



# *The Cotton Chronicle*

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[www.ccgga.org](http://www.ccgga.org)

April 2022

Volume 32, Issue 4

## Industry Calendar

April 13  
Ginner School  
Corcoran

May 13  
Annual Meeting  
Tulare

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The Newsletter is Sponsored By: **Corteva Agriscience**

### Association's Priscilla Rodriguez Promoted to Assistant Vice President



Association Director of Regulatory Affairs and Food Safety **Priscilla Rodriguez** is once again expanding her role at the Association and has just been named **Assistant Vice President**. Having joined the Association in 2015, Ms. Rodriguez will maintain her responsibilities on regulatory affairs and food safety issues while gradually growing into this new role. A recent graduate of the **California Ag Leadership Foundation Program** as a member of **Class 50**, Ms. Rodriguez will be handling more water issues and administrative responsibilities, along with other legislative and regulatory issues affecting our members, including food safety. Prior to joining the Association, Priscilla worked simultaneously for the Friant Water Authority and the Latino Water Coalition. Ms. Rodriguez is a graduate of **California State University, Fresno** with a degree in Mathematics. Congratulations Priscilla!

ment of Water Resources (DWR) Deputy Director, Paul Gosselin, who oversees the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The meeting included various Ag Associations, County Farm Bureau's, SJV Water Blueprint members, Growers and other interested stakeholders. Deputy Director Gosselin heard directly from the group about the devastating effects of SGMA not only to agriculture but also to farm workers, disadvantaged communities, the San Joaquin Valley and the entire state of California. Gosselin provided a SGMA update to the group and discussed the different stages of Groundwater sustainability agencies (GSA)'s groundwater sustainability plans (GSP's). The San Joaquin Valley Water Blueprint discussed its efforts related to SGMA. One of the action items coming out of this meeting was the idea to pull together a broader and larger meeting to include legislators.

### Association Brings in DWR Deputy Director Overseeing SGMA

The Association hosted a meeting with Depart-



### FAIR Program Limits Increased!

State Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara re-

Welcome New Associate Members!

**H.W.J. Designs for Agribusiness Inc.**  
**Crop Insurance Services by AMS**

cently approved increases in the limits of coverage to the California FAIR Plan Association's (FAIR Plan) commercial programs that are offered to businesses, no later than May 1, 2022. This action by Commissioner Lara allows those businesses unable to secure insurance coverage in the normal insurance market with access to insurance they need to operate and continue the state's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in high wildfire risk areas. The increases approved by Commissioner Lara expand the combined coverage limits for the FAIR Plan, under its Division I Commercial Property Program, from \$4.5 million to \$8.4 million, and, under its Division II Businessowners Program, from \$3.6 million to \$7.2 million. Over the past two years, Commissioner Lara and Department of Insurance representatives have met with many businesses and non-profit entities, **including the Association on two separate occasions**, across the state regarding their commercial insurance availability challenges. Groups such as farms, ranchers, agricultural operators and processors, have informed Commissioner Lara about the continued lack of availability of commercial property insurance coverage in the traditional insurance market. Many of these businesses also noted that the FAIR Plan's current commercial property coverage and business owners' coverage limits have been insufficient to meet their coverage needs today. This action is a direct result of Commissioner Lara previously **ordering** the FAIR Plan to increase its own coverage limits. The Plan failed to meet the Commissioner's deadline for a response describing how it would increase its commercial property coverage limits in response to his **Order**. These coverage limits have not been raised since at least 1997 and 1994 respectively, despite the Consumer Price Index showing costs have nearly doubled during that time in California.

**California Department of Insurance Seeking Input California State Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara** and the California Department of Insurance ("Department") are conducting a brief survey to seek input from commercial policyholders of various commercial/business sectors and we are requesting your help in distributing the survey to your members. Last October, the Department released **aggregated results** from its first-ever commercial data call about recent claims, insurance policies, and insured structures directly from commercial insurance companies operating in California. The Department is now furthering that effort by directly outreaching

to policyholders, agents, brokers, and trade associations that represent commercial policyholders to gather more information from them about their specific commercial insurance needs in California. The information collected from this survey is not intended for a public report but rather this survey is meant for internal use by the Department to assess further policy options to further promote available and reliable commercial insurance options for California's businesses, farms, growers, ranchers, processors, vintners, camps, HOAs, and providers, among other business communities. The Association strongly encourages you to complete this survey:

**Individual Businesses and Organizations:**

**<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/G9KL3TZ>**

This survey will be open **until 5PM on Tuesday, April 5, 2022**.

**What does Cotton Acreage Look Like for California in 2022?**

With cotton prices where they are today, it comes as no surprise to see an increase in cotton acreage for 2022. Unfortunately, another year of drought will severely limit the amount of acreage that gets planted this year. As of today, California cotton growers are only increasing their plantings this year by approximately 10% despite record cotton prices. Cotton growers planted approximately 120,000 total acres in 2021 and are looking to plant 132,000 acres in 2022. According to the preliminary planting intentions survey conducted by the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association this month, the Association is **currently estimating approximately only 107,000 acres of pima, 1,600 acres of Hazera and about 24,000 acres of upland statewide for the 2022 cotton season plus or minus 10%**. This survey is based on surveys from all of the gins in California and things could change when planting is actually completed and final field surveys are completed by CDFA. If it plays out, it will represent a 26% increase in pima acreage and a 31% decrease in upland acreage in California as compared to 2021. Again, this is preliminary, but reflects what all gins are reporting.

**Association Hosts CARB Chairwoman Randolph Chairwoman of the California Air Resources Board**

**(CARB) Liane Randolph** was in the Valley and took time to meet with representatives of several agricultural organizations this past week at the Association offices in Fresno. Topics discussed included an update on Ag Burning Regu-

# Radiant® SC

## INSECTICIDE

# Thrips Control in Tomatoes, Cotton

## Thrips in Tomatoes

In tomatoes, thrips, by themselves, generally do not cause economic issues. The damage comes from thrips' ability to vector tomato spotted wilt virus.

University studies continue to try to pinpoint the sources for tomato spotted wilt virus, which has been found throughout tomato-growing counties. The main culprit is likely Western flower thrips, which picks up the virus in its larval stage, then can transmit it to tomatoes throughout its short life.

Thrips development and reproduction increase as temperatures increase. All stages of the pest will likely be found in tomatoes (and other host crops like cotton) at the same time.

Radiant® SC insecticide is effective on larval and adult stages of thrips. Radiant has no direct effect on the virus.



Western flower thrips in flower

## Thrips in Cotton

The combination of higher-than-normal thrips populations and cooler-than-normal early-season temperatures can lead to thrips damage in cotton fields. Thrips will cause noticeable damage between cotton emergence and seedling stages.

Thrips feed upon leaves and terminal buds causing leaves to become distorted/crinkled. Leaves may turn brown on the edges. This type of injury slows crop growth and may delay crop maturity as plants cannot “catch-up” during the season and cannot outgrow thrips populations.

According to UC Extension, early damage to plant terminals creates an atypical growth response, where the apical dominance is transferred to multiple growing tips.

Thrips damage is most prevalent in cool conditions where plant growth is slowed. But even in hot, dry conditions, thrips will migrate from host plants – like weeds and grasses – to succulent, irrigated crops like cotton.



Leaf damage by thrips

## Radiant® Insecticide

Radiant continues to be the standard for thrips control in many crops, including cotton, tomatoes, onions and leafy vegetables. Radiant provides excellent control of thrips – adults and nymphs – as well as beet armyworm and loopers. Pests are controlled through contact and ingestion activity. Radiant also has translaminar movement (into the leaf) which helps to reach pests out of the direct line of spray.

## Application Info

<b>REI:</b>	4 hours
<b>PHI:</b>	1 day (tomatoes), 28 days (cotton)
<b>Adjuvant:</b>	A penetrating surfactant may help for thrips
<b>Resistance Management:</b>	Maximum two consecutive applications of an IRAC Group 5 insecticide before rotating to another effective class of chemistry.

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## Banded Applications

When cotton or tomato plants are small, banded applications can be very economical. Nozzles can be set up two per seedline or three per seedline. By treating anywhere from  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  the area, rates can be dropped to as low as 2 ounces per acre.

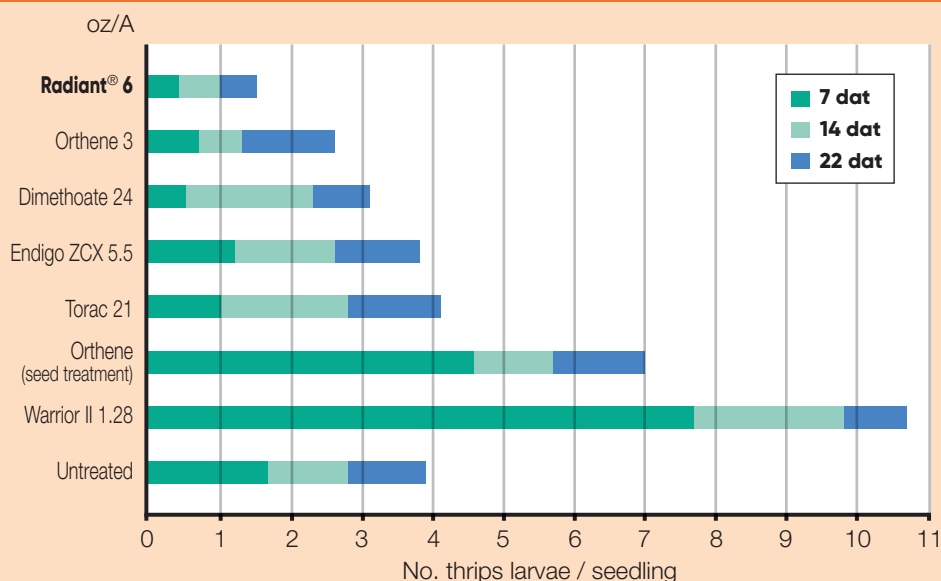
### Rates

Standard broadcast rate for worms	4.5-6 oz/A
Thrips rate	6 oz/A
Banded ( $\frac{1}{2}$ area) with reduced spray volume	3-4 oz/A
Banded ( $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{3}$ area) with reduced spray volume	2 oz/A



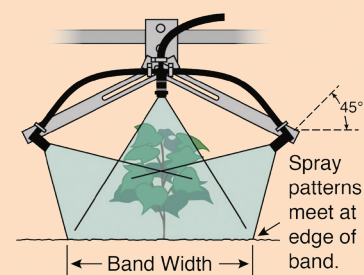
### Western Flower Thrips Efficacy Trial – Cotton

L. Godfrey, UC Extension, Shafter, CA – 2016

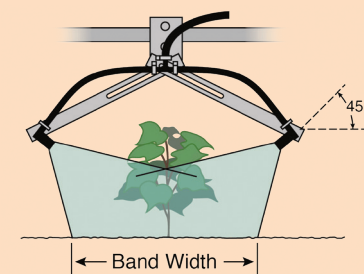


### Spray Pattern Options

#### 3 Nozzles

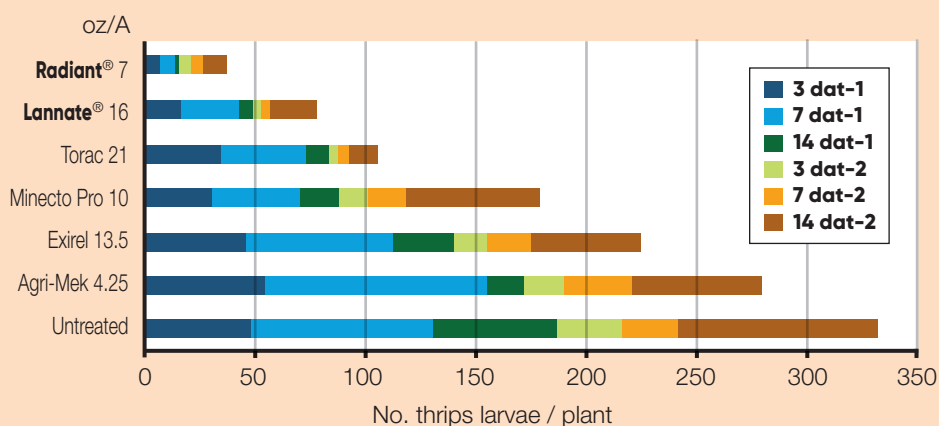


#### 2 Nozzles



### Western Flower Thrips Efficacy Trial – Lettuce

J.C. Palumbo, Yuma, AZ – 2018



dat = days after treatment

lations and the need for more incentive funding for chipping equipment and Alternatives to Ag Burning Program, as well as an in-depth discussion of CARB's desire to move to all electric in the transportation and equipment sector. Agriculture expressed its concerns with such a drastic and robust move without adequate time and funding to make such a monumental shift. Also discussed were the ever-increasing electricity rates and how they were so much higher than everywhere else in the country putting us at an incredible economic disadvantage. In addition, the forklift rule and existing and new truck rules were discussed. We believe CARB heard our concerns and follow up meetings on both topics have been discussed. Joining the Association in the meeting were California Farm Bureau Federation, California Citrus Mutual, California Fresh Fruit Association, Fresno County Farm Bureau, Nisei Farmers League, Ag Council of California, Western Plant Health Association and Milk Producers Council.

### **The Devastating Effects of SGMA**

In 2014, the Sustainable Ground Water Management Act (SGMA) was passed as a statewide framework to help protect groundwater resources over the long-term. Groundwater sustainability agencies (GSA)'s have since developed, adopted and began to implement groundwater sustainability plans (GSP's). While it is important to recharge groundwater, SGMA will have devastating impacts on agriculture, disadvantaged communities, farming & statewide jobs and the state as a whole. Two reports have assessed the damage and loss SGMA will cause and the economic impact to our state.

#### **Blueprint Economic Impact Analysis: Phase 1**

Based on an analysis of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and other current and anticipated water supply restrictions, a study by University of California Berkeley economists, Dr. David Sunding and David Roland-Holst, concludes that up to one million acres may be fallowed in the San Joaquin Valley over a period of 2-3 decades as a result of reduced ground and surface water availability. The key findings include:

- **\$7.2 Billion** in annual farm revenue loss
- **85,000 jobs** lost statewide due to Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and future surface water reductions
- **\$2.1 Billion** in annual lost employee compensation statewide

- **4 Counties** Fresno, Tulare, Kern, and Kings will see the largest losses in employment and compensation

### **The Economic Impact of the Westlands Water District on the Local & Regional Economy: Update 2022**

An analysis conducted by Dr. Shires highlights the significant, positive economic impact that agricultural production within the Westlands Water District has on the State of California and the country as a whole. The report outlines the far-reaching consequences of inadequate and unreliable water supplies on economies and communities. The key findings include:

- **35,000** Local Jobs Rely on Westlands Water District Ag Production
- **\$4.7 billion** in directly and indirectly dollars of economic activity

President & CEO Roger Isom stated "The impacts of SGMA go far beyond just agriculture, this affects farmers, farm workers, their families and every single person that lives in the valley."

### **Four-part video series on soil health in California cotton production systems launched**

California's Conservation Agriculture Systems Innovation Center in partnership with the Soil Health Institute of Greensboro, NC announce the launching of a four-part series of videos on soil health in California cotton production systems as part of the Soil Health Institute's national soil health program for cotton. The videos include a 10 minute 56 second account of important historical landmarks in the history of soil health management systems for California cotton ([https://youtu.be/7DWIJ\\_3QIz8](https://youtu.be/7DWIJ_3QIz8)), a 9 minute 54 second update on recent advances in achieving improved soil health in cotton production systems in California (<https://youtu.be/tRWk-d9F1I8>), a 21 minute 25 second summary of long-term local research on soil health in San Joaquin Valley cotton production that was conducted at the UC agricultural experiment station in Five Points, CA (<https://youtu.be/AdqnsicuGYo>), and a 10 minute 25 second segment on the importance of regenerating soil aggregate stability in California cotton production fields (<https://youtu.be/K2fsvPTmIF0>).

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## Newsletter Sponsored By: Corteva Agriscience

### Sign Up for the 2022 CCGGA Annual Meeting!

Legendary historian/lecturer/farmer **Victor Davis Hansen** headlines an outstanding list of speakers for the 2022 California Cotton Ginners and Growers Meeting to be held on **Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>** at the International Agri Center in Tulare, California. The economic outlook for cotton, obtaining carbon credits for cotton, and updates on cotton

ginning, Cotton Seed Bug and fusarium research are a

**You must register to attend!**

few of the high-lights for this

year's meeting. The meeting will also include updates on critical issues from Association staff and their Sacramento lobbying team! The event includes lunch and is free, but you must register to attend.

### Registration Form

<b>Ginners Track</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NCGA Report</li><li>• USDA ARS Gin Lab Update</li><li>• Roller Gin Cost Survey</li></ul>	<b>Growers Track</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cotton Seed Bug Update</li><li>• Fusarium Race IV Update</li><li>• Carbon Credits for Cotton Production</li></ul>
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Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendee Name: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Ginner Track ☐ Growers Track

Attendee Name: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Ginner Track ☐ Growers Track

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Attendee Name: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Ginner Track ☐ Growers Track

The cost of the event is free, but we encourage you to consider making a donation of at least \$25 to the CCGGA Federal PAC or CCGGA State PAC to help protect California cotton at the state and federal levels. The CCGGA Federal PAC can only accept personal checks. Any corporate contributions must be made to the CCGGA State PAC. **PAC Contribution:** Federal ☐ State ☐ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration begin at 7:30 am. Meeting starts at 8:30 am and concludes with a free lunch!**

**Please fax this form to (559) 252-0551 promptly. This event is FREE, but you must register!**