

CRYSTAL CLEAR AWARD

2025

Hat Creek Grown

Hat Creek Grown, managed by Henry and Pam Giacomini, embodies a rigorous conservation ethic through its commitment to sustainable farming practices that prioritize animal welfare, land stewardship, and ecological function. They emphasize sustainable grazing practices that protect the local riparian ecosystem and water resources, conduct frequent water quality monitoring, and integrate adaptive land management strategies to preserve native vegetation and foster wildlife habitats.

As advocates for sustainable ranching, the Giacomini's continually adapt their practices to address evolving environmental challenges, from implementing drought-resistant mobile watering systems to transitioning their herd to an all-grass-fed program. They have invested in on-farm infrastructure projects, like irrigation pipelines and riparian buffers, to enhance water efficiency and soil health while reducing erosion. In addition to their conservation methods, Hat Creek Grown engages in community education and outreach to raise awareness about the benefits of sustainable farming. They promote transparency in their operations, encouraging consumers to understand where their food comes from and the impact of their purchasing choices. Through collaborations with local organizations and support for regenerative practices, Hat Creek Grown is actively contributing to a more sustainable food system that benefits both people and the planet.

"Today only a tiny fraction of the US population is directly involved in the production of food and fiber, yet everyone relies upon it. Of these individuals, only a few have developed a direct

connection with land like the Giacomini's, who have worked to foster consumer connection with their food source," said Rob Wooten, President of the Shasta County Farm Bureau.

"Throughout their development of Hat Creek Grown they have implemented practices that have improved the integrity, stability and beauty of the lands entrusted to them."



Quick facts:

- The Giacomini's operation consists of more than 60,000 acres of leased, private, and federal lands where they produce grass-fed, pasture-raised cattle
- They use a goat herd to control invasive weeds and rent out to other properties for the same use
- The Giacomini's rotate grazing across grasslands, riparian zones, and forested areas
- They partner with universities and conservation groups for soil health research



THE CRYSTAL CLEAR AWARD recognizes exemplary efforts to protect and address water quality in the Sacramento Valley

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS



2024
Lester Messina



2023
Cooperative Extension Rangeland
Watershed Clean Water Team



2022
Dr. Karl Longley



2020
Denise Sagara



2019
John Currey



2018
John Garner



2017
Larry
Domenighini



2016
Richard Price



NCWA