



The Cotton Chronicle

1785 N. Fine Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727 • Telephone: (559) 252-0684 • Fax: (559) 252-0551

www.ccgga.org

August 2018

Volume 28, Issue 8

Industry Calendar

August 30
Supima Annual
Meeting—
Coalinga, CA

September 12
Board Meeting—
Fresno, CA

Visit web calendar
for details

CCGGA Staff

Roger A. Isom
President/CEO
roger@ccgga.org

Christopher McGlothlin
Director of Technical
Services
chris@ccgga.org

Jodi Raley
Director of Regulatory
Affairs
jodi@ccgga.org

Shana Colby
Administrative Assistant
shana@ccgga.org

Do you want our Newsletter directly to your inbox? Send your name and email address to info@ccgga.org and we'll get you on the list to receive our important and informative monthly newsletter electronically. It's easy!

American Cotton Shippers Association Announces new President/CEO

Earlier this summer ACSA President/CEO, **William E. May** announced his plans to retire December 31, 2018. The ACSA Board approved the formation of a search committee of ACSA Past Chairmen during the ACSA annual meeting in May of this year to interview prospective candidates for the position. On July 16th the committee announced the hiring of **William H. "Buddy" Allen** to become the next President & CEO of ACSA. Mr. Allen will assume the title on January 1, 2019. He will begin his transition in August working with Mr. May. Buddy is a native of Belzoni, Mississippi and resides in Tunica, Mississippi. He is married to the former Allison Johnson and they have three daughters. He earned his BA from the University of Mississippi in English and Political Science. Buddy worked on Capitol Hill in the office of US Senator Thad Cochran as an intern and Staff Assistant. He also spent time in the banking industry with a focus on capitalization and agriculture lending. Presently he is a partner in A&J Planting Company a vertically integrated agribusiness in Tunica. In 2013 Buddy became a partner in The Macon Edwards Company a government relations firm focusing on agriculture policy and regulation.

Pima Guide Box Review Held Last Month

The 2018 American Pima Grade Standards Guide Box Review and Standards Matching event was July 10 at the Visalia USDA Agricultural Mar-

Go Electronic!

keting Service (AMS) Classing Office in Visalia. Several participants including growers, ginners, merchants, mills and associated industry representatives attended the event hosted by USDA AMS representatives Greg Townsend, Area Director and Jimmy Knowlton, Director – Stand-



ardization Division. The guide box review and standards matching for pima takes place each year in Visalia and gives the entire industry an opportunity to review the standards and make sure there is industrywide consensus in matching previous standards. 160 boxes were reviewed and approved.

CCGGA Continues Effort to Fix FSMA for Cotton Gins in DC

The Association traveled back to Washington, DC last month to meet with FDA officials and Congressional representatives on the primary issue of how Food Safety Modernization Act

(FSMA) regulations on animal feed will apply to cotton gins. Representing the Association in those meetings were **Priscilla Rodriguez, WAPA Director of Food Safety,** and **Roger Isom, CCGGA/WAPA President/CEO.** As has been stated in the past, there are a couple of issues that remain with the applicability of the Preventive Controls Rule for Animal Feed for cotton gins, based on ownership. FDA has acknowledged there is no difference in risk based on where the cotton is ginned; however, they refer back to the ownership of the cotton when determining applicability, which is of major concern. Most gins would be exempt based on ownership, but some would fall under the Preventive Controls Rule for Animal Food. FDA has acknowledged the issue and committed to future rule-making to address the definition of a farm in order to address ownership issues; however, it has been several months since they made the announcement at the National Cotton Council Annual Meeting in Fort Worth. Most recently, **Dr. James Gorny, FDA,** announced at WAPA's **2018 Annual Meeting** that he expected something out in the spring of 2019. In this recent meeting with FDA, it appears to be more likely to be in the summer of 2019 or later. FDA is concerned with unintended consequences and wants to make sure they don't cause other problems in trying to solve this particular one. The Association is concerned with inconsistent applicability of the regulations to operations that are exactly the same except for ownership. The Association then spent a day in the Capitol meeting with several congressional offices to discuss the issue, including meeting with **Congressman David Valadao and Devin Nunes** on the matter. Stay tuned!

Make Plans to Attend the 41st Annual Ag Boosters BBQ

The **41st Annual Ag Boosters BBQ for the California**

Women for Agriculture (CWA) and Ag One will be held



on **Sunday, September**

9th at the Borba Ranch

located at the San

Joaquin River and High-

way 99 in Madera. The

grounds open at 4 pm,

and Dinner will be

served from 5:30 to

6:30. Individual tickets

are \$50 each, or you can

purchase a table of 10 for \$450. Festivities include:

- **CWA Country Store featuring handmade arts, crafts**

and baked goods

- **Fresno State Farm products – enjoy award-winning wine, extra virgin olive oil, grapes, and more!**
- **Fresno State sausage sampling sponsored by Fresno-Madera CAPCA**
- **Cheese tasting sponsored by Valley dairy processors**
- **Silent and live auctions**
- **Raffle prizes, a fabulous door prize and much more!**

The Ag Boosters Barbecue has raised more than \$1 million for both organizations. This support has played an

important role in Ag

One's ability to support

students and programs in

the Jordan College of Ag-

ricultural Sciences and

Technology at Fresno

State. **Since 1979, Ag One**

has provided some 4,400

students with more than

\$6.2 million in scholar-

ships as well as program

support. More than

\$19.5 million is endowed

with the Fresno State

Foundation. In the 2018-

2019 academic year, \$700,000 will be awarded to de-

serving students and programs. Additionally, CWA uses

the funds raised by the barbecue to help California agri-

culture through education and legislative programs and

by giving nearly \$100,000 in scholarships annually. For

more information, please contact the Ag One Foundation

at California State University, Fresno at (559)278-4266.



CARB Releases Draft PM2.5 Plan – Tractors are In!

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has now re-

leased their portion of the measures to be contained in

the State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the San Joaquin

Valley to achieve attainment of the National Ambient Air

Quality Standard for PM2.5. Two of these measures in-

clude tractors and harvesters. One of the measures,

named the **“Accelerated Turnover of Agricultural Trac-**

tors” would use existing and new incentive funding pro-

grams to help accelerate the natural turnover of agricul-

tural equipment. These programs include the Carl Moyer

Program, the USDA NRCS EQIP Funding and the new

FARMER Program funding. On the other hand, another

measure entitled **“Cleaner In-Use Agricultural Equip-**

ment” is designed to increase the penetration of cleaner agricultural equipment, including advancing zero-emission technology (aka “electric”) where feasible. This program appears to be a mandatory replace measure, that allows for incentive funds to be used, but will become mandatory if the necessary reductions are not achieved. The amount of reductions being asked for by CARB is as follows:

| Proposed Measure | Agency | Action Date | Implementation Begins | Expected Emission Reductions (tons/day) |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|-----------------------|---|
| Accelerated Turnover of Ag Tractors | CARB/SJVAPCD | 2020 | Ongoing | 11 |
| Cleaner In-Use Agricultural Equipment | CARB | 2025 | 2030 | Not Yet Quantified |

While this is still in draft, it confirms comments by CARB over the past year in several workshops. This will only apply to the San Joaquin Valley and the eight counties therein. This will be coupled with the measures being proposed by the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) including a measure to require the replacement of Tier 3 diesel fired pump engines with either a final Tier 4 pump engine or electric motor. That measure has not yet been formally released and the final compliance dates have yet to be announced. Workshops on both the CARB and SJVAPCD plans will be held this month.

Irrigated Lands Fees Set to Increase This Year

The State Water Resources Control Board is looking to increase the per acre charged to growers through their Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) this year, adding to the list of State Agencies increasing the cost of compliance to do business in the state. Earlier this month, the SWB proposed the increases, and announced that they will be taking the recommended fee increases before the Board during the September Board Meeting. The ILRP program is locked in to increase by 8.9%, going from .87 cents/acre, up to .95 cents/acre. The ILRP program has still yet to reach full enrollment of all irrigated acres within the state, and the development of these newer programs will be supplemented by fees collected elsewhere in the state. There are still two regions that have yet to adopt the order, or are in the process of developing coalitions to represent growers for that specific

area. Usually, SWB staff include up to 6% of their collected revenue as part of their “Reserve Funding” from year to year. This fund helps offset some of the proposed fee increases, however, staff has put in place a plan to reduce the amount collected year to year to help offset future fee increases. The fund will decrease to 4% starting this upcoming season. State Water Board staff has noted that numerous permit programs that operate under their guidance are severely underfunded, and that fee increases are necessary to maintain proper operation of these programs. CCGGA has attended several of these fee workshops and tried to find a working solution outside of charging stakeholders (grower) more for the same amount of work year after year. Unfortunately, SWB staff has also proposed a 20% increase in fees to be broken up over the next 3 years to help bring revenue closer to actual expenditures for these programs. The Association will continue to fight against these unwarranted fee increases. Stay tuned.

Supima 64th Annual Meeting

Please join us at **Harris Ranch Inn in Coalinga, CA** on **Thursday, August 30th** where members will have the opportunity to learn about Supima’s current and future activities. The program will include an update of our promotional and licensing activities along with an ELS market update and other pertinent news. Supima’s annual meeting is scheduled from 10:30 a.m. until noon and will be followed by a buffet lunch.

Registration: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Meeting: 10:30 – 12:00 noon

Luncheon: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Please register by Friday, August 24, 2018 by either calling the Supima office at (602) 792-6002 or emailing Nancy Boyd at Nancy@Supima.com.

Pesticides below Health Screening Levels...Again!

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) announced in a press release that DPR’s Air Monitoring Network found that all 36 pesticides monitored at four different sites never exceeded any screening level or regulatory target. Among the 36 pesticides monitored some included, chlorpyrifos, endosulfan, malathion, acephate, along with many others. The four sites that DPR used were stationed in Shafter, Santa Maria, Watsonville and Chualar. Of all the pesticides monitored 17 were only detected at trace level and nine were not detected at all!

California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association
1785 N. Fine Avenue
Fresno, CA 93727

PRESORTED STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
FRESNO, CA
PERMIT NO. 2509

WWW.CCGGA.ORG

Also in the press release was information regarding DPR's two-year monitoring study of 1, 3-D with stations in Parlier and Delhi. Even though 1, 3-D did not exceed a human health screening level, DPR will be reviewing the current mitigation measures to determine if the interim restrictions should be replaced. The Association attended the Pesticide Registration Evaluation Committee meeting where these items were discussed and questioned staff if additional restrictions were necessary given that current regulations are more than adequate. DPR's response was that as a result of a lawsuit they are required to reexamine current regulations and will begin the rulemaking process beginning of 2019.

Cotton Research & Education Funding – Upcoming RFP

The California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association (CCGGA) as well as the California Cotton Industry Research Committee (CCIRC) has sent out a "Request for Proposals" (RFP) seeking cotton industry research projects to be funded. The CCGGA Research & Education funding comes directly from growers thus each project is carefully considered by a group comprising of all segments in the industry. This year's research priorities are:

- **Diseases** (FOV resistance, variety screening, seed and soil treatments, pathology work in lab and field plus

- Seedling Disease issues)
- **Sticky Cotton** (Development of better detection and measurement system and standards and continue educational efforts)
- **Contamination** (Research ways to detect plastic in the seed cotton and eliminate where possible)
- **Insect Management and Control** (Efficacy screening of new and old products and promote intro of new chemistries with low VOC, focus on Lygus and Aphid control)
- **Water Management** (Regional with varying soil types and irrigation methods with emphasis on efficiencies, conservation, nitrogen, and salt management)
- **Weed Management** (Resistance Management to existing products and introduction of new chemistries)
- **Nutrient Management** (Focus on nutrient management while taking into account factors of soil type, irrigation method, efficiencies, etc.)

Last year alone, CCGGA approved over \$200,000 in research dollars. Proposals are due **Monday, August 27th** and they will be reviewed by the CCIRC and CCGGA Tuesday, September 11th. If you would like to be included on the RFP mailing list please contact Jodi Raley at (559) 252-0684 or at jodi@ccgga.org.