Seasonal timing of integrated production as part of the UC Davis OREI project. The selected approaches reflected current practices used by various integrative farmers in California. As part of the OREI grant various production, economic, food safety and environment measurements are captured to better advise farmers of best practices.

Anticipated Outputs

15 Beginning farmer in person workshops in CA, IA and KY per state

Increased knowledge sharing between states

New extension material for integrative farming on various platforms including:

- YouTube
- Cooperative extension websites at UCD, ISU, UK
- Newsletters