

#### March 2018

# Creelman Named NCGA President

Ginner School

March 28th— Corcoran, CA

**Industry Calendar** 

Western Cotton Shippers Meeting April 9—11 Monterey, CA California's own **Stanley Creelman**, of Mid Valley Cotton Growers, was

named President of the National Cotton Ginners Association at the NCGA's Annual Meeting this past month in Fort Worth. Creelman is current board member and past Chairman of the California Cotton Ginners and Grow-

ers Association. Joining Creelman on the board are 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Wes Morgan, of New London, N.C.; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Curtis Stewart, of Spade, Texas; and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President George LaCour, Jr., of Morganza, La..

# Association Joins Local Leaders in Support of Temperance Flat Appeal

Our Association has historically supported the original Prop 1 Water Bond to construct aboveground storage, including projects like Temperance Flat Reservoir and Sites Reservoir. Because of our Association's involvement on the issue, our Association was asked to participate in a press conference put together by the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority announcing that the group will be submitting at 20-page technical appeal to the reviewers of the California Water Commission (CWC). The CWC released last month that none of the 11 project applicants would yield public benefits, applicants at that time were allowed a window of time to submit additional data, documentation and explanations to help reviewers understand the full breadth of the public benefits. The package being submitted includes detailed, technical

information relating to the groups Temperance Flat project application, providing explanations on the modeling used to justify the public benefits ratio (PBR). The SJVWIA estimates that their project has a PBR of 2.65, which means that for every dollar the state invests, the public would receive \$2.65 worth o f benefits. The reviewers of the CWC will release the new PBRs in April and applicants will have another opportunity in May, at the CWC board meeting, to further contest the released scores. **Director of Regulatory Affairs Jodi Raley** spoke at the press conference



stating, "We understood that entering into this process that it would have its challenges however, we see the appeal letter being submitted as a message to the Capitol that there is a strong voice not only in this valley, but in this state to see that projects like this get built!"

# Association co-Hosts Several Legislators at APC Kitchen Dinner

The California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association (CCGGA) hosted several legislators at the Annual Agricultural President's Council's (APC) Kitchen Dinner Event held at the Kitchen Restaurant in Sacramento. The Association hosted Assemblymembers **Cecilia Aguiar-Curry**,

Visit web calendar for details

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# Newsletter of the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association

# The Cotton Chronicle

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#### Volume 28, Issue 3

#### The Cotton Chronicle—Page 2

Heath Flora, Autumn Burke, Jim Cooper, and Marc Berman, as well as State Senator Scott Wilk. Representing the Association was 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman Bryan Bone, President/CEO Roger Isom, Director of Technical Services Chris McGlothlin and Director of Regulatory Affairs Jodi Raley. Issues discussed included water storage, labor,



CCGGA Board Member Bryan Bone speaking with Assemblyman Marc Berman

Cap & Trade, and challenges facing the agricultural industry today. Twenty six (26) legislators attended the three hour dinner event hosted by the APC, of which the Association's Isom is the current Chairman. Other groups involved in the dinner included the Cut Flower Commission, California Citrus Mutual, California Fresh Fruit Association, American Pistachio Growers, California Rice Commission, California Strawberry Commission, California Agricultural Aircraft Association, Western Plant Health Association, California Association of Nursery and Garden Centers, Far West Equipment Dealers Association, California Dairies Inc., and the Western Agricultural Processors Association.

# NRCS Invites Proposals for 2018 Conservation Innovation Grants

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in California is now accepting proposals for its Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) program. Up to \$375,000 is available for one- to three-year grants. The maximum award amount for any project will not exceed \$75,000 in FY 2018. Proposals are due by April 17, 2018. CIG is a voluntary program to stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies. The proposed projects should augment existing NRCS technical tools (planning, assessment and/or delivery) to better facilitate conservation on farms and ranches. In 2018 NRCS California is prioritizing proposals that improve the "technical toolbox" to address the following on -farm resource concerns: soil and water quality, wildlife habitat, water conservation, forest health, air quality, waste recycling and energy conservation. Applicants are encouraged to explore the full program announcement to better match their proposals to these needs. Please see www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ca/ programs/financial/cig/ Funds will be awarded through a statewide competitive grants process and in 2018 will not include a pre-proposal process. Eligible applicants include state and local government, nongovernment organizations, Tribal governments, eligible private business and individuals. Applicants may contact Erik Beardsley at Erik.Beardsley@ca.usda.gov for more information. Applications must be received by 5 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time on April 17, 2018. Applications must be submitted electronically through www.grants.gov. In addition, a PDF of the complete application must be emailed to Erik.Beardsley@ca.usda.gov. Both submissions must be received by the submission due date.

# Association Opposes Proposed Indoor Heat Illness Standard – Again!

Once again, the Association voiced its opposition to CalOSHA's proposed Indoor Heat Illness Regulation. President/CEO Roger Isom spoke at the most recent CalOSHA workshop in Oakland expressing our opposition to not only the proposed standard but also to opening up the existing outdoor heat illness standard. But as has occurred on numerous occasions, CalOSHA allowed the workshop to be overrun by labor activists espousing accusations and unsubstantiated claims of employers not providing water and/or breaks to employees allegedly suffering heat illness. Furthermore, the labor groups also voiced their opposition to the proposed standard saying it did not go far enough, including asking for a temperature threshold of 70 degrees Fahrenheit! This is the third draft of the proposed regulation which was mandated by the California State Legislature. This effort was precipitated by a single case that stemmed from a 2012 serious citation issued to a warehouse and distribution center for the heat illness suffered by an employee who was working inside a metal freight container with a temperature of over 100 degrees. In this latest draft, unfortunately, DOSH is not "limiting the applicability" and is including any and all employers with an indoor place of employment where the temperature is equal to or greater than



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		Maturity	Plant Height	Leaf Type	Seed Size (seed/lb.)	Storm Resistance <sup>1</sup>	Lint (%)	Staple (32nds)	Micronaire	Strength (g/tex)	Length Uniformity (%)	Fusarium	Verticillium	Bacterial Blight*	Nodes of First Fruiting Branch	Total Number of Fruiting Branches
	DP 341 RF Pima	Mid	Medium	Hairy	3000 - 3500	5	37.0 - 39.0	50	4.3	44	85.5	Highly Tolerant	Mod. Res.	-	-	-
-	DP 348 RF Pima	Mid-Full	Medium-Tall	Hairy	3000 - 3350	5	36.0- 38.0	48	4.1	43.5	86	Highly Tolerant - Res.	Mod. Res.	-	-	-
	DP 358 RF Pima	Mid-Full	Medium-Tall	Hairy	3000 - 3350	5	37.0- 39.0	48	4.2	43	86	Highly Tolerant - Res.	Mod. Res.	-	-	-

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80 degrees. This means farm shops, packing houses, hullers and processors would all be subject to the new regulations, even if they haven't had a single incidence of heat illness. These operations must provide access to water and a "cool-down area". The cool-down area must be open to the air or "provided with ventilation or cooling". A cool-down area must be provided when the temperature exceeds 80 degrees Fahrenheit, and employees shall be allowed and encouraged to take a "preventative cooldown rest" in a cool-down area when they feel the need to do so. We remain opposed and will continue to push CalOSHA to limit the applicability of this regulation to only those specific jobs where indoor heat illness has proven to be a significant health risk.

#### **USDA Announces Cotton Board Appointees**

United States Department of Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue has announced the appointment of 13 members, 13 alternate members and one advisor to serve on the Cotton Board. The following appointees will serve threeyear terms ending Dec. 31, 2020. "The Cotton Board carries out research and promotional activities that strengthen the competitive position of cotton by expanding demand in domestic and foreign markets, improving fiber quality, and lowering costs of production," said Perdue. "These appointees represent a cross section of the industry and I know that the cotton industry will be well served by their work." Representing California regular member Dustin Mancebo, of Dos Palos, California, and the alternate is Aaron Barcellos, of Los Banos, California. The Cotton Research and Promotion Act of 1966 (Act) authorized a national cotton research and promotion program that is both industry-operated and funded. Since 1966, Congress has authorized 22 industry-funded research and promotion boards to provide a framework for agricultural industries to pool resources and combine efforts to develop new markets, strengthen existing markets and conduct important research and promotion activities. The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) provides oversight, paid for by industry assessments, which helps ensure fiscal responsibility, program efficiency and fair treatment of participating stakeholders.

## **Chlorpyrifos under Attack**

Chlorpyrifos is under intense pressure not only from the previously reported state activities, but now is facing several obstacles on the federal level. The Ninth Circuit Court ruled that the motion submitted by the United States government last year to dismiss the activist's petition was denied. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) still stands by its position that there is adequate science defending the current regulations and no additional mitigation is needed. The activist groups as well as EPA are presenting their arguments to the court this month. Additionally the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) released a Biological Opinion (BiOp) that presented data that was clearly overly conservative and were mostly worst case scenarios. The BiOp directs EPA to address the issues outlined in the report with "reasonable and prudent regulations." CCGGA is heavily involved with an industry coalition to monitor and oppose these efforts.

## 2018 CCGGA Annual Meeting

CCGGA Members, Associates and interested parties came together in Monterey, CA from February 21-23 for the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association annual meeting. Attendees started off the meeting looking out onto the beautiful Monterey Bay during Wednesday evening's welcome reception at the Monterey Plaza. The following morning, participants in the CCGGA Golf Tournament played the stunning course at Quail Lodge & Golf Club. New this year, CCGGA offered an Irrigation and Nitrogen Management Plan Self-Certification Course Thursday morning, that was available for growers to participate in. The group gathered together Thursday evening to enjoy the Annual CCGGA Reception and Dinner, which included the spectacular comedic entertainment of Adam Ferrara. During the evening 1st Vice Chairman Mike Davis, took a moment to recognize the leadership and dedication shown by current Chairman, Phil Hansen, throughout his tenure. The last day of the meeting comprised of updates for both the ginning and producing segments of the industry. For the first half of the morning, attendees received updates from Mike Brueggemann with National Cotton Council, Christi Chadwell with the Cotton Board, on Cotton Incorporated activities and promotion as well as Jeff Elder with Supima. The group then participated in the "Ginners Track" and "Growers Track" breakout sessions. The "Ginners Track" received an update on National Cotton Ginners Association activities from, CCGGA Board Member and newly elected NCGA President Stan Creelman. Additionally Greg Holt with USDA-ARS and Greg Townsend with USDA-AMS provided updates on their respective facility's activities. The "Growers Track" hosted an "Insect 2017 Review Panel" comprising of Bob Hutmacher, UC Cooperative Extension State Cotton SpeCalifornia Cotton Ginners and Growers Association 1785 N. Fine Avenue Fresno, CA 93727 PRESORTED STANDARD US POSTAGE PAID FRESNO, CA PERMIT NO. 2509

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cialist, Andy Gulley with Simplot Grower Solutions and Jim Razor with J.G. Boswell Company. To wrap up the meeting all attendees heard from Dan Munk, with UC Cooperative Extension, on a 2018 outlook on the CA water situation. Additionally, George Soares of Kahn, Soares & Conway spoke to the group regarding the challenges agriculture is facing in Sacramento. Lastly, CCGGA staff provided an overall regulatory updated on the issues the Association has been leading and engaged in. This was a successful event and would not be remotely possible if it weren't for our generous sponsors! We look forward to continuing this tradition of bringing together the entire cotton industry. Please take a moment to recognize all of our sponsors, we remind you to "Support those that support the industry!"

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