



CALIFORNIA LEAFY GREENS
RESEARCH PROGRAM

ANNUAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

2024 CLGRB Research Conference Sponsors



ENZA ZADEN



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A Little History

California Leafy Green Research Program is a Marketing Order administered through CDFA

Mandatory program created to fund research relating to production, processing, and distribution of Iceberg Lettuce (currently Leafy Greens)

1973- The Iceberg Lettuce Research Board first convened

1997- The CA Lettuce Research Board (the four major leaf lettuces were added)

2008- The CA Leafy Greens Research Program (spinach and spring mix were included)



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Handlers (Shippers) file monthly assessment reports based on volume shipped

The assessments paid are use to fund research and run the program

Board members represent the industry in setting the annual budget, research priorities, and determining research projects that will receive funding.

15 Board Members and 15 Alternate Members representing 3 Districts

- Blythe-Imperial
- Santa Maria-Lompoc-Oxnard
- Salinas-Watsonville-San Joaquin Valley



Board Members and Alternates

Todd Brendlin
Grimmway Farms

Adrian Zendejas
Ocean Mist Farms

John Jackson
Beachside Produce, LLC

Tom Ikeda
Pismo-Oceano Vegetable Exchange

Colby Pereira
Braga Fresh Family Farms

Joe Jorge
Fresh Kist

Bryson Daniel
Boskovich Farm

Susanne Klose
Church Bros., LLC

Martin Jefferson
Duda Farm Fresh Foods, Inc.

Tom A. Bengard
Hartnell Packing Company

Ed Mora
D'Arrigo Bros. of California

Adam Soares
The Nunes Company, Inc

John DeCarli
Tanimura & Antle

Nick Huntington
Steinbeck Country Produce

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Ramy Colfer
True Organic

Matt Donangelo
Taylor Farms California, Inc.

Scott Rossi
Tanimura & Antle

Allyn Goldsmith
Fresh Express

Francisco Munoz
Church Bros., LLC

John Freitas
Fresh Kist

Jim Wilkinson
Dole Fresh Vegetable

Eric Morgan
Braga Fresh Family Farms

Nancy Armenta
Taylor Farms California, Inc.

Otto Kramm
DOLE Fresh Vegetable

Saul Lopez, Jr.
D'Arrigo Bros. of California

Mark Mason
Steinbeck Country Produce

Gina Colfer
Wilber-Ellis

Larry Knerr
Duda Farm Fresh Foods, Inc.



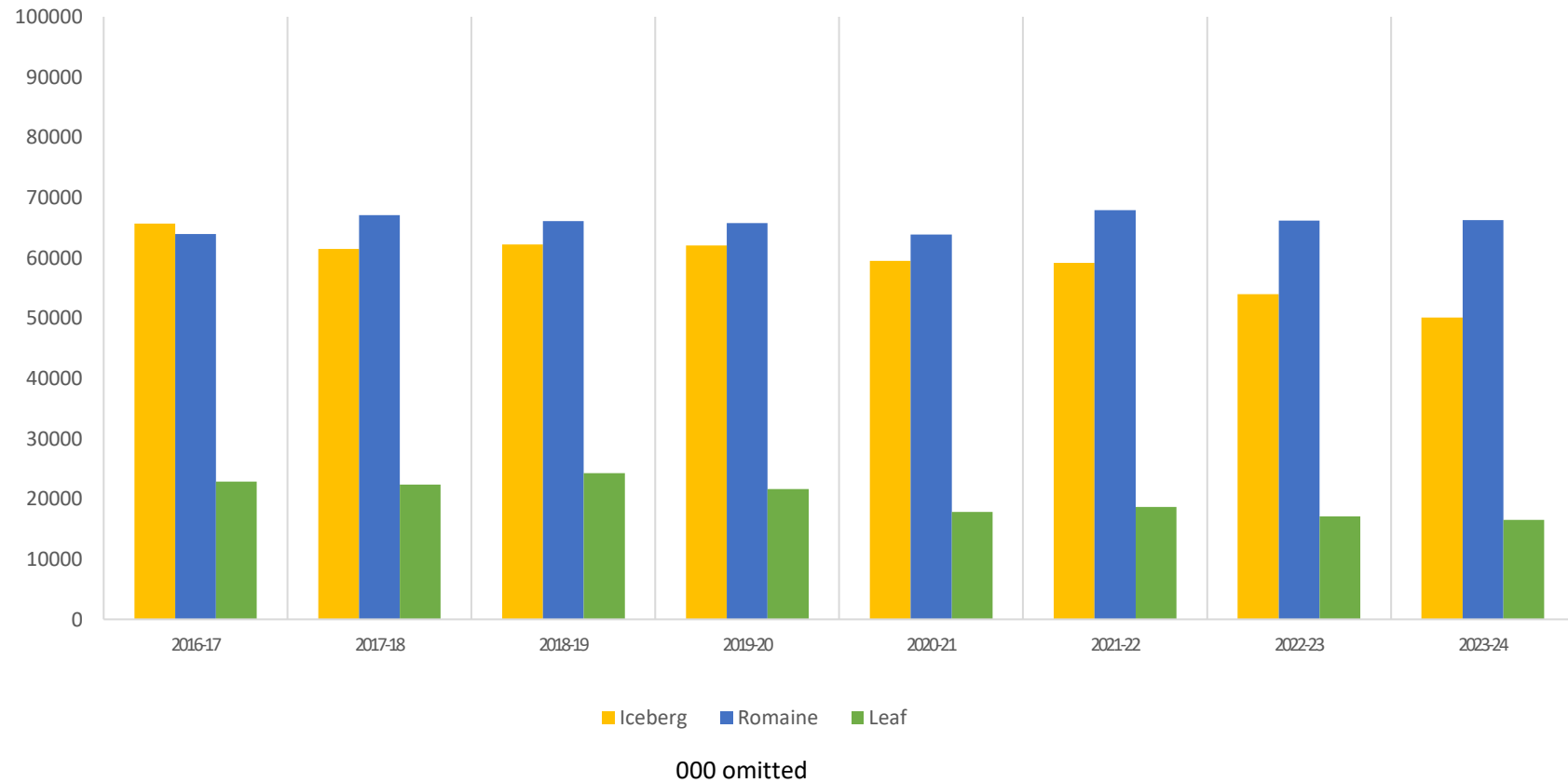
Industry Consolidation

California Leafy Greens Handlers

Current
67

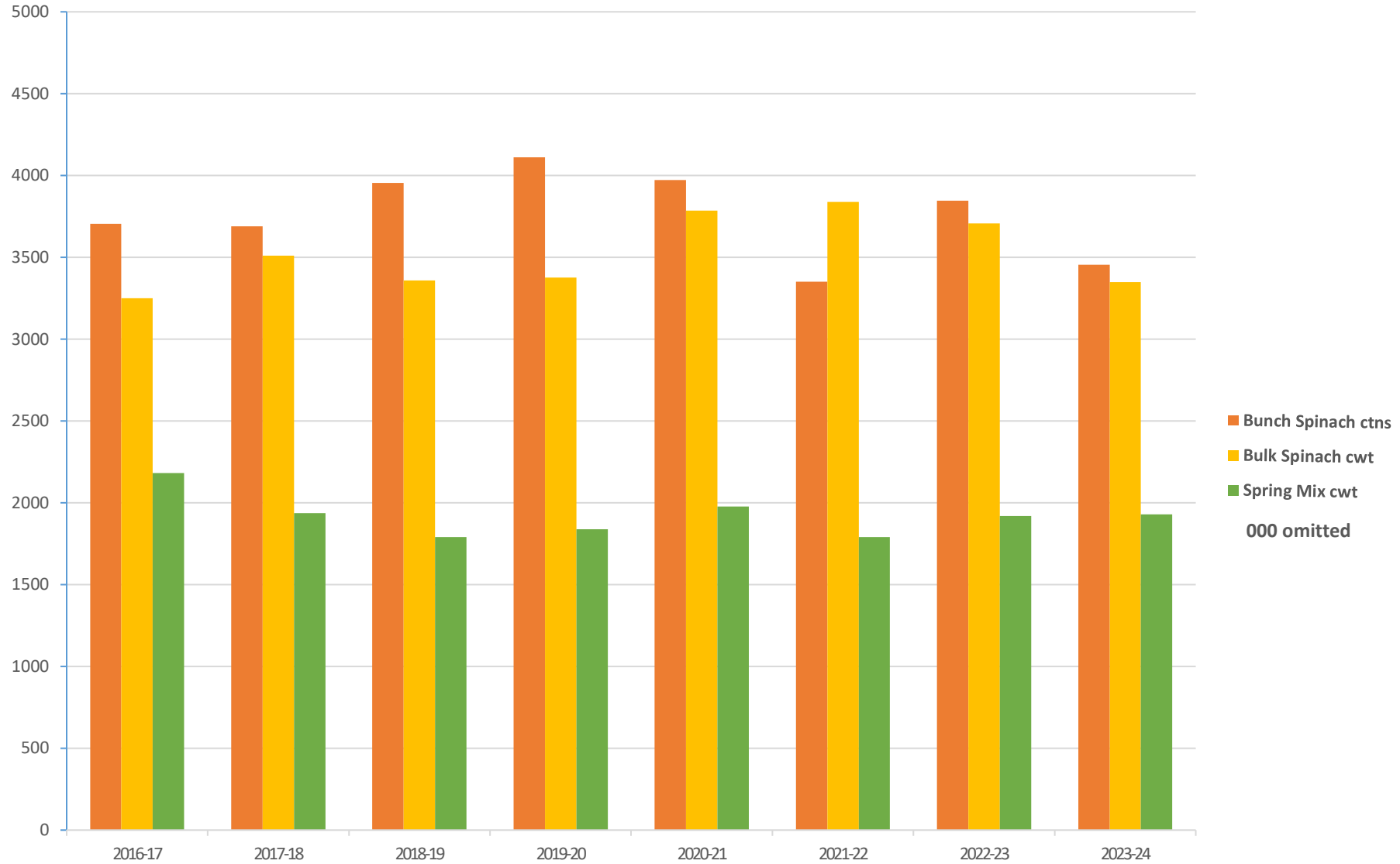
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Lettuce Volume Trends





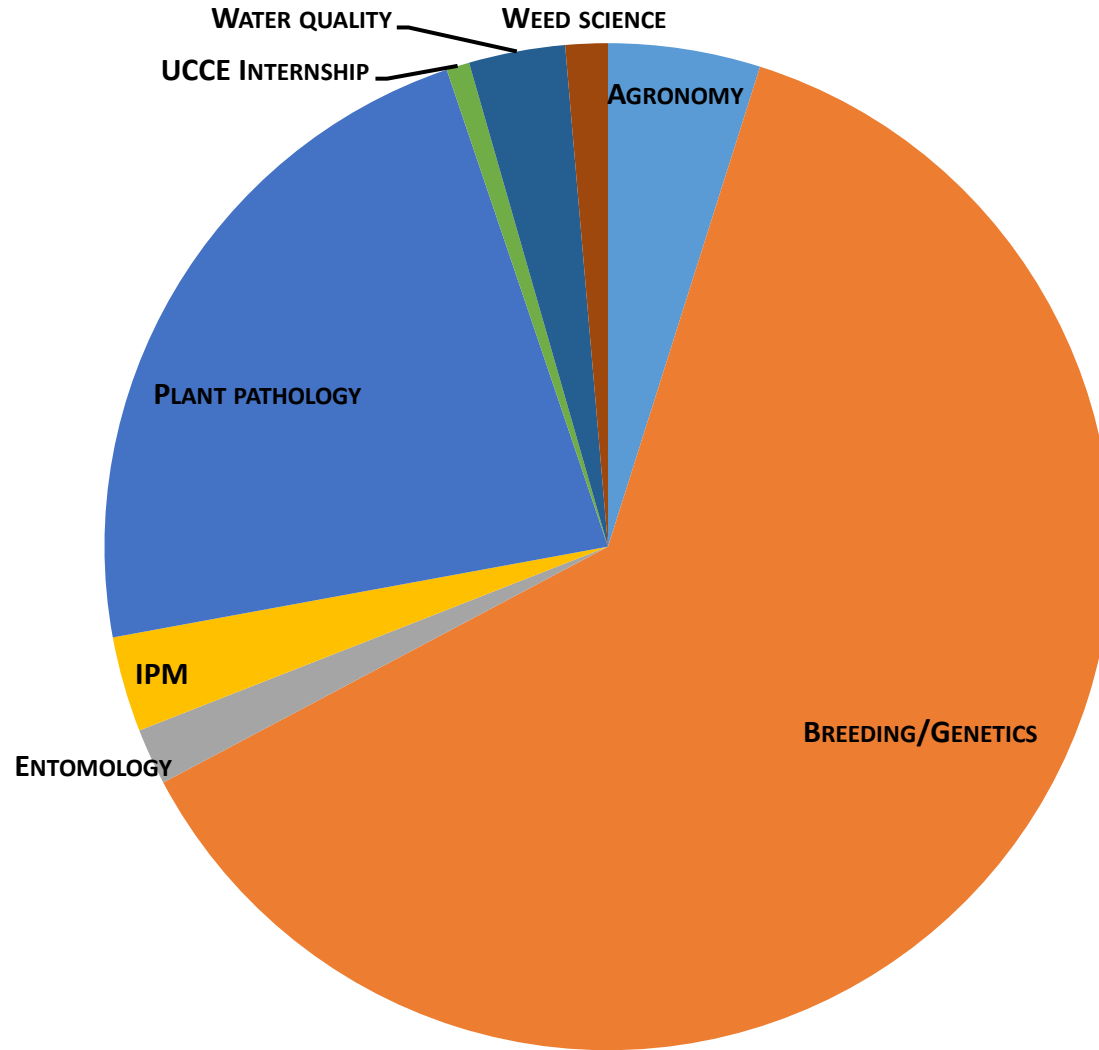
Spinach and Spring Mix Volume Trends





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2023-2024 Research Funding
\$1,437,592





Challenges

- Thrips and thrips transmitted INSV, Pythium wilt, and other soil-borne diseases
- Pest Management Challenges – Loss of Conventional Chemistries, Move Towards Biologicals, and Challenges Associated with Organic Production
- Food Safety Concerns, Outbreaks and Recalls
- Increased Regulatory Oversight of Water Quality and Nutrient Management
- Labor Shortages and Need for Mechanization/Technology
- Loss of UC Researchers



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