

**Researchers, Farmers, Policymakers and Advocates
to Convene 2023 USA Agroecology Summit May 22-25**

Cultivating a more just and sustainable food system in the USA through engaged agroecological research

KANSAS CITY, MO (May 22, 2023) - Agroecological approaches are needed to confront climate change, improve nutrition, address inequity, revitalize biodiversity, and support dignified livelihoods for those working in agriculture and food systems. Yet, agroecology is severely hampered by the lack of public support and the disabling economic and structural environment in the USA and globally.

To address this challenge, leading researchers, farmers, representatives of civil society organizations, and policymakers from across the country will convene in Excelsior Springs, MO, near Kansas City, May 22-25th for *the 2023 USA Agroecology Summit*. The meeting will focus on co-creation of a “research roadmap” for the USA, informing priorities for research, learning, extension, policy, and action to expand agroecology.

We will bring together 100 agroecologists to debate how to best advance a research roadmap to support agroecology from within the USA. The meeting will consider a transdisciplinary approach to knowledge for agroecology that combines social science, natural science, the humanities, local knowledge, and wisdom that tackles agroecology in all its complexity.

The participants converging on Kansas City are diverse but have one thing in common: a belief that agroecology provides the most viable pathway for transforming food systems for social justice and sustainability. This is an opening to initiate long overdue conversations about the best path(s) forward. Different worldviews, opinions, knowledges, and priorities will be brought into a constructive dialogue to take stock of agroecology in the USA, identify the main barriers to its development, and to strategize about ways to deepen and expand agroecology through impactful and engaged research.

Media are welcome, and interviews are available. More details are available by [clicking here](#).

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Agroecology Summit

The [University of Vermont Institute for Agroecology](#) is the institutional coordinator for the [Agroecology Summit](#) in collaboration [with committee members](#) from California State University East Bay, Montana State University, Pennsylvania State University, The Land Institute, Union of Concerned Scientists, University of Missouri, University of Nebraska, University of Vermont, and University of Wisconsin. The summit is co-sponsored by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the McKnight Foundation, the 11th Hour Project, the Food Systems Research Centre at the University of Vermont, and the Ceres Trust. The [UVM Institute for Agroecology](#), launched on May 15, 2023, is acting as the Institutional coordinator for the summit aligning with its goal of seeding just and sustainable food systems in the USA and internationally.