



2020 IRRC August Newsletter

IRRC Webinar August 25th: Your Questions- All of our Answers

We want to hear from you. Tuesday August 25th 11:00a.m. MST, 12:00p.m. CST, and 1:00p.m. EST

During this interactive webinar we will be posing various questions related to programming changes due to the pandemic, ID&R efforts, recruiter questions, new and innovative ideas, etc.

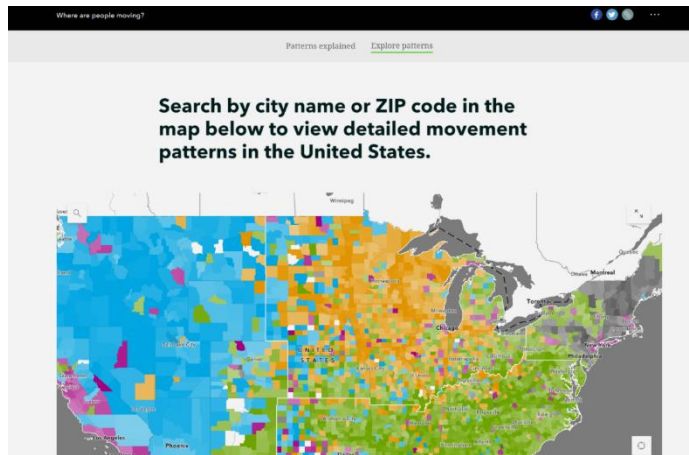


This will be a chance for your to hear from each other and ask questions to an audience of your peers from around the country. We hope you will feel free to interact with others and provide ideas and suggestions to some of the biggest challenges we are all facing right now related to ID&R.

If you have something new that is really working for you we would love to hear from you during the webinar. If you want to ensure we have time for your question during this webinar please email jcastanedaidr@gmail.com with your question and we will see if we can add it in. We will send out the call information a week before and post it on the IRRC website under the Webinar section.

Interesting Resource Where People are Moving From

Check out this really interesting app and map tool that lets you look at each community and see where people who recently moved to the area are from. It mentions what part of the country and if they came from outside of the US. **Learn more here.**



Recent Ag Trends Articles

Pew: Struggling Farmers Work With Overwhelmed Food Banks to Stay Afloat

[Link](#) - As the pandemic shut down restaurants this spring, California farmers and ranchers saw their markets drop by half, leaving many with fields full of crops but no buyers. And as millions of people lost their jobs, the state's food banks needed to triple their food supply.

The Wall Street Journal: More Farmers Declare Bankruptcy Despite Record Levels of Federal Aid

[Link](#) - Coronavirus pandemic adds strain to agricultural economy already reeling from trade fights, commodity glut.

CNBC: 'The food supply chain is breaking': How Tyson Foods has tried to survive coronavirus

[Link](#) - Despite the buzz around plant-based alternatives and vegan recipes, Americans still love meat.



The New York Times: The Scramble to Pluck 24 Billion Cherries in Eight Weeks

[Link](#) - Every single one needs to be picked by hand — even in a pandemic. Seasonal workers say they may be essential, but they feel disposable.

Associated Press: Iowa Farmers Assess Losses After Storm Flattened Cornfields

[Link](#) - Farmers across a wide swath of Iowa are dealing with the heartbreaking aftermath of a rare wind storm that turned what was looking like a record corn crop into deep losses for many.

Nikkei Asian Review: US farmers speak out against Trump's trade policy

[Link](#) - China tensions and COVID hit agriculture -- and chip away at a key support base.

The Associated Press: US West Faces Reckoning Over Water but Avoids Cuts for Now

[Link](#) - The white rings that wrap around two massive lakes in the U.S. West are a stark reminder of how water levels are dropping and a warning that the 40 million people who rely on the Colorado River face a much drier future.

WITN: Agriculture workers get protective equipment to slow spread of COVID-19

[Link](#) - Farmers in several counties across our state will receive Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to protect themselves and others from the continuing spread of the coronavirus.

Los Angeles Times: California's migrant farmworkers face evictions with no safety net amid pandemic

[Link](#) - The state's Judicial Council is expected to extend its eviction ban until the end of the month, preventing court-sanctioned ousters, but such safeguards are not honored in this shadow market.

MLive: Michigan farmers challenge emergency order requiring COVID-19 testing

[Link](#) - Michigan farmers say an emergency order requiring mandatory COVID-19 testing of farm workers violates the civil rights of the Latino community.

Agri-Pulse: Southern growers demand protection from Mexican fruits and vegetables

[Link](#) - Southern farmers and lawmakers are taking another shot at getting competition protection from the Mexican fruit and vegetables that have been increasingly pouring across the border.

TechCrunch: Impossible Foods gobbles up another \$200 million

[Link](#) - Impossible Foods has raised \$200 million more for its meat replacements.

CNN: Why you shouldn't be worried about getting the coronavirus from food

[Link](#) - Health experts say there's no evidence the coronavirus can be transmitted through food.

Fox9: Minn. Dept. of Agriculture awards more than \$200,000 in grants to livestock producers

[Link](#) - The Minnesota Department of Agriculture awarded \$200,000 in grants to boost livestock processing capacity after supply chain disruptions injured Minnesota's producers.

KXTV: California lawmakers propose more protections for farm workers impacted by coronavirus

[Link](#) - The proposed California Farmworker Covid-19 Relief Package offers more protections and assistance for workers.

Reform Austin: Houston Nonprofit Offers Local Alternative to Industrial Farms

[Link](#) - Plant it Forward is a nonprofit community-supported agriculture organization founded in 2011 that aims to pair refugees with agriculture experience on compact urban farms in order to provide the metropolitan area with produce.

NBC News: California's undocumented food workers face grim dilemma: health or wages

[Link](#) - for thousands of vulnerable, predominantly Latino undocumented workers across this sprawling agricultural region, there is immense fear and reluctance to self-report possible COVID-19 infection — even with some doctors promising confidentiality.

Press & Sun-Bulletin: Migrant farm workers warn of next COVID-19 wave in New York

[Link](#) - To prevent another virus outbreak among highly susceptible farm workers, activists are calling on New York legislators to adopt laws establishing specific protocols for testing and protecting essential workers.

NBC News: Rep. Raul Ruiz, congressman and doctor, takes coronavirus testing to farmworkers

[Link](#) - A son of farm workers and an emergency room doctor, Ruiz says the workers are scared and anxious but hungry for information about the coronavirus.

The Counter: Louisiana sugarcane workers sue Lowry Farms for wage theft, breach of contract

[Link](#) - The lawsuit underscores the vulnerability of guest workers in the popular H-2A visa program.

Kaiser Health News: Without Federal Protections, Farm Workers Risk Coronavirus

[Link](#) - This year, the season is taking place under a cloud of coronavirus worries that, for these agricultural workers, hit close to home.

Reuters: U.S. Farmers Leave Fields Fallow as COVID-19 Wrecks Crop Prospects

[Link](#) - The 1,250 acres of irrigated fields are the most valuable on Troy Schneider's farm in eastern Colorado, as corn yields in his county typically come in more than three times higher on those fields than dryland ones.

Utah Public Radio: How Small Satellite Technology Can Impact Agriculture

[Link](#) - Small satellites play a large role in our lives—from GPS data to providing images of difficult to reach locations. In Utah and The western U.S. they can play a role in agriculture.

WXOW: Wisconsin Farm Support Program's second round of applications opens

[Link](#) - The Wisconsin Farm Support Program provides \$50 million for direct aid payments to farmers to help them respond to the challenges presented by COVID-19.

FoxNews: Coronavirus outbreak on Maine blueberry farms sparks concern for agricultural community during harvest season

[Link](#) - Growing concern that migrant workers, residents in agricultural communities are particularly at risk for infection.

Your Central Valley: Agriculture workers hope a mask alternative will be more efficient in the field

[Link](#) - Nisei Farmers League is working with the Fresno County Health Department to create a bandana for farm workers.

Benitolink: Gov. Newsom signs executive order aimed at helping agricultural workers

[Link](#) - Assistance includes targeting high-risk workplaces, stronger guidance on compliance and temporary housing for self-isolation.

[Learn about our COVID-19 Supply Bags](#)

Contact Us!

931-668-4129 office

931-273-4050 cell

Jessica Castaneda- IRRC Director

jcastaneda@idr-consortium.net

<https://www.idr-consortium.net/>