



The Cotton Chronicle

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September 2017

Volume 27 Issue 9

Industry Calendar

September 12
CA Cotton Industry
Research Committee
Meeting—Fresno, CA

September 13
Board Meeting—
Fresno, CA

September 20
Kings County Farm &
Cotton Safety
Training—
Kings Cty Fairground

September 20
Fresno County Cotton
Harvest Safety
Training—
Westside Res. & Ext.
Ctr

Visit [web calendar](#)
for details

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CCGGA Shotgun Raffle!

The California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association is raffling off a **Beretta Silver Pigeon I** with proceeds boosting our critical CCGGA Fed-



eral and State PACs. Tickets are \$100/each. All purchases made with an individual/private check or credit card will be allocated to the Federal PAC with contributions exceeding \$200 reported. All purchases made with a corporate/company check or credit card will be allocated to the State PAC, with contributions of \$100 reported. Tickets can be purchased online, through our offices, or through any of the CCGGA Board Members and Advisers. If you would like to purchase a ticket please call **Jodi Raley** at (559)252-0684.

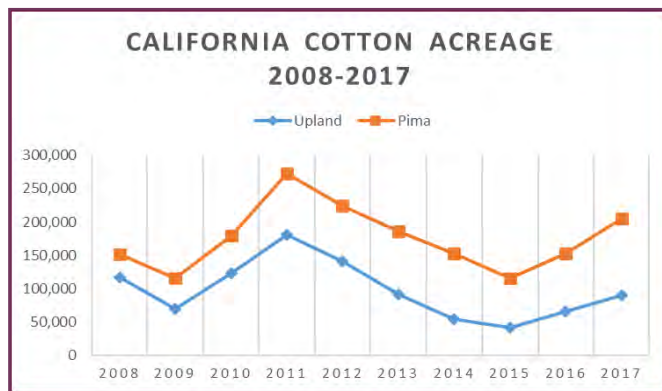
Association Supports Sites Reservoir Project

In a recent letter of support for the Sites Reservoir Project, the Association stated “After the entire state was crippled by several years of drought, it is increasingly evident that innovative water storage projects are needed. The Sites Project would create an additional 1.8 mil-

lion acre-feet of storage which would produce up to 500,000 acre-feet of supplies to California’s water system annually. This water would be extremely valuable in helping achieve a more efficient and reliable water supply system. Capturing and capitalizing on years of increased precipitation would not only help keep families and farms in business but it would also generate economic growth, produce jobs and help California achieve ecosystem benefits.” The letter of support was submitted to the Sites Project Authority for inclusion in their application to the California Water Commission for Proposition 1 Water Storage Investment Program funding.

Final Mapped California Cotton Acreage

The Pink Bollworm Program under the California Department of Food and Agriculture has released their final mapped numbers for 2017,



Welcome New Associate Member!
Baker, Peterson & Franklin, CPA

including the Pima and Upland acreage splits. Final acreage numbers for California put Pima at 204,690 acres and Upland at 90,395 acres for a total of 295,085 acres statewide.

This represents a 34% increase in Pima acreage and a 36% increase in upland acreage as compared to 2016. This represents a 35% increase in overall cotton acreage for 2017.

<u>San Joaquin Valley</u>	Pima	Upland	TOTAL
Kern	27,815	2,875	30,690
Kings	78,715	31,360	110,075
Tulare	5,250	15,580	20,830
Fresno	67,855	6,330	74,185
Madera	500	360	860
Merced	24,555	21,390	45,945
San Joaquin	0	0	0
Subtotal =	204,690	77,895	282,585
<u>Southern California</u>			
Imperial	0	3,090	3,090
Riverside	0	5,385	5,385
Subtotal =		8,475	8,475
<u>Sacramento Valley</u>			
Sutter	0	450	450
Colusa	0	350	350
Glenn	0	3,000	3,000
Tehama	0	225	225
Subtotal =		4,025	4,025
	Pima	Upland	TOTAL
Total =	204,690	90,395	295,085

Association Testifies at PUC Hearing on PG&E General Rate Case

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) held an outreach hearing last month in Stockton to discuss the impacts of the proposed rate structure under the 2017 PG&E General Rate Case (GRC). **Association President/CEO Roger Isom** testified at the hearing by demanding that this “not just be another meeting! Electricity prices are already too high!” The hearing was to take public comments on the Phase 2 portion of the 2017 PG&E GRC.

CPUC Administrative Law Judge Michele Cooke presided over the hearing since she is the ALJ assigned to this case and will ultimately be making the recommendation to the Commissioners on the GRC. During the hearing, Isom specifically commented on the proposed rates for cotton gins, and tree nut hullers and processors. Isom also expressed major concerns with shifting the “peak period” and the impact it would have on growers in terms of irrigation scheduling and on the businesses that installed solar and made financials decisions on an assumed rate of return that would now be completely turned upside down. The meeting was fairly well attended, especially by growers and members of the San Joaquin Farm Bureau. These growers did an outstanding job of expressing their specific concerns with changing the time of use periods. Phase 2 of the GRC is where rates are divided up amongst the various rate classes and those negotiations are ongoing. This was an important meeting where industry could express their specific concerns outside of the negotiations.

Kings County—Fall Farm & Cotton Safety Training Class

The annual safety training program is directed to cotton harvest equipment operators, crews and farm employees in conjunction with farm managers/supervisors and growers. This will cover topics that are required for growers (Topics may include road safety, equipment and chemical safety and electrical safety). The training will be held in English and Spanish. Be sure to indicate on your registration form which training the employee will be attending and whether they will be staying for lunch. Certificates of attendance will be issued. The Safety Training Class will be offered Wednesday, September 20th at the Kings County Fairground from 8:00am to 12:00pm and includes a delicious lunch. Family Healthcare Network will be on hand from 7:30 – 8:00 a.m. to provide free health screenings for participants. Click the link for the registration form: <http://bit.ly/2eLXjQs>.

State Water Board Appoints New Executive Director

The California State Water Resources Control Board has appoint **Eileen Sobeck** as the new Executive Director, replacing **Tom Howard** who retired in May of this year. Ms. Sobeck comes with nearly 40 years of government service, most recently as Assistant Administrator for the **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)** in the Fisheries Division, where she worked from 2014 to 2017. Prior to her work at NOAA she was the Depart-

ment of Interior's Acting Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs (2012-2014), and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks (2009-2012). Sobeck is a lawyer by training and spent 25 years at the U.S. Department of Justice, ultimately serving as Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Environment and Natural Resources (1999-2009). While Sobeck has spent her professional career in Washington, D.C., she has many ties to California. She grew up in Davis, is a graduate of Stanford and Stanford Law School, and has strong family connections to California. Sobeck will join the State Water Board following the Labor Day holiday weekend.

New Project? – Don't forget to call the Air District

Many of our members have implemented new projects to install new equipment or replace existing equipment in their operations. Many of these projects necessitate an Authority to Construct (ATC) application with the local Air Pollution Control District. When you receive your ATC it will have a condition that requires you to notify the Dis-

trict when "construction is complete and prior to operating the equipment or modifications authorized by the ATC." Unfortunately, this is often overlooked. Failure to do so can delay future projects or even result in a violation and subsequent fine, even if the projected results in lower emissions. Please be sure to check on this if you conducted any work that necessitated an ATC this past year. If you have any questions, please be sure to contact our office at (559)455-9272.

Pesticides Found to be below Health Concern Level for Second Year in a Row!

For the second year in a row the California Department of Pesticide Regulation's Air Monitoring Network found all pesticides monitored to be below levels that would indicate a health concern in 2016! DPR monitored 37 different chemicals, made up of 32 pesticides and five breakdown products. Of these different monitored chemicals **12 were not detected at all, 14 were detected at trace**

levels and 11 were detected at quantifiable levels. Of DPR's 5,928 analyses **91 percent had no detectable concentrations**. Among the chemicals that were detected at "quantifiable concentrations", 91 percent of these detections were from carbon disulfide. In DPR's report it is noted that there are no current product registrations for carbon disulfide. DPR notes that it is most likely present due to combustion from industrial facilities or is present due to decomposition occurring in wetland areas. For these reasons, DPR will no longer monitor this chemical.

Full Report-> http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/emon/airinit/amn_2016_report_draft.pdf

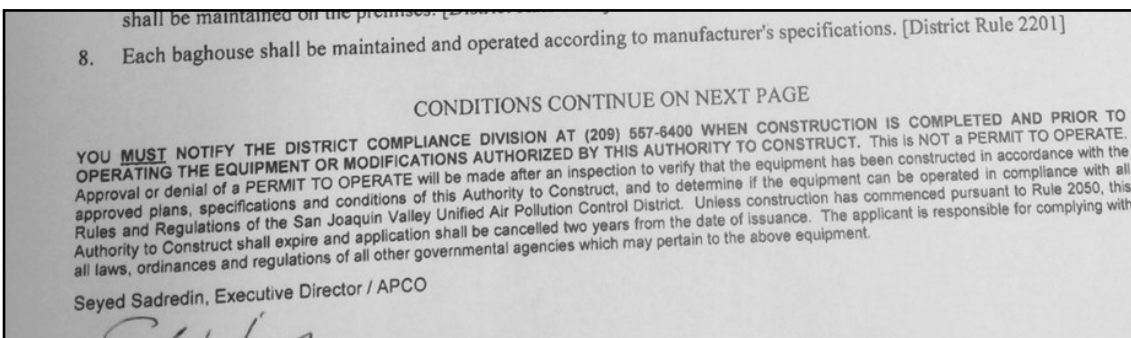
Full Press Release-> <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/pressrls/2017/081717.htm>

Fresno County—Cotton Harvest Safety Training, Sept 20
The **California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association, Fresno County Farm Bureau and Zenith Agribusiness Solutions** are presenting the 2017 Cotton Harvest Safety Training on September 20 from 8-10 a.m. at the Westside

Research & Extension Center (17353 W. Oakland Ave. Five Points, CA 93624) with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m. This annual training is meant to provide education and training to cotton harvest equipment operators, crews, ginners, farm employees as

well as farm managers/supervisors and growers. All trainings will be conducted in both English and Spanish. Training will cover equipment safety (preparation and operation), electrical hazards, heat illness prevention and road safety. To register contact Fresno County Farm Bureau at 559-237-0263 or info@fcfb.org.

Temperance Flat Takes Momentous Step Forward
The **San Joaquin Water Infrastructure Authority (SJVWIA)** took a momentous step to secure additional water storage for California. The SJVWIA submitted an application to apply for a little over 1.3 billion dollars from the Proposition 1 (Water Bond) Water Storage Investment Program to construct the **Temperance Flat Dam and Reservoir Project**. The project would provide an additional 1.3 million acre-feet of aboveground storage to capture and store high flows in above average water years. The project would be constructed about 6.5 miles upstream from Friant Dam, whose current capacity is only 520,000 acre



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feet. Chairman of the **California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association**, **Phil Hansen**, commended the work of the SJVWIA and urged that in light of weather events like last year it is critical that there be aboveground infrastructure, and Temperance Flat is the best project. There is a long road ahead of us but the Association will continue its support to see this project through until the end!

Allocates Additional Funds for Cottonseed Marketing Campaign

Cotton Incorporated has devoted an additional \$100,000

to cottonseed marketing efforts aimed at increasing demand for cottonseed in the dairy feeding industry. “With the large crop this year and the closing of a couple of oil mills, there is a dire need to create demand for cottonseed in the dairy feed industry. The goal is to stimulate increased demand to help stabilize the price and prevent any further decline,” said **Tom Wedegaertner, Director of Cottonseed Research & Marketing for Cotton Incorporated**. The additional cottonseed marketing funds for 2017 will primarily be used to advertise the benefits of nutrient-rich, whole cottonseed as a feedstuff for dairy cattle. The

marketing campaign will run this fall. About 2/3 of the supplemental funds will be used to place print ads and the remaining funds will be used for radio advertising and public relations. “I am very proud of Cotton Incorporated’s adaptability with their budget and their foresight on this cottonseed issue. This additional marketing effort comes at a critical time in the 2017 marketing year. Cotton Incorporated is committed to finding ways to increase cotton producers’ profitability,” said **George LaCour Jr.**, Louisiana cotton producer and Chairman of The Cotton Board.