



The Cotton Chronicle

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March 2022

Volume 32, Issue 3

Industry Calendar

March 9
Board Meeting
Fresno, CA

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ASABE adds Round Cotton Module Cover Testing to Performance Standard

The American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) has completed ASABE S615.2, **Cotton Module Cover Material Performance**. The document is a major revision of S615.1 that adds performance specifications for module covers used on cylindrical modules, which are now the predominant seed-cotton storage method in the US. Module covers are used to protect the cotton following harvest until it reaches the gin. The ASABE standard provides the physical test requirements for material used to manufacture these covers, which are exposed to environmental conditions, such as wind, rain, and ultraviolet radiation (sunlight) and storage degradation. ASABE is recognized worldwide as a standards developing organization for food, agricultural, and biological systems, with more than 280 standards currently in publication. Conformance to ASABE standards is voluntary, except where required by state, provincial, or other governmental requirements, and the documents are developed by consensus in accordance with procedures approved by the American National Standards Institute. For information on this or any other ASABE standard, contact Scott Cedarquist at 269-932-7031, cedarq@asabe.org.

Association's Rodriguez Completes Prestigious Ag Leadership Program

A journey began on October 10th, 2019 that lasted for more than 27 months, and finally came to a conclusion for the **Association's Director of Regulatory Affairs, Priscilla Rodriguez**, on February 5, 2022. This journey covered a span of more than 27 months, and included



meetings that covered more than 125 days, not including travel and study time. It included trips to Atlanta, GA, and Washington, DC, as well as Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic. Rodriguez was one of 24 members of the historic **Class 50 of the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation** program who completed their program where it began at California State University – Fresno on February 5th. Disrupted by the Covid Pandemic, but not deterred, Class 50 weathered the storm to complete their program this past month. Rodriguez had the distinct honor addressing the commencement for **Class 50** by giving the opening speech. In her comments, she began by stating “We started this program as strangers, quickly became friends and ultimately family. The

Welcome New Associate Member!

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bonds and friendships created through the program will continue on for years to come. We may all have different stories, but one thing is true for all of us. This program made a lasting impact through the books we read, people we met and the unforgettable experiences we lived.” She ended her opening remarks by encouraging her classmates “As we move forward in our lives, I challenge us to continue to be open minded, inquisitive, empathetic, passionate, resilient, and grateful, and leave your impact on your families, communities, ag industry, and the world.” Truly words to live by, not just for her colleagues, but for all of us. **Association President/CEO Roger Isom** remarked after the event, “Priscilla was made for the CALF program and the CALF program was made for her. The Association is incredibly proud of her for this accomplishment and her speech is indicative of her growth, and just the type of leader she has started to become. The Association and the agricultural industry are lucky to have her.”

Federal Maritime Commission Announces Effort to Address Detention and Demurrage Fees

An Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking was recently approved by the Federal Maritime Commission asking if a new rule governing demurrage and detention billing practices would benefit the trade and should apply to marine terminal operators and non-vessel operating common carriers in addition to vessel-operating common carriers. Specifically, the Commission is considering the merits of establishing regulations mandating certain minimum information be included in bills issued for demurrage and detention charges and prescribing the maximum period in which an invoice can be sent. Additionally, the Commission is seeking industry views on whether it should regulate the demurrage and detention billing practices of common carriers and marine terminal operators. The ANPRM broadly defines the terms “demurrage and detention” to include any charges assessed by common carriers and marine terminal operators related to the use of marine terminal space or shipping containers, regardless of the labels given to those charges. The ANPRM is being issued in response to information developed by Commissioner Rebecca F. Dye as part of her work leading Fact Finding 29. In July 2021, she identified issuing an ANPRM on these topics as one of the Interim Recommendations provided to the Commission on how the agency can address complaints and issues related to demurrage and detention. The Commission is requesting comments on what specific information should be required on de-

murrage and detention bills. It is interested in learning what information is necessary to identify a shipment, and whether bills for demurrage and detention should include information on how the charges are calculated and what circumstances justify stopping the clock on charges. Finally, the Commission is soliciting guidance on how to ensure a bill is being issued to the correct party and whether an explanation of the source and reason for the charge should be required. If you have comments or suggestions, please forward them to the Association.

Gin School Back on in 2022

The Association would like to invite our gin membership to attend the 2022 Ginners School located at the Technology Learning Center in Corcoran on April 13th, 2022. This year’s Ginner’s Session includes topics on Machine Guarding, Ladder Safety, Hazard Communications, Bearing & Drive safety as well as the cash prize safety contest. The Managerial Session schedule includes updates on Hot Topics in Labor Law, Safety & Regulatory updates, as well as the mandatory Supervisor Sexual Harassment. The registration notices have been sent out to our ginner membership as well as the Associate Membership. If you are interested in attending or sponsoring, and didn’t receive a registration notice, please feel free to contact the office at (559) 252-0684 to get signed up.



CARB hold’s Webinar on Proposed Zero Emission Forklift Regulation

Last month, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) held its second meeting on the Proposed Zero Emission Forklift regulation. During the meeting CARB’s staff discussed the changes made to the proposed regulation based on stakeholder feedback and other additions made.



Zero-Emission Forklifts Rulemaking Workgroup Meeting to Discuss Potential Regulatory Concept February 22, 2022

Although not yet final, the following are updated changes to the latest draft for Large Spark Ignited forklifts with up to 12,000 lbs lift capacity:

- Update to exemptions:
 - Removed diesel forklifts (Due to In-Use Off-Road Diesel Reg.)
 - Revised low-use provision
- Simplified fleet reporting requirements
- Added requirements for dealers and rental agencies
- Added new zero-emission standard for LSI Forklift engines and warranty requirements for manufacturers
- Updated small business definition and provisions.

It is important to note the proposed regulation will exempt all rough terrain as defined by the ANSI standard as well as pallet jack and forklifts with telescoping booms. The low use exemption is for forklifts with <200 hours/year and would be limited to 10% of fleet with a sunset in 2031 for most businesses.

The intent of this proposed rule is to phase out any propane forklifts 13 years or older beginning in 2026 for use in California. The new change would also mean folks would not be able to purchase new propane forklifts beginning 2026.

The next public meeting will be held in summer of 2022 and will go to the CARB board for consideration in 2023. The Association will set up a meeting with CARB staff, ag industry representatives, and equipment rental companies in the coming weeks. In addition, we are moving forward with a third-party consultant to conduct a cost analysis on the proposed regulations to see the accurate cost associated with converting fleets over to electric. Aside from the capital expenditure of the forklift, most facilities

will require infrastructure upgrades to their system and those costs are not considered. The Association will maintain the pressure on CARB and continue to express our deep concerns on moving forward with such a regulation.

CCGGA's Mark McKean recognized as Chairman of American Cotton Producers

Last month at the National Cotton Council Annual meeting in Houston, Texas, CCGGA's Board Member **Mark McKean** was recognized for his outstanding service to the U.S. Cotton industry as the Chairman of the American Cotton Producers of the National Cotton Council. McKean served an extended chairmanship due to COVID, from 2020-2021. Mark has served as Chairman of the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association and has been part of various water associations. He is a third generation cotton grower with deep roots in agriculture and has made a difference at both the state and national levels. Thank you Mark for your continued service to the cotton industry.



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The **2022 Annual Meeting** of the **California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association** will be held on Wednesday, May 11th at the International Agri-Center in Tulare, California.

We have an outstanding agenda highlighted by the Key-note Luncheon Speaker **Victor David Hansen!** Included in this year's agenda are updates from the **National Cotton Ginners Association** and the **USDA ARS Southwest Cotton Ginning Laboratory**, as well as updates on the status of the Cotton Seed Bug from the **California Department of Food and Agriculture**, and an update on where we are in combating Fusarium Race IV. We have a couple of special topics on Carbon Credits for Cotton production, and a special Economic Outlook for Cotton by **Jodi Campiche** of the **National Cotton Council**. We will also have updates from **Kahn, Soares and Conway** on legislation

at the state level as well as a complete report from the Association staff on critical issues they are working on. We will also be naming the new Chairman for the Board of Directors and presenting a very special Distinguished Service Award. Registration will be forthcoming, but there is no cost to attend the event!

California Cotton Ginners & Growers Association

2022 Annual Meeting
May 11, 2022
Tulare, CA

SAVE THE DATE

REGISTRATION TO OPEN SOON!