



# **A Call to Action**

## ***Heat Safety in Agriculture***

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**Pasa is a nonprofit that supports sustainable farms and equitable food systems through farmer-driven education, research and community.**

We're based in Pennsylvania and increasingly engaging with farmers and partners across the Mid-Atlantic, Northern Appalachia and the Northeast.

# Protecting Farmworkers



- **Climate change continues to raise temperatures.**
- **Heat related injuries and deaths continue to climb.**
- **Heat injuries and climate change are inextricably intertwined.**

# The Human Cost

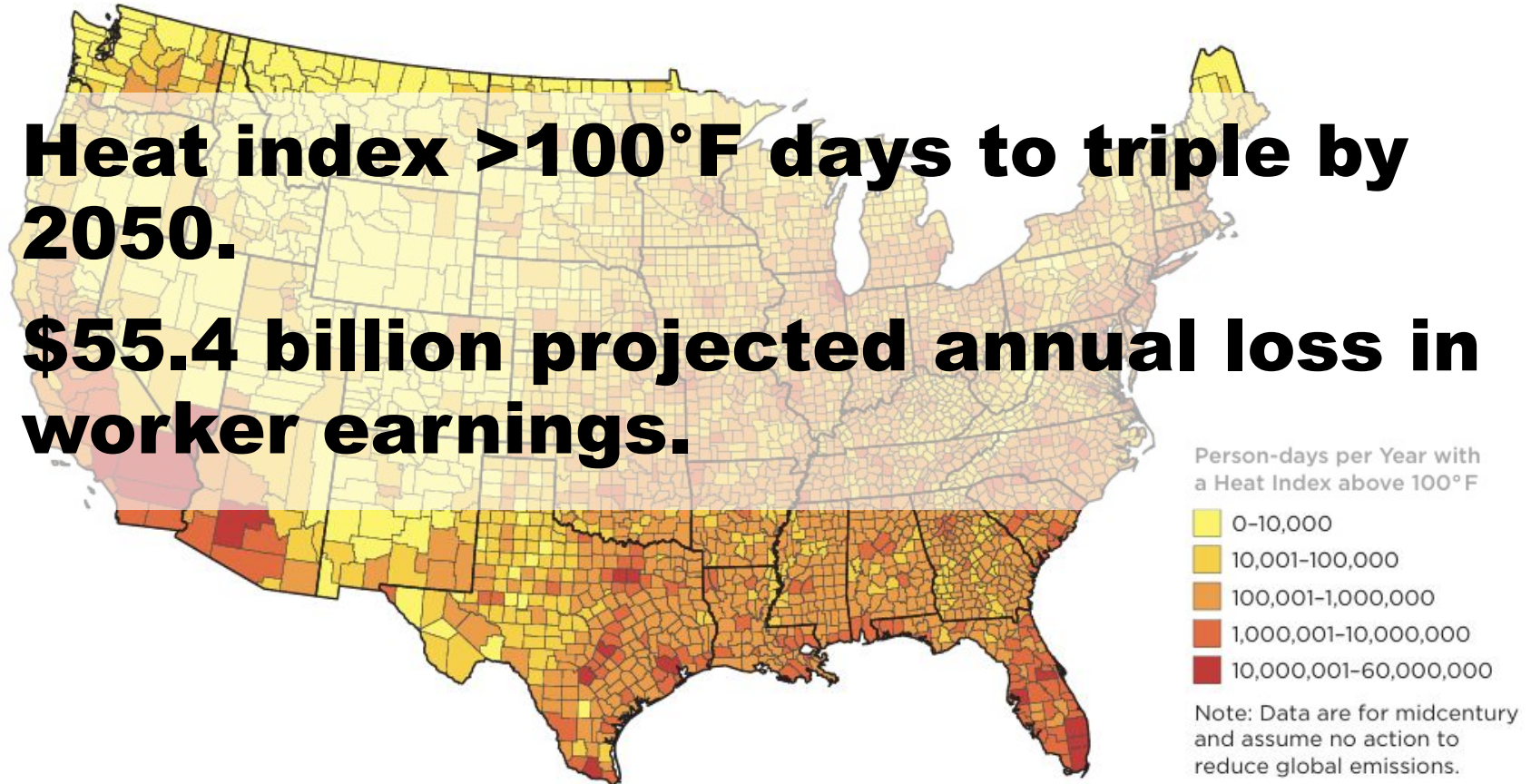
- **Farmworkers are 20x more likely to die of heat-related illnesses.**
- **Lack of plans and communication can be fatal.**
- **These deaths are preventable.**





# Climate and Economic Impacts

- **Heat index  $>100^{\circ}\text{F}$  days to triple by 2050.**
- **\$55.4 billion projected annual loss in worker earnings.**



# Farm Responses - Weavers Way

## Co-op



- **Adjusted schedules, reduced field hours.**
- **Shade structures, electrolytes, hydration.**
- **Safety committee created.**



# Farm Responses - New Morning Farm



- **Natural cooling from trees and creek.**
- **Daily EMS reminders.**
- **Team leader for heat safety.**


# Policy Gaps & State Efforts

- **Only 5 states have enforceable heat standards.**
- **Florida banned local heat protections.**
- **Federal OSHA protections still pending.**





# What a Federal Standard Could Do

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- A photograph of a man wearing a straw hat and a light-colored shirt, drinking from a white cup in a large green field. Other workers in hats are visible in the background under a clear blue sky.
- **Mandate rest, shade, water, training.**
  - **Create clarity and consistency.**
  - **End the patchwork system.**

# Protecting People Strengthens Agriculture

## Protecting workers:

- **Boosts productivity.**
- **Reduces turnover and medical costs.**
- **Creates a level playing field for ethical farms.**





# Protecting Livestock & Crops Strengthens Agriculture As Well

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- **Reduced milk yields and lower grain and produce production.**
  - **Pollination (required for nearly all of plant agriculture) is out of sync.**
  - **Near dire need for publicly funded research.**



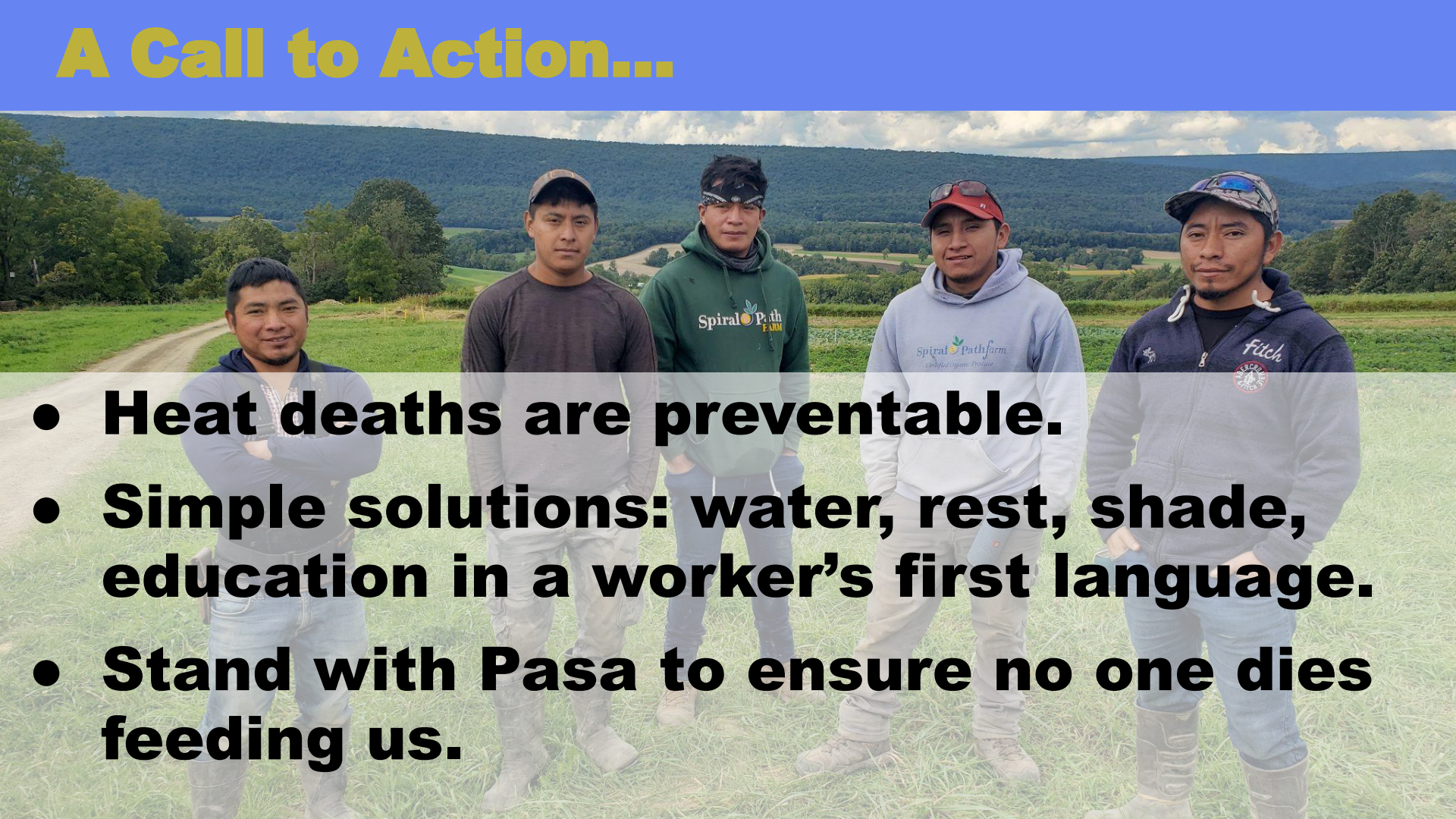
# Animals need shade too!



- **Adding trees to pasture (silvopasture) for shade reduces heat stress and increased feed conversion - We need a farm bill!!!**



# A Call to Action...

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- **Heat deaths are preventable.**
  - **Simple solutions: water, rest, shade, education in a worker's first language.**
  - **Stand with Pasa to ensure no one dies feeding us.**

# Programs/Resources: Live Links

**Certification:** [Fair Food Program](#)

**Reports:** [Union for Concerned Scientists](#), [Environmental Defence Fund and La Isla Network](#), [US Dept of Agriculture](#)

**Technology:** [AIHA Heat Stress App](#)

**Legislation:** [Seeds and Breeds for the Future Act](#)

**Extension:** [Signs of Heat Illness](#)

**Webinars:** [Heat Prevention Listening Session](#)





# Questions?

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