

Fresh Focus Quarterly Report



What is Fresh Focus?

Fresh Focus is a program based on the 23-acre Student Farm at University of California, Davis. The UC Davis Student Farm provides a space where students can learn, practice, and model an ecologically, socially, and economically, sustainable agriculture and food system. The Student Farm welcomes all students to build a more equitable and just farm and food system by cultivating student initiative, leadership, and experiential learning. In 2014, two Student Farmers created the Fresh Focus program to glean surplus produce from the student farm to donate to the ASUCD student-run food pantry. This initiative expanded into the Fresh Focus program. The goal of Fresh Focus is to reduce food loss while supporting student access to fresh produce.



A Special Thank You

to our funders, Aggie Compass and the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences!

Fall Highlights:



- Distributed 3,565 pounds of fresh produce
- Welcomed Judy, our new Fresh Focus Coordinator
- Became partners with the Graduate Student Pantry

Meet our Team!



4 Lead Student Farmers...

- Wendy Martinez, 4th year Food Science major and our Internal Partner Coordinator
- Adriana Galarza, 2nd year Environmental Policy Master's student and our External Partner Coordinator
- Laia Menendez Diaz, 4th year Plant Sciences major and our Intern Coordinator
- Zoe Tanner, 4th year Clinical Nutrition major and our Data and Communications Coordinator

7 Incredible Interns

- Ada Lengyel, 2nd year Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems major
- Nathan Lee, 3rd year Environmental Policy major
- Lydia Gu, 3rd year Food Science major
- Ava Dillard, 3rd year double major in Sustainable Environmental Design and Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems
- Jess Baggott, 4th year Evolution, Ecology, and Biodiversity major
- Tanya Mohammad, 4th year Human Development major and a Sacramento Valley College Corps Fellow
- Lana Dao, 2nd year Neurobiology, Physiology, and Behavior major and a Sacramento Valley College Corps Fellow

... And 8 Supportive Student Farm Staff

Thank you to our manager and Student Farm Director Katharina Ullmann, incoming Student Farm Director Colin Dixon, new Fresh Focus Coordinator Judy Jun, Market Garden Manager Emma Torbert, Ecological Garden Manager Julia Schreiber, SCOPE Manager Laura Roser, Market Garden Farmer Ken Earl, and Field Operations Manager Jim Muck.

Quotes from our Fall Interns...

"I experienced the change of seasons on the student farm and gained the joy of harvest from summer to winter. I really enjoyed the time I worked at the farm" - Lydia

"It's been wonderful working with the team to increase food access on campus! I've enjoyed getting to know our partners and working alongside the other Student Farm staff, interns, and volunteers to create a more sustainable and just food system at Davis." - Ava

"I now know that I want to pursue a career in sustainable, regenerative agriculture to support the land and people around me. My experience working to increase student food access on campus has cemented advocating for food justice as a part of my lifelong mission." - Jess



At A Glance

Our partners include the ASUCD Pantry, Center for African Diaspora Student Success, Center for Educational Opportunity Program, Fruit and Veggie Up!, Native American Academic Student Success Center, AB540 and Undocumented Student Center, LGBTQIA+ Student Center, and The Freedge.



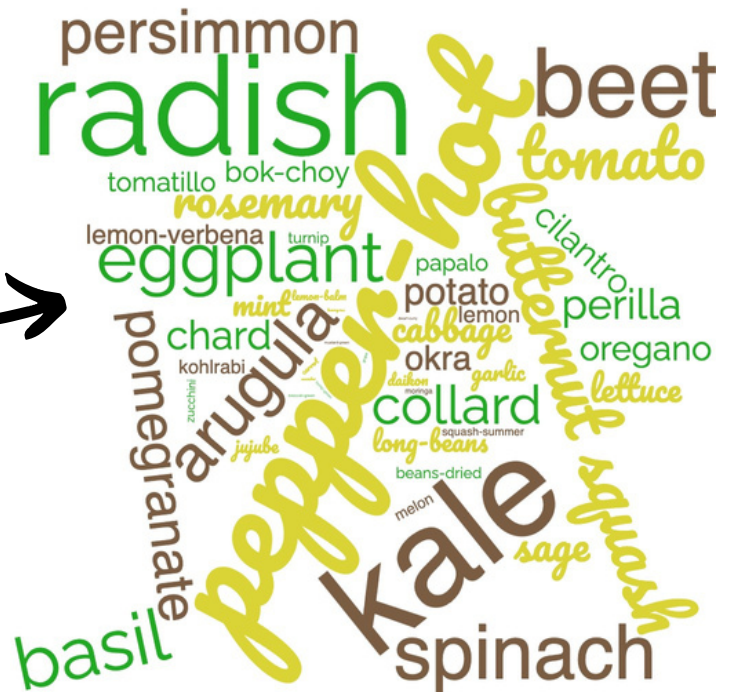
That's equivalent to about 2,971 meals!

Supported 9 partnerships

Distributed 3,565 pounds of fresh produce

Donated over 50 varieties of fruits and vegetables

Check out all the produce varieties we harvested!



A Word from Our Partners

PRODUCE DONATION PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: SCOPE



The Student-led Collaborative Organic Plant Breeding Education (SCOPE) project works with local organic growers to improve crop varieties for organic farming systems in California. SCOPE is a Student Farm program that provides Fresh Focus with excess produce from their plant breeding projects. This year we have especially appreciated their delicious donations of peppers and tomatoes. Here's what motivates the SCOPE team to donate to Fresh Focus:

"Plant breeding involves discarding most of what we grow. In a field of tomatoes, we may only harvest half of the plants for our data collection and pick a few crates for seed saving. This leaves hundreds of pounds of tomatoes on the vine that would otherwise go to waste after we've collected our data. I feel very strongly about reducing waste and ensuring that our hard work helps as many people as possible. With the help of Fresh Focus, we can send out a lot of fresh produce for only a little bit of extra effort on our end. I'm really proud of the work we've put in to donate our extra tomatoes, zinnias, beans, and whole wheat flour to the campus community and beyond." from Laura Roser, SCOPE Manager



Looking for an internship?
Want to learn more about the Student Farm?
Visit: asi.ucdavis.edu/programs/sf. You can also follow the
Fresh Focus Instagram at [@ucdfreshfocus](https://www.instagram.com/ucdfreshfocus)



QUOTES FROM OUR PARTNERS

"FVUp! is so thankful for Fresh Focus. Fresh Focus is our biggest and most reliable donor and FVUp would have a really hard time running without Fresh Focus. We thank you for your donations, delivering to our center, and continuously supporting us!" from Fruit & Veggie Up! at Aggie Compass

"Though we have partnered for only a short time, being able to offer fresh produce to graduate students is such an upgrade for our pantry operations! The quality and variety beats Nugget!" from GSA Pantry

"For the African Diaspora community, the collaboration with Fresh Focus means that students are exposed to produce, specifically vegetables, that they've never eaten. Because they do not have to spend money on the produce, they are able to try, to talk with each other, to experiment a little more freely than they would if they had to pay for it. Students appreciate having the produce, especially herbs." from the Center for African Diaspora Student Success