



The Cotton Chronicle

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www.ccgga.org

August 2019

Volume 29, Issue 8

Industry Calendar

August 29th—
Supima Annual
Meeting
Coalinga, CA

September 10—
Cotton Research
Meeting
Fresno, CA

September 11—
Board Meeting
Fresno, CA

CCGGA Staff

Visit [web calendar](http://www.ccgga.org)

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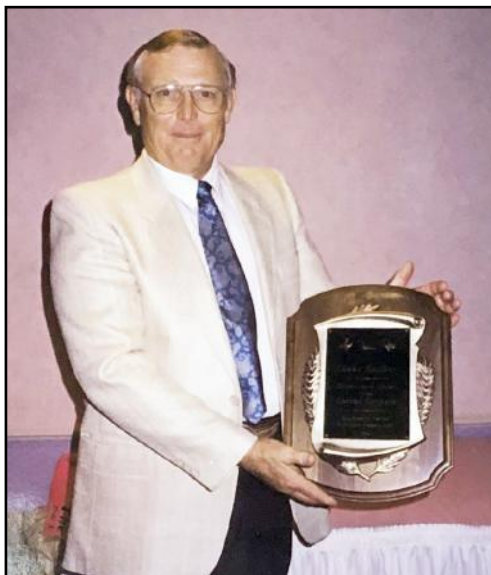
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California Cotton Industry Loses a Legend

It is with deep sadness that the Association announces the passing of longtime cotton industry legend **Larry Gallian**, who passed away on July 11th at the age of 75. Larry was born in 1943 in Lawrenceburg, Tennessee. He moved to California when he was 4 years old. He graduated from Redwood High

School in 1961 where he played basketball and baseball. He started his "cotton career" in 1964 driving a spreader truck for Visalia Co-op Gin. He became the assistant manager of the gin and in 1983 became the manager of operations, where he served until 2006 when Visalia Coop Gin closed its doors. He then became a Pest Control Advisor for Nutrien in 2007 until his passing. Larry served on the Board of Directors for the California Cotton Ginners Association from 1985 until 2007, and was the Chairman of the Board in 1990-1991. Larry was honored with the Association's Distinguished Service Award in 2006 for his commitment to the Association and the entire cotton industry. He was heavily involved in the activities of the Association and served at different times on the Executive, Legal and Legislative, Annual Meeting, Joint Steering, Energy, Gin Waste Utilization and Political Action Committees. Larry is survived by his wife of 55 years, Paulette, and his two daughters Niki and Traci, as well as his two



brothers Terry and Gary, along with numerous nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers the family requests that all memorial contributions be made to the City of Woodlake Parks and Recreation Department to support Larry's love for youth sports. Donations may be dropped off or mailed to: City of Woodlake, 350 N. Valencia Blvd., Woodlake, CA 93286.

Wildfire Response Legislation Passes

In response to the catastrophic wildfires California has experienced over the past two years related to power lines, this past month the State Legislature passed AB 1054 (Holden) and it was subsequently signed a few days later by Governor Gavin Newsom. First, it provides some significant safety upgrade requirements and oversight. AB 1054 requires PG&E, Southern California Edison (SCE) and San Diego Gas & Electric (SDC&E) to make \$5 billion in safety investments, otherwise known as "system hardening". This \$5 billion is spent without the normal return on equity that the utilities normally receive, saving ratepayers hundreds of millions of dollars. It also creates an oversight board known as the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board (CWSAB) that consists of seven members to advise and make recommendations related to wildfire safety for both independent investor owned utilities (IOUs) and public owned utilities (POUs). This legislation also clarifies an issue over the standard used to determine whether a utility can recover costs arising from a covered wildfire. Specifically, it allows cost recovery if the costs and expenses are determined just and

reasonable based on reasonable conduct by the utility. It considers factors both within and beyond the utilities control, including humidity, temperature and winds. The legislation requires the utility to bear the burden to demonstrate, based upon a preponderance of the evidence, that its conduct was reasonable. Going forward AB 1054 creates the “Wildfire Fund” which would be used to pay eligible claims related to a covered wildfire. The fund will be jointly funded by utility shareholders and utility ratepayers. Utility shareholders will contribute \$7.5 billion initially and an additional \$3 billion over 10 years to the wildfire fund. On the other side, ratepayers will be assessed a non-bypassable energy usage charge of \$0.005 per kWh for 15 years. While this charge is new, ratepayers will not see a difference on their bills, because it will simply continue an already existing charge created during the energy crisis several years ago that was scheduled to end in 2020 or so. This new charge will not be assessed until the previous charge is completed. AB 1054 requires PG&E to resolve all pre-bankruptcy claims and achieve a California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) approved reorganization plan that is neutral to ratepayers. Therefore, PG&E shareholders would be responsible for all liability claims from the 2017 and 2018 wildfires, which is currently estimated to be close to \$30 billion!

Solicitation for California Cotton Research Proposals

The California Cotton Industry Research Committee (CCIRC) has issued a Request for Proposals for research projects related to the California cotton industry. The CCIRC is comprised of the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association, California Cotton Alliance and the Cotton Incorporated: State Support Committee. Below are the research priorities for the 2019-2020 year.

- a. **Diseases** (FOV resistance, variety screening, seed and soil treatments, pathology work in lab and field plus Seedling Disease issues)
- b. **Sticky Cotton** (Development of better detection and measurement system and standards and continue educational efforts)
- c. **Contamination** (Research ways to detect plastic in the seed cotton and eliminate where possible)
- d. **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)
- e. **Water Management** (Regional with varying soil types and Page 3—The Cotton Chronicle irrigation methods

with emphasis on efficiencies, conservation, nitrogen, and salt management)

- f. **Weed Management** (Resistance Management to existing products and introduction of new chemistries)
- g. **Nutrient Management** (Focus on nutrient management while taking into account factors of soil type, irrigation method, efficiencies, etc.) type, irrigation method, efficiencies, etc.)

Proposals are due to Jodi Devaurs by mail (1785 N. Fine Ave. Fresno, CA 93727) or email by **COB, Wednesday, August 28, 2019**. The committee will convene in mid-September to review the proposals and make tentative funding decisions. If you have any questions, contact Jodi at jodi@ccgga.org or (559) 252-0684.

U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol Kicks Off



Cotton’s sustainability journey is a series of steps designed to meet the needs of the present customers without compromising the ability of future farming generations to meet their own needs. U.S. cotton farmers are families who own their land and would like to preserve it for future generations. These farmers have the highest rate of adoption for Precision Agriculture, and other innovative technologies, in the world. They are continually adopting best management practices. Farmers fund research projects that will help develop new farming practices. They also have expanded their use of resource efficiency tools. It’s no surprise that U.S. cotton farmers produce the most sustainable cotton in the world and will continue to take these steps toward continuous improvement well into the future. In 2013, the U.S. cotton industry heard a message from the Textile Manufacturers and the Brands and Retailers about their willingness to join in the sustainability journey. To facilitate the first steps, Cotton LEADS was formed as a partnership between the cotton industries of Australia and the United States. Cotton LEADS was the first U.S. program to promote the cotton farmers’ journey of sustainability. This program conveys the farmers’ commitment to sustainability, the recognition of improving farming practices, the under-

standing of a national sustainable program, the belief in working cooperatively to advance preferred cotton, and the confidence in traceable cotton identification systems. The program's goal is to connect businesses across the global supply chain with the leading efforts in sustainable cotton production. By 2017, the U.S. cotton industry learned that some of the textile supply chain would like additional information to tell their sustainability story. In response, the cotton leadership created a Sustainability Task Force to research solutions. This Task Force represented the seven segments of the U.S. cotton industry from producer to textile manufacturer. Its main purpose is to build on past efforts by focusing on continuous improvement, verifying success and formalizing the process into the US Cotton Trust Protocol, a specific program that oversees and validates these steps. The Task Force set national goals for key environmental metrics: soil carbon, land use, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, soil loss per acre, water use, and energy use. By 2025, they would like to see these goals of achievement. The U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol's mission is to be the world leader for sustainable cotton production. The Protocol has a vision to meet U.S. cotton's customers' sustainability goals by validating that U.S. cotton is the most responsibly-produced cotton in the world while striving for continuous improvement to reduce its environmental footprint. The mission and objectives of the Protocol are carried out with the help of a multi-stakeholder board of directors. Annual policymaking is initiated through recommendations generated by the participants of the U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol and/or the cotton industry. The U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol provides the industry an opportunity to join in its sustainability journey. Whether a Producer, Brand/Retailer, Merchandiser, Textile Manufacturer, or Civil Society, the Protocol has information to help them meet their sustainability goals. As the program grows, aggregate data will be shared with the textile supply chain and its partners who are members of the Protocol. This data will show the world that the U.S. cotton producer strives for continuous improvement in his operation. The overall core value of the Protocol is to maintain its journey of environmental stewardship, caring of people, and personal and corporate integrity from which goals will never be compromised.

CCGGA Testifies to State Water Board

In early August, **Jodi Devaurs, Director of Regulatory Affairs**, travelled to Sacramento to provide comments to

the State Water Resources Control Board on including components of the Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley in the State Water Resiliency Portfolio. In April of this year, Governor Newsom signed Executive Order N-10-19, which directed the California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency and the California Department of Food and Agriculture to develop a comprehensive strategy to develop a resilient water system using a regional approach. Devaurs shared that the Blueprint embraces the priority of looking at water issues at a regional level as discussions of projects and potential concepts of the Blueprint have come as a result of meetings that included individual growers, water agencies, irrigation districts, commodity groups and private companies representing different areas of the San Joaquin Valley. Additionally, Devaurs shared that there needs to be increased operational and regulatory flexibility to allow for more water to be able to come to the valley to support the industries and cities who rely upon a healthy groundwater supply. Devaurs shared that in order for water to be best managed, more infrastructure must be put in place to be able to properly capture, convey and store (both below and above ground). The Association will continue to support this effort and share concepts as the Resiliency Portfolio continues to collect public comment and input.

New Opportunity for Cotton Growers

Recently, we had a conversation with Jeff Mitchell of the University of California, Davis, in which he proposed an idea that we'd like to share with you all today. As some of you might know, Jeff has been a Cooperative Extension Cropping Systems Specialist working down in the San Joaquin Valley on a variety of tillage, irrigation, and soil management research areas for several years and during this time, he's worked and interacted with a good number of our CCGGA members. Jeff is proposing that cotton growers consider working together toward the development of information, knowledge, and know-how related to new production systems approaches in much the same way that a group he's currently involved with throughout the State. This group has come together to work on an NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) project that is trying to come up with different sorts of practices and approaches that achieve reduced disturbance production for vegetables. The group is dedicated to sharing new information amongst themselves about what are some really new frontiers of crop management that could also

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come under the umbrella of pursuing 'green,' climate-smart, and soil health principles. Underlying these practices could be marketing opportunities that we're all aware of in the new era of green branding. Jeff shared with us a short video that summarizes some of the truly fascinating innovation and challenges that this group is working on and he also showed me a rather interesting electronic 'collaborative tool' mechanism that they have implemented to share ideas and photos and to hash out issues amongst participants. We think that it could be something that could be well worth our consideration and if growers are interested, we encourage you to let our office know and we'll work with Jeff to schedule some sort of introduction and planning session some time before everyone is heavily involved with harvesting the 2019 crop. If you are interested in learning more about the endeavor that Jeff shared with us and if you'd like to perhaps become a part of a new group aimed at cotton systems, please let us know and we'll make the next steps happen.

65th Supima Annual Meeting

Supima is holding their 65th Annual Meeting Thursday, August 29th at the Harris Ranch Inn in Coalinga, CA. The meeting provides attendees the opportunity to learn more about Supima's activities and updates on pertinent news. Registration for the event will begin at 9:00 a.m. followed by the meeting from 10:30 a.m. until noon. Lunch will be served after the conclusion of the meeting. RSVPs must be made to Nancy Boyd at nancy@supima.com by Friday, August 23rd.

SUPIMA

THE WORLD'S FINEST COTTONS

65TH ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION

Thursday, August 29, 2019 - Harris Ranch Inn, Coalinga, CA
Registration: 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. / Meeting: 10:30 - 12:00 noon
Luncheon: 12:00 - 1:00 P.M. / RSVP by Friday, August 23rd, 2019



PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

NAME(S): _____

COMPANY: _____ EMAIL: _____
ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____
STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE: () _____ FAX: () _____

Email form to: nancy@supima.com by Friday, August 23, 2019