



## **SOIL HEALTH ASSESSMENT FIELD DAY**

### **JUNE 22, 2017**

**9:30: Welcome** [Hunter Francis – Cal Poly]

- Importance of SOM / Biota
- Coming events and initiatives
- Introductions

**9:40 Farm Orientation / Tour** [Judith Redmond – Full Belly Farms]

- Welcome & tour
- Background: history and soil resource
- Farm management / Operations / Approach

**10:10 Traditional Soil Quality Assessments** [Z. Kabir & Tony Rolfes – NRCS]

- Intro to NRCS, Soil Health Division & Soil Quality Test Kit
- Overview of 9 soil health indicators (from Soil Health Field Assessment Worksheet)
- Slake test
- Rainfall simulator
- Penetrometer

**10:40 Assessing Biological Activity & Its Relation to Soil Testing** [Joe Mullinax – Denele Labs]

- Definition of key terms: soil ecology, biomass, diversity, activity, etc.
- Overview of lab assessment methods
- How biology relates to management and traditional soil tests
- Soil respiration: what it tells us about soil biology and nutrient availability

**11:00 Understanding Soil Assessments** [Joe Mullinax & Anthony Chica– Denele Labs]

- Case studies: looking at and understanding soil test examples
- Discussion and Q/A

**11:30 Adjourn (w/ optional informal networking)**