

Welcome to the AAEA Post Conference Workshop on Reducing the Labor of Beginning Agricultural Labor Economics Research



J. Edward Taylor
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Keynote Speaker
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J. Edward Taylor is a Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of California, Davis. He is a Fellow of both the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Ed co-authored *The Farm Labor Problem: A Global Perspective* (Elsevier, 2019), *Worlds in Motion: Understanding International Migration at the End of the Millennium* (Oxford University Press, 2005), and the AAEA award-winning articles “A Declining Farm Workforce: Analysis of Panel Data from Rural Mexico” (*AJAE*, 2016), “The End of Farm Labor Abundance” (*Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy*, 2012), and the book *Beyond Experiments in Development Economics: Local Economy-wide Impact Evaluation* (Oxford University Press, 2014). He is listed in *Who’s Who in Economics* as one of the world’s most cited economists. Ed has advised numerous foreign governments and international development agencies on matters related to economic development, and he served as editor of the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*.



Danielle Kaminski
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Danielle Kaminski is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Marketing, Agribusiness, and Supply Chain Management at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. She teaches a mixture of agribusiness and economics courses. Her interdisciplinary research uses preference elicitation methods to assess attitudes related to human resource management practices on farms.

She holds a PhD in Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics from Michigan State University, and a BS in Economics and Mathematics from Drew University.



Alexandra Hill
University of California,
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Alexandra Hill is an Assistant Professor of Cooperative Extension in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of California, Berkeley. Her research centers around the US agricultural workforce and seeks to demonstrate how a variety of factors impact both workers and employers, highlighting avenues for simultaneously improving worker well-being and increasing business profitability and sustainability. Some of her recent research focuses on agricultural overtime laws, the effects of pollution and wildfires on farmworkers, and immigration reform.

She holds a PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics from UC Davis, and an MS and BS in Agricultural and Consumer Economics from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. Prior to her current role with UC ANR, Hill worked as an Assistant Professor of Agricultural Economics at Colorado State University.

Industry Panel 1: Data, Partnerships, & Systemic Change

This session will provide an overview of the biggest workforce-related challenges in the U.S. agricultural system, particularly those at the intersection of interests between agricultural employees and employers, policymakers, and academics. The panelists will bring ideas on how to address these challenges, including emphasizing where there is need for additional data, partnerships between industry and academia, and opportunities for creating systemic change through research, action, and having the right people at the table.

◆◆◆◆◆ Meet the Speakers ◆◆◆◆◆



Adrian Card

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Adrian Card serves as the State Produce Specialist for Colorado State University Extension. Prior to this role he served as the CSU Extension agent for agriculture in Boulder County from 2004 to 2022 after a decade of small vegetable farm production and management in Colorado and North Carolina.

In his current role, Card works directly with farmers and other stakeholders in the community to build bridges that facilitate the health of farms, businesses, people and the planet.



Samantha Ayoub

American Farm Bureau
Federation
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Samantha Ayoub is an Associate Economist covering environment/sustainability, labor markets, tax policy and food safety for American Farm Bureau Federation.

Samantha received her BSA in Agricultural and Applied Economics from the University of Georgia, the land grant of her home state. She briefly worked for USDA NRCS in Lincoln, Nebraska, focusing on state watershed projects, and then received her Master of Science in Agricultural and Resources Economics from Colorado State University



Ernie Farley

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Ernie Farley has worked in the berry industry in California and Mexico since earning a degree from UC Davis, and has been a partner at GoodFarms for over 15 years.

He has been active in industry leadership, including with the Grower-Shipper Association of Central California, the Produce Marketing Association, and the Equitable Food Initiative, a solutions-oriented stakeholder group addressing social justice and environmental issues. Ernie brings a vast knowledge of the retail environment as well as extensive networks within the grower-shipper community.

Academic Presentations 1: Novel Data, New Methods

This session features research using novel data and cutting edge methods to study U.S. food system workers on topics spanning job satisfaction to workplace safety to minimum wage laws. Speakers will give 10 minute talks followed by a panel discussion.



Timothy Richards

Arizona State University
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Bio: Timothy J. Richards is the Morrison Chair of Agribusiness in the W. P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University. He has a B.Comm. (Economics and Finance) from the University of British Columbia, and an A.M. and Ph.D. in Applied Economics from Stanford University. He is the former co-editor of the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, and is currently managing editor of the *European Review of Agricultural Economics*. He has published over 140 articles in marketing, supply chain management, economics and agricultural economics. He has won 19 Article of the Year awards and was named fellow of the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) in 2021 and Board of Directors of the AAEA in 2024.

Talk: Concentration and Wages: Empirical IO for Labor Applications
Data: A portfolio of options



Margaret Jodlowski

The Ohio State University
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Bio: Dr. Margaret Jodlowski's research focuses on agricultural issues both domestically and internationally, with a specific emphasis on farm labor, risk management, and farm household dynamics. She is currently an assistant professor at the Ohio State University in the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics. She completed her Ph.D. at Cornell University in 2020. She received her MS from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she also completed undergraduate degrees in Agricultural and Consumer Economics and History.

Talk: What underlies agricultural visa workers' job satisfaction? Evidence from qualitative and survey data
Data: Self-collected survey data of ~200 H-2A workers in Ohio in 2022



Goeun Lee

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Bio: Goeun Lee is a Postdoctoral Scholar in Agricultural and Resource Economics at UC Davis. Her research focuses on the impacts of environmental conditions on agricultural workers, with an emphasis on workplace health, labor supply, and policy evaluation using administrative and geospatial data.

Talk: The Effect of Temperature on Agricultural Worker Injuries
Data: California Workers' Compensation Information System



Ujjwol Paudel

Arizona State University
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Bio: Ujjwol Paudel Ujjwol is a postdoc in Supply Chain Management at Arizona State University. His research interests lie in empirical industrial organization and labor economics in food supply chain settings. Some of his current research examines labor market power, how market concentration affects labor market dynamics, and the impact of minimum wage policies on labor and product markets,

Talk: Estimating labor market power using Census data
Data: Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics; Longitudinal Business Database; Census of Agriculture; Census of Manufacturers; Census of Agriculture

Industry Panel 2: Policy, Health, Safety & Technology

This session will provide an overview of the current and pending policies that impact the farm employment environment, highlighting policies that need more research and emphasizing the importance of academic and industry partnerships in crafting more effective policies. The session will also feature discussions on factors that impact the health and safety of farmworkers, both on and off the worksite, as well as the impacts of technology on farm labor markets and considerations for protecting worker privacy in light of new digital technologies.

Meet the Speakers



Jason Resnick

Western Growers
Association
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Jason Resnick is Senior Vice President and General Counsel at Western Growers, where he oversees legal affairs and leads H-2A Services. With over 20 years at WGA, he advises on legal, business, and policy matters.

A frequent speaker on ag labor, Jason is past-president of the Agricultural Personnel Management Association and serves on the board of AgTech startup iFoodDS. He received his B.A. from University of California, Irvine, and his J.D. from University of the Pacific.



Aldo Parra

Colorado Department of
Agriculture
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Aldo Parra is the Manager for the Agricultural Worker Services Program for the Colorado Department of Agriculture. He is responsible for managing a new program that will focus on supporting agricultural employers and workers with employee safety, working conditions, labor rights, and resources to recruit, retain and engage the local agricultural workforce.

Aldo previously worked with Adams County's Migrant & Seasonal Farmworker Outreach Coordinator for almost a decade after working in P-16 education developing supplemental educational programming and supportive services for agricultural working children and parents.



Whitney Pennington

High Plains Center for Ag
Health and Safety
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Whitney Pennington is the Outreach Lead for the High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (HICAHS, "hi cause"), located at Colorado State University. In her role, she promotes best practices for farm safety, particularly those identified through the Center's research. Whitney's recent efforts have focused on heat illness prevention, zoonotic disease prevention, and building cultures of safety and safety leadership skills.

Whitney has nearly 15 years of experience in health communications, mostly focused on risk communications and safety, and she enjoys the challenges of translating research findings into real-world programs that help people stay safe at work and at home. Whitney started her career in education and communication roles at the Washington and Maryland Poison Centers, and she earned her Master of Public Health from Emory University in Atlanta, GA.

Academic Presentations 2: Data, Modeling & Policy Analysis

This session features an overview of the only national survey of US farmworkers (the NAWS) and research applying new and innovative modeling techniques to address pressing policy questions. Speakers will give 10 minute talks followed by a panel discussion.



Anita Pena

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Bio: Dr. Anita Alves Pena is a Professor of Economics at Colorado State University. She also holds a faculty appointment with the Colorado School of Public Health and affiliations with the Regional Economic Development Institute (REDI@CSU) and High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety (HICAHS). Her research relates to public sector economics, labor economics, and economic development especially topics in immigration, poverty, stratification, race/ethnicity, and agricultural labor including applications to public and occupational health.

Talk: National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS): advantages and disadvantages as primary data to study U.S. farmworkers

Data: National Agricultural Workers Survey



Srabashi Ray

Purdue University
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Bio: Srabashi Ray is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow, at Purdue University, interested in deepening our understanding of human-natural coupled systems, to design sustainable food systems. Using quantitative modelling techniques, her research focusses on agricultural labor markets. Today, she presents ongoing work on evaluating the impacts of farm labor scarcity in the U.S., using a partial equilibrium framework that captures producer behavior with high spatial granularity and accounts for complex market forces shaping labor market outcomes.

Talk: Modelling Farm Labor Markets: Ongoing efforts & future research opportunities

Data: SIMPLE-G modeling framework, Census of Agriculture, NAWS, Farm Labor Survey (FLS), QCEW, H-2A Program Data



Zach Rutledge

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Bio: Zach Rutledge is an assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics at Michigan State University. He earned his PhD in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of California, Davis where his research focused on issues related to low-skilled immigration in the United States. His current research focuses on economic and policy issues in US farm labor markets.

Talk: H-2A Adverse Effect Wage Rates and US Farm Wages

Data: NAWS and the FLS



Thomas Hertel

Purdue University
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Bio: Thomas Hertel is Distinguished Professor of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University. Prof. Hertel's research and teaching focuses on international trade, food and environmental security. He is a 2022 recipient of the Alexander von Humboldt Research Prize and is a Fellow, and Past-President of the AAEA, Fellow of the American Academy for the Advancement of Science as well as the Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society, and Honorary Life Member of the International Association of Agricultural Economists.

Talk: Labor Market Impacts of Heat Stress under Climate Futures

Data: Climate model output from CMIP6, Labor response functions to heat stress, Gridded agricultural data, GTAP global economic data base