



The Cotton Chronicle

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Industry Calendar

December 11—
Board Meeting
Fresno, CA

Visit web calendar
for details

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The Passing of a Legend, Mr. Loyd Colbert

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of **Loyd E. Colbert**, retired ginning legend from Modern Ginning in Blythe, California. Loyd passed away peacefully on November 3rd surrounded by his family. Loyd, a native of Arkansas, began his long career and distinguished service to

the cotton ginning industry with the J.G. Boswell Company in 1949 in Arizona. He began as a yard man and worked his way up the ladder to eventually become a top rate cotton ginner during his 12 years with Boswell. In 1961 Loyd went to work for the Continental Gin Company where he was in charge of erecting cotton gins throughout the western United States. Knowledge of his expertise and reputation in the ginning industry spread quickly. A pioneer in the development of the western cotton industry, Russell Giffen, hired Loyd to oversee the construction of a series of new cotton gins in the western San Joaquin Valley. Upon completion of this extensive and impressive construction project, Loyd was hired by Giffen, Inc. as Superintendent of Ginning Operations. In 1964, Lummus Industries hired Loyd as their service manager for California's San Joaquin Valley. Soon thereafter, he became western states sales representative for Lummus. In 1966, Col-

bert sold and built a new gin for the Modern Ginning Company in Blythe, California. Following its completion, Loyd was hired as the Vice President and Manager where he worked until his retirement in April, 2016. During his tenure at Modern Ginning, Loyd became an industry stalwart serving on the California Cotton Ginners Association Board of Directors for more than 20



Loyd Colbert receives the Horace Hayden National Cotton Ginner of the Year Award in 1995.

years, serving as its Chairman in 1987 and recognized as the **Association's Ginner of the Year in 1990**. Loyd also represented California at the national level serving as a Ginner delegate, and was recognized by the National Cotton Council receiving the **Horace Hayden National Cotton Ginner of the Year Award in 1995**. Loyd is survived by his wife of 64 years Janice, daughter Linda Walden (John), daughter Doris LeFever (Mike), son John (Helen) brothers Roy Lee Colbert and Thomas Colbert, 5 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren, 1 great great grandchild and numerous nieces and nephews. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his entire family. We would also take this moment to recognize Loyd for his service and contributions to the Association and the entire cotton industry. Loyd supported the Association in every way possible, and we are eternally grateful for all that Loyd did. He will be sorely missed. **Memorial services will be held at Frye Chapel & Mortuary**

on November 17 at 11:00 am with a luncheon immediately following at the Blythe Elks Lodge #1799. The family is requesting in lieu of flowers donations can be made to Modern Ginning Company in memory of Loyd Colbert to be used to fund a local academic scholarship for graduating high school students.

Commemorating the Eradication of the Pink Bollworm

On November 8th, leaders of the California cotton industry, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) joined together to celebrate the eradication of the Pink Bollworm (PBW). Held at the Westhaven Cotton Company Gin in Lemoore, attendees were able to commemorate this historic feat and honor the key organizations and figures that made this achievement possible. An effort that has been 50 years in the making and almost entirely funded by cotton growers, the eradication of the Pink Bollworm marks a monumental achievement for agriculture and the cotton industry. Beginning in 1967, the PBW program took an integrated pest management approach, relying on the spread of sterile PBW moths across cotton producing regions, rather than the application of pesticides. In addition to the sterile moths, California cotton growers practiced mandatory plow down to provide host free periods, pheromone

treatments, and the planting of Bt cotton to limit the spread of the PBW. After 5 years without finding any native months in the PBW program traps, federal and state officials were able to declare the eradication of the PBW on October 19, 2018. Speakers at the event included **Under Secretary of the USDA Greg Ibach**, **Osama El-Lissy Deputy Administrator of the USDA**, **Nick Condos Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services Director of the**



(L to R): Tom Gaffney, Roger Isom, Earl Williams, Ted Sheely, Greg Ibach, and Osama El-Lissy.



Under Secretary of the USDA Greg Ibach, and Osama El-Lissy Deputy Administrator of the USDA.

CDFA, California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association (CCGGA) President/CEO Roger Isom, Chair of the California Cotton Pest Control Board Ted Sheely, and Tom Gaffney Chairman of the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association. The eradication of the Pink Bollworm was a collaborative effort of numerous governmental and agricultural entities working together. To conclude the event and recognize these efforts, Undersecretary, Greg Ibach presented awards to the organizations that played vital roles in the program. Honored recipients of awards included former CCGGA President **Earl Williams** accepting on behalf of California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association, **Helene Wright** representing the Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) program in the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) division of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the California Cotton Pest Control Board represented by **Ted Sheely**, and **Nick Condos** accepting on behalf of the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The Association would like to thank all USDA and CDFA employees involved as well as every cotton grower and ginner who

played a role in this historic and monumental effort.

Funding for Electric ATVs Now Available!



Under Secretary of the USDA Greg Ibach and Helene Wright USDA APHIS PPQ.

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (District) has just announced the opening of the Zero Emission Ag UTV Voucher Program for the replacement existing diesel or gasoline-powered UTVs with new, zero-emission UTVs to qualified individuals, businesses, educational institutions, and non-profit organizations involved in California agricultural operations as defined by The California Air Resources Board. **Incentives will pay up to 75% of the cost of the new electric ATV.** Applications and Guideline documents are available on the District's website at <http://valleyair.org/grants/utv.htm>. This funding was a result of the Association's involvement in the Cap & Trade negotiations that created the FARMER incentive funding program. If you have any questions, please call our office at (559)455-9272 or contact your local air pollution control district.

Board Nomination Reminder

It's time for nominations to be submitted for the upcoming election of directors for open positions on the Board of Directors of the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association. There are four (4) Grower Director terms expiring this year, including **Jim Neufeld and Bryan Bone in Kern County and Cannon Michael and Robert McDonald in Merced County.** The positions are for these specific counties. There are also four (4) Ginner Director terms expiring this year, including **John Colbert, Stan**

Creelman, Adriane Carbonel and Matt Toste. Nomination forms have been mailed to each member. For those that are interested in running, the forms must be completed and returned to the Association office by **Friday, November 16, 2018.** Please take time to nominate one or more Grower or Ginner candidates in good standing with the Association (and yourself if you intend to be a candidate) and make sure that each person you name agrees to being nominated and files the **Candidate Statement** form required to be placed on the ballot for the upcoming election. The form must be completed for each nomination, so please copy the form if you nominate more than one person and provide the form to each person you nominate. Thank you for your participation in the process. Please feel free to contact me at (559)252-0684 or via email at roger@ccgga.org if you have any questions.

Senator Stern Tours Cotton Gin

The Association as well as members of the Agricultural Presidents Council hosted **Senator Henry Stern** on a tour of agricultural operations in the Central Valley. Senator Stern represents the 27th Senate District which includes parts of Santa Clarita, Malibu, Calabasas, Thousand Oaks, Canoga Park, Lake Balboa and much more. The Senator has Valley ties, but wanted to understand agricultural issues in more detail. CCGGA brought the Senator to **Cross Creek Gin** to show how cotton is transformed from coming in from a module to a bale ready to be sent to a textile mill. **CCGGA Board Member, Kirk Gilkey** shared the history of cotton in California, the advancements the industry has made in technology and how California cotton holds pride in the ability to grow some of the strongest



and softest fiber in the world. Spending the entire day with the group the Senator was able to visit a dairy farm, a citrus operation, a table

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grape operation, a cotton gin, a pistachio processor as well as receive an aerial demonstration at Lakeland Dust-ers Aviation.

CARB Adopts Tractor Requirements

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted requirements this past month to replace 12,000 Tier 0, Tier 1 and Tier 2 tractors through the use of incentives by 2025. This effort is part of CARB's State Implementation Plan (SIP) to reduce PM2.5 emissions in the San Joaquin Valley. The Association's **President/CEO Roger Isom** testi-

fied at the hearing supporting the use of incentives, but expressed concerns over the fact that the incentives are not locked in after next year. Additionally, the Association commented on the concern on replacing 2,400 tractors per year, and whether that is achievable. Despite the concerns, Isom promised CARB the Association would be at the table pushing for continued incentive funds, as they did in leading the charge to get the current two years of funding at \$135 million per year. This was highlighted at the recent SJVAPCD Press Conference where Isom addressed the media on how important these incentives are and how they will be used. These incentive funds are included in the new FARMER program and applications are already available in most Air Districts throughout the state. If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact our office at (559)455-9272.



SAVE THE DATE
CCGGA Annual Meeting
May 15-17th
Pismo, CA