



The Cotton Chronicle

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Industry Calendar

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Cotton Board Seeking Nominations for Board Members

The **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)** seeks nominations of domestic cotton producers from Arkansas, **California**, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina and Texas, and importers of cotton and cotton-containing products for positions on the **Cotton Board**. The producers and importers will fill positions for 13 members and 13 alternates. USDA will appoint members and alternates to serve three-year terms beginning Jan. 1, 2021, to Dec. 31, 2023. The mission of Research and Promotion (R&P) programs is to expand, maintain and develop markets for individual commodities in the United States and abroad. This mission is an important contributor to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) overall vision related to "providing economic opportunity through innovation and helping rural America thrive and promote agriculture production that better nourishes Americans while helping to feed others throughout the world." Through the guidance of the R&P board members, appointed by Secretary Perdue, these programs execute a variety of activities benefitting agriculture. Consequently, the input and decision making provided by the board members is the foundation for success of these R&P programs. Certified producer organizations (CPOs) and certified importer organizations (CIOs) will hold caucuses to nominate two qualified persons for each open position in their respective industry segment. Producer caucuses are scheduled as follows and all times are local times:

- Arkansas: Wednesday, July 8 at noon
- **California: Wednesday, July 15 at 10 a.m.**
- Louisiana: Thursday, July 16 at 10 a.m.

- Mississippi: Friday, July 10 at noon
- North Carolina: Monday, July 20 at 3:20 p.m.
- Texas: Wednesday, July 22 at 10 a.m.

For nominating and caucus information, including organizations seeking certification and a list of CPOs and CIOs, contact Cotton Research and Promotion at (540) 361-2726 or CottonRP@usda.gov. More information is available on the Agricultural Marketing Service [Cotton Board](http://CottonBoard) webpage or on the board's website at www.cottonboard.org.

NCC's Mike Brueggemann to Retire, Niki Gallian Tabbed as Replacement

After 18 years of employment with the National Cotton Council, **Mike Brueggemann** has announced he will be retiring on July 31st. Mike has been a longtime voice for California cotton at the National level and has provide a great service to the cotton gins and cotton growers from this state. In 2011, Mike was presented with the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Asso-



ciation's Distinguished Service Award, of which only 26 have ever been presented in the history of the Association. Mike has been an asset to not only the NCC, but to this Association as well and we truly appreciate his years of dedicated service. He will be sorely missed.

The National Cotton Council has announced **Niki Gallian's** employment as the National Cotton Council's Member Services Representative for Arizona and California. She was previously employed by Langston Companies where she was responsible for marketing cotton packaging materials to gins in Arizona and California. Niki's first day with the Council was July 1st. She will work closely with Mike Brueggemann to ensure a smooth transition of responsibilities upon Mike's retirement on July 31. She can be reached at ngallian@cotton.org or 559-280-7058.

Cotton Industry Mourns the Passing of Tom Sprayberry

Longtime **Calcot** grower representative **Tom Sprayberry** passed away peacefully on June 8, in his hometown of Bakersfield. Tom was born in Bakersfield, California to **Odis and Laura Sprayberry**. He attended East High School, Bakersfield College and Fresno State. In 1951 he enlisted in the US Coast Guard where he served for three years. After completing his service with the Coast Guard, he joined the Southern Pacific Railroad as a timekeeper and clerk. During this time he was introduced to a lovely nurse name **Joyce Wetzel** and married her in 1963. At that same time he left the railroad to work for **Calcot** in grower records before becoming a field representative. He was a field representative for **Calcot** until his retirement in 1996. He was heavily involved in the community. He was President of the **Bakersfield Breakfast Lions Club**, and also served on the **Bakersfield College Alumni Association** where he held the office of President on two separate occasions. Tom was preceded in death by his wife Joyce in June 2019, and survived by his daughter Robbin Smith (Jack), grandchildren Kate and Ben Hamilton of Bakersfield, daughter Jill Newbrough (Mark), grandchildren Lauren Montijo, Andi, and Raef Newbrough all of Great Falls, MT. Tom will be buried at the Bakersfield National Cemetery where a private service will be held for family only due to COVID-19 restrictions. A gathering will be held next year at the Woolgrowers to celebrate his life. Memorial gifts may be directed to **Bakersfield Breakfast Lions at P.O. Box 1349, Bakersfield, CA 93302** or the **Bakersfield College Alumni Association at 1801 Panorama Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93305**.

New Nighttime Lighting Requirements Go Into Effect for Agriculture on July 1st

Well, it is now official. The new Cal/OSHA regulation specifying lighting requirements for operation of agricultural equipment at night goes into effect on July 1st.

These new requirements aren't as intrusive as originally proposed thanks to the involvement of the Association, but they are still imposing. The new requirements include the following highlights, when working between sunset and sunrise:

- All tractors, trucks and harvest equipment must have a light at the front of the equipment and one rear light to illuminate equipment
- Lighting must be provided at the following illumination levels:
 - Meeting and meal/rest areas – **3 foot-candles**
 - Around agricultural operations, pathways leading to and around bathrooms and drinking water stations, inside bathrooms and storage areas – **5 foot-candles**
 - Intermittently exposed points of operation or moving parts of machinery, or using tools that can potentially cause cuts, lacerations or punctures – **10 foot-candles**
 - Performing maintenance work on equipment – **20 foot-candles**
 - Note: the illumination levels can be provided by the use of one or more light sources includ-



ing hands free portable lighting (e.g. head-lamp), equipment mounted lighting, or other sources

- At the beginning of every shift, a safety meeting must be held to inform employees of location of restrooms, drinking water, break areas, bodies of water and high traffic areas
- Employers must provide, and require workers to wear, high visibility garments

For questions or should you need additional information, please contact our office.

The Changes in Facemask Requirements at The Workplace – Updated CDPH Guidance

Last month, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) released updated guidance that requires Californians to wear a face covering in high-risk settings. A growing body of scientific research has shown that people with no or few symptoms of COVID-19 can still spread the disease and that the use of face coverings, combined with physical distancing and frequent hand washing, will reduce the spread of COVID-19. You can read the full guidance here.

Regarding workplaces, the CDPH guidance specifies that individuals engaged in work, whether at the workplace or offsite, must wear face coverings when:

- Interacting in-person with any member of the public;
- Working in any space visited by members of the public, regardless of whether anyone from the public is present at the time;
- Working in any space where food is prepared or packaged for sale or distribution to others;
- Working in or walking through common areas, such as hallways, stairways, elevators, and parking facilities;
- In any room or enclosed area where other people (except for members of the person's own household or residence) are present when unable to physically distance.

This new CDPH guidance applies to all workplaces, including offices, packing houses, and processing facilities that may or may not be visited by the public. The guidance applies even if your workplace is not visited by the public, especially in workplaces that have hallways, elevators, common areas, and other work areas that do not allow for social distancing of six feet.

In recent weeks, we have seen a significant rise in COVID-19 cases, for this reason, WAPA encourages our members to remain diligent in prevention of the spread of COVID-

19. We highly recommend to have your employees wear face coverings when at the workplace.

For additional guidance & FAQ's from the office of Kahn, Soares & Conway click [here](#).

Association Supports 24c Efforts for Assail Insecticide

This past month the Association submitted a letter of support for the 24c registration for Assail Insecticide. This pest control tool is already fully registered and labeled for use in California Cotton. But with the onset of losing chlorpyrifos as well as Sulfoxaflor we are extremely supportive of this 24C that allows for a shorter, (14 Day) pre-harvest interval. According to the section 3 registration and current label for Assail 70WP, there is a 28 day pre harvest interval. Traditionally, cotton growers in California have had a variety of pest control measures that could be implemented, (if needed) inside this working PHI. Currently, California cotton growers do not have as many options to mitigate pest pressure throughout the season. This is causing an increased burden on the remaining active ingredients that are still registered for use in California. Allowing for this 24C Special Local Need will give California cotton growers an increased flexibility to manage economically important pests such as Aphids, Whitefly and Lygus bugs late into the production season when few options are available. The Association is working with UPL to see this happen for 2020.



Limited No-Cost N-95 Masks Available to Agricultural Businesses

Through combined efforts by the Agricultural Industry, DPR, CDFA, and County Agricultural Commissioners (CAC), the CAC's will be distributing a limited supply of no-cost N-95 masks throughout the state to agricultural businesses within their counties. The shipment of the N-95 masks should happen in the next 1 to 3 weeks. The limited sup-

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ply of N-95 masks will be at no cost to you. Contact your local county agricultural commissioner to schedule a pickup time to receive these N-95 masks for your business.

CARB Board Passes Advanced Clean Truck Regulation

Earlier this month, CARB Board members heard a presentation in regards to the most updated version of the Advanced Clean Truck Regulation proposal. This proposal would aim to require equipment manufacturers to begin converting their available fleets for sale within the state of California to primarily electric equipment. The purpose of the regulation is to further curb diesel emissions throughout the state. Vehicle and other diesel equipment manufacturers would be required to sell a certain percentage of electric equipment each year within the state of California. While the primary focus on conversion is on the heavy-duty equipment, the proposed regulation covers equipment from Class 2b to Class 8 equipment. The mandates also stretch down to businesses, specifically businesses with over \$50 million in sales and one registered heavy-duty truck, all fleet owners with over 50 vehicles registered in their name and other dispatching companies that operate equipment within the state. These entities would be required to report their

inventory, similar to the current Truck and Bus regulation, as well as report the fleet activity within the business boundaries. In the end, CARB Board members voted to approve the proposed regulation. This means, by 2045, every new truck sold in California will be a zero-emission piece of equipment. The Association grouped with a larger coalition of businesses and various community Chambers of Commerce to oppose the regulation. We will update you further when more information is made available.



Volvo Electric Truck - Photo courtesy of VolvoTrucks.com