



# *The Cotton Chronicle*

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

February 2024

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## Industry Calendar

**NCC Annual Meeting**  
Orlando, FL  
Feb. 16-18, 2024

**CCGGA Board Meeting**  
Fresno, CA  
March 5, 2024

## CCGGA Staff

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## Newsletter Sponsored By: O&A Enterprises

### Association Attends Meeting with Senator Butler and Congressman Costa



This past week, Association President/CEO Roger A. Isom attended and spoke at an invitation only meeting with **United States Senator Laphonza Butler and Congressman Jim Costa**. Representatives from **Westlands Water District, Fri-**

**ant Water Authority, San Luis Delta-Mendota Water Authority** joined representatives from the **Nisei Farmers League, California Fresh Fruit Association, African American Farmers of California, Fresno County Farm Bureau, California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association and the Western Agricultural Processors Association**. Discussions focused on water, immigration, exports, and equity. Isom commented on how the lack of water is impacting crops in the San Joaquin Valley and highlighted the efforts of the San Joaquin Valley Water Blueprint and its goal of attempting to makeup the 2 million acre-feet of water shortfall to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

### Association Hosting 2024 Labor Law Changes Webinar – February 12<sup>th</sup>

On February 12<sup>th</sup>, the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association will be hosting a “2024 Labor Law Changes” webinar presented by Associate Member Fisher & Phillips LLC. With the beginning of each new year, new labor rules or standards go into effect.

The webinar will cover those significant changes that have just gone into effect. This webinar is only for WAPA members. If you are interested in attending the webinar on **February 12<sup>th</sup> at 9 am**, please contact Mandy Vang ([mandy@agprocessors.org](mailto:mandy@agprocessors.org)) or contact the office at (559) 252-0684.

### Association Recognizes Southern California Grower Tim Cox for his Service

**Association President/CEO Roger A. Isom and Assistant Vice President Priscilla Rodriguez** traveled to Blythe this week to thank Riverside County grower **Tim Cox** for his 13 years of service as a Board Member for the Association. While there, the Association also met with new board member and grower **Aaron Palmer of Rio Rancho LLC**. The Association discussed the Association’s activities and current issues. In addition, the Association had a separate meeting with **Board Member Rosie Navarro, Gin Manager for Modern Ginning, and their Superintendent Tony Aguilar** to discuss current matters facing the gin and the industry.



### 2024 Regional Training Workshops

A new year is here, and the Association is gearing up for the 2024 regional Train-the-Trainer workshops! This year the California Cotton Growers Association, The Zenith, Fresno County Farm Bureau, Nisei Farmers League, California Fresh Fruit Association, and the Western Agricultural Processors Association are partnering to provide **Tractor Safety Train-the-Trainer**. Beginning in March, the trainings will be covered in

English and Spanish and will hold seven on site tractor safety workshops in the following areas:

Fresno, Tulare, Wasco, Madera, Turlock, Arbuckle, and Chico.

The Lockout/Tagout, Fall Protection and PPE safety topics will be covered via webinar. These work-

shops are for owners, managers, supervisors, safety personnel or **those who are responsible for training.** Each work-

shop attendee will be provided with a binder that includes the information needed for understanding the rules, regulations and conducting effective safety training. Each attendee will also receive a certificate of completion for those that participate in the full class. In addition, the association will be conducting **Lockout/Tagout, Fall Protection and Personal Protection Equipment** webinars in the spring. Details will follow on those special events. The cost per training is \$60 per person for members and \$80 for non-members. For information on registering for the workshops and/or webinars please see flyer or visit our website at <https://www.agprocessors.org/>

### SAFETY TRAINING WORKSHOPS

**Tractor Train-the-Trainer:**

- Wasco March 5<sup>th</sup>
- Tulare March 19<sup>th</sup>
- Turlock March 21<sup>st</sup>
- Madera March 25<sup>th</sup>
- Fresno March 27<sup>th</sup>
- Arbuckle April 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Chico April 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Webinars:**

Lockout/Tagout

- March 18<sup>th</sup>

Fall Protection

- April 15<sup>th</sup>

Personal Protective Equipment

- May 20<sup>th</sup>

**Cost per trainings:**

\$60 Member  
\$80 Non-member

*\*Subject to changes\**

The Western Agricultural Processors Association and California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association, are providing **Safety Training Workshops** to assist our members. These workshops are designed to be both basic and refresher knowledge, that are focused on fundamental effective safety training skills. Our workshops are participant-centered, interactive and encourage full participation.

**Topics:**

Train-the-Trainer Tractor  
Lockout/Tagout Training (webinar)  
Fall Protection Training (webinar)  
Personal Protective Equipment Training (webinar)

These Train-the-Trainer workshops are for **owners, managers, superintendents, supervisors, safety personnel and for those who are responsible for training** on equipment. The Train-the-Trainer class does not "certify" or authorize the participants to operate equipment. Official training must be provided by the employer on their specific equipment and documented as such. Each attendee will receive a binder with training tools on how to conduct effective safety training, trainer guide materials, quizzes and certificate of completion.

These workshops will be offered as regional workshops throughout the valley and via webinars conducted in English and Spanish. Please note, COVID-19 conditions and State and local guidance are constantly evolving. WAPA and CCGGA will provide all registered attendees with COVID-19 updates and requirements as they become available.

Tractor Train-the-Trainer Presented by the following Organizations:

The Zenith  
A FAIRFAX Company

## **Karl Stock named Bureau of Reclamation's California-Great Basin Regional Director**

**Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton**

is pleased to announce the selection of **Karl Stock** as the **new Regional Director for the California-Great Basin Region**. Stock will succeed **Ernest Conant**, who will assume the role of senior advisor to the deputy commissioner for operations. Stock will lead the management, development and protection of water and related resources in the region, including one of the nation's largest and most complex water projects, the Central Valley Project. He will also oversee Oregon's Klamath Project; Nevada's Truckee Storage projects; and California's Orland, Solano, Cachuma and Ventura River projects. "Karl's extensive experience across Reclamation's many programs and offices, and his collaborative approach will serve our partners well as Reclamation invests historic funding to improve water resources across the California Great Basin and the American West," said **Commissioner Camille Calimlim Touton**. "

"I have known Karl for years. He has a depth of knowledge and breadth of experience with an array of complex and challenging water resource management issues, including those in the California-Great Basin Region. Karl has been a key leader in western water and power for more than two decades and his

experience will be crucial as we continue to strengthen partnerships and develop innovative approaches to sustaining water resources," said **Deputy Commissioner David Palumbo**. Stock expressed his gratitude for this prestigious selection, stating, "I am honored to take on this responsibility and look forward to advancing Reclamation's mission in the California-Great Basin Region by working collaboratively with all of our partners as we seek to improve water and power reliability for the millions that depend on Reclamation's projects in the Region through sustainable operational strategies and smart investments." Stock earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from Brigham Young University and a Master of Science in Public Administration from the University of Colorado Denver.

## **Association Speaks Out on CDPR Pesticide Notification System**

**Association President/CEO Roger A. Isom** joined several agricultural organizations, farmers and PCAs in expressing opposition and concerns to the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR) proposed Advance Pesticide Application Notification system during a special California Department of Food and Agricultural (CDFA) Hearing on the matter. CDPR unveiled the system and provided much more detail on the proposal than they did at recent hearings where they only took public comment and answered no questions. Isom commented "I only agree with one thing CDPR said in their presentation, and that is 'the public does not understand' and went on to say that CDPR needs to explain and stand behind their robust and lengthy registration process and explain to the public that a result of this system there is no health risk." Isom also commented that the regulation should be limited to only those truly potentially impacted by the application itself and not open-ended to any person that wants to sign up. Many commenters echoed the same sentiments and concerns.

## **Association President/CEO Isom Addresses APMA Convention**

**Association President/CEO Roger A. Isom** gave the keynote address to more than 450 people at this year's Ag Personal Management Association (APMA) 2024 Forum in Monterey, California. Isom discussed the State's push to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to improve climate change, as well as the push to improve labor conditions and the alleged impacts of pesticide applications. Isom highlighted rules and regulations devastating the agricultural industry based on hysteria and baseless claims. Isom encouraged the crowd to "get involved" and help push back at hearings and workshops when agriculture is outnumbered every single time at rates as much as 10 to 1. He stated "agriculture's voice must be heard, and the facts must be presented above the noise of the accusations with no scientific basis to support them.

## **US Trust Protocol Now Open**

U.S. cotton growers **can now enroll** in the U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol and apply for the U.S. Climate Smart Cotton Program, offering a range of benefits that go beyond sustainability.





DP347RF PIMA



## AMERICAN PIMA SEED - 2024 Varieties !

APS356RF PIMA - \*NEW\* - CA, AZ, NM, TX

DP347RF PIMA – CA, AZ, NM, TX

DP359RF PIMA – CA, NM, TX

APS351RF PIMA – \*NEW\* (Limited)

APS501 Pima- \*NEW\* CONVENTIONAL



APS356RF PIMA



## AMERICAN PIMA SEED – 2024 VARIETY DESCRIPTIONS

### DP347RF PIMA

### APS356RF PIMA (NEW)

### DP359RF PIMA

Medium Maturity	Medium-Full Maturity	Medium-Full Maturity
Very High Gin T.O.%	Excellent Seedling Vigor	Excellent Seedling Vigor
Widely Adapted	Great Fiber Quality	Large Seed
3700-4100 Seed/lb	3200-3600 seed/lb	3100-3500 seed/lb.
Good Fiber Quality	Good Fiber Quality	Good Fiber Quality
Good FOV4 Tolerance	Good FOV4 Tolerance	Great FOV4 Tolerance

Data is based on historical observations and experience and not a guarantee of performance.

FOV 4 Tolerance based on historical observations and can be better or worse under certain weather conditions.

Growing and field conditions vary year to year and field to field. Vigor rating based on ideal planting conditions per UC Guidelines and optimum planting depth.



# 2022/2023 Key Plot /Field Results “AMERICAN PIMA SEED”



## Yield Potential, Fiber Quality – “Born In The USA” 100% Gossypium Barbadosense

### 2022 Plot Location - Tulare 38” Rows

APS356RF PIMA \*NEW\* Limited  
DP359RF PIMA  
DP347RF PIMA

<u>Yield</u>	<u>Bales/Acre</u>	<u>Actual T.O.%</u>
1611	3.22	31.85
1563	3.13	33.19
1543	3.09	33.69

### 2022 Plot Location - Buttonwillow 38” Rows

APS356RF PIMA \*NEW\* Limited  
DP347RF PIMA  
PHY807RF PIMA

<u>Yield</u>	<u>Bales/Acre</u>	<u>Actual T.O.%</u>
1987	3.97	32.39
1950	3.90	34.87
1819	3.64	33.24

### 2022 Plot Location – Stratford 38” Rows

PHY807RF PIMA  
APS356RF PIMA \*NEW\*  
DP347RF PIMA

<u>Yield</u>	<u>Bales/Acre</u>	<u>Est. Gin T.O.%</u>
1131	2.26	33.24
1126	2.25	32.09
1052	2.10	34.21

Estimated Gin TO based on Actual Turnout% averages from  
3 commercial gins weighing remnants.

### 2023 University of AZ Trial Thatcher , AZ

DP347RF PIMA  
APS356RF PIMA  
PHY861RF PIMA  
PHY807RF PIMA

<u>Yield</u>	<u>Bales/Acre</u>	<u>Percent Lint</u>
1307	2.61	37.0
1230	2.46	34.5
1214	2.43	33.9
1179	2.36	35.4

### 2022 Top

Fields/Plots  
Variety

DP347RF PIMA  
APS356RF PIMA  
DP347RF PIMA  
DP347RF PIMA  
DP356RF PIMA

Location

Hanford  
Buttonwillow  
Buttonwillow  
San Joaquin  
Dos Palos

Yield  
500lb  
Bales/Acre

4.15  
3.97  
3.90  
3.69  
4.20

Row Spacing

38”  
38”  
38”  
30”  
30”

### 2023 Nursery Test

Lemoore 38” Rows

EXP 21-1-16 (APS351RF PIMA)  
DP347RF PIMA  
PHY881RF PIMA  
APS356RF PIMA  
PHY807RF PIMA  
PHY861RF PIMA

Yield  
Lbs./Acre

1337  
1272  
1258  
1230  
1226  
1197

Gin T.O%

35.3  
36.8  
35.3  
35.1  
35.7  
35.5

Performance may vary from different farms and from year to year as local soil, growing and weather conditions vary. Growers should evaluate data from multiple locations and years whenever possible and should consider the impacts of these conditions on the grower’s fields. Data does not include all CA trials. Past performance does not guarantee future performance. Seed should be planted under ideal conditions taking into account weather forecast and current soil soil temperatures using UC Guidelines.



This is the second year of the enrollment window transition allowing growers to begin the process prior to planting and better align with peak cotton marketing dates. Growers who completed their enrollment during either period in 2023 will need to re-enroll and are encouraged to get started today. Growers currently enrolled in Level 1 of the Climate Smart Cotton Program must finalize Fieldprint data entry and upload their 2023 bales by March 1 to receive payment. For the 2024 crop year, the deadline to enroll in the Trust Protocol and apply for the Climate Smart Cotton Program is April 30 at midnight. In order to maximize available benefits, growers are encouraged to get started today at [TrustUSCotton.org](https://TrustUSCotton.org).

### **Air District Opens Small Fleet Incentive**

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (Air District) recently announced the opening of the Voucher Incentive Program (VIP) for small diesel fleets. The incentive goes towards the replacement of heavy-duty diesel vehicles with zero-emission vehicles. This incentive only applies to fleets of 10 or fewer vehicles, and replacement zero-emission equipment must be made through a participating dealership. Participating dealerships can be found through the link here. Eligible equipment includes the of trucks with model year 2018 or older, and applies for all Class 4-8 trucks. Replacement equipment could be in either battery electric or hydrogen fuel cell. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the Association for help with your application.

### **Ag One Foundation Holds Kern County Alumni and Friends Luncheon**

This past week, the Ag One Foundation held the **44th Annual Ag One – Kern County Alumni and Friends luncheon - A Showcase of Opportunities**, hosted by **The Wonderful Company** in Wasco. Proceeds from this event will help support the **Ag One – Carl and Barbara Fanucchi Scholarship Fund** to benefit students pursuing a degree in the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. Over 200 people attended this luncheon will be a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the company of Fresno State alumni and friends along with faculty, staff and students of the Jordan College. Speaking at the event were the **Association's President/CEO Roger A. Isom**, who is the current Ag One Chairman, and **Fresno State Jordan College of Agriculture Science and Technology (JCAST) dean, Dr. Rolston St. Hilaire**. It should also be noted that students from Kern County high



schools and Bakersfield Community College were in attendance to learn about agricultural educational opportunities at Fresno State and careers in Kern County.

### **Association's McGlothlin Completes Prestigious Ag Leadership Program**

A journey began on October 5, 2022 that lasted for almost 17 months, and finally came to a conclusion for the **Association's Director of Technical Services, Christopher McGlothlin**, on February 3, 2024. McGlothlin was one of 24 members of **Class 52 of the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation (CALF)** program who completed their program where it began at California State University – Fresno on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. This journey covered a span of 17 months, and included meetings that covered more than 70 days, not including travel and study time. It included trips to Minneapolis, MN and Washington, DC, as well as Panama, Columbia and Costa Rica. Chris reflected on his experience with the program, "The Agricultural Leadership Program has been transformative for me in a number of ways. I



have strengthened interpersonal relationships with friends and family, balanced my workload better and sought out more difficult tasks professionally, and even assessed current events in our world from a different perspective. CALF has provided me with invaluable knowledge and tools to be a better advocate for the Ag Industry." **Association President/CEO Roger Isom** remarked after the event, "Chris has benefitted greatly from the CALF program and has already shown tremendous growth in his leadership skills. The Association is incredibly proud of him for this accomplishment and the type of leader he has started to become. The Association and the agricultural industry are lucky to have him."

### **Association Testifies at CPUC's Energization Workshop**

Last week, the Association was asked to participate on a panel at the California Public Utilities Commission Energization Timing Workshop. The Association was represented by Assistant **Vice President Priscilla Rodriguez** who spoke to the customer experiences when requesting new or upgraded electric service from utility provider and how delays impact the agriculture industry.

Ms. Rodriguez testified, "We find ourselves with a serious dilemma, the state's regulatory requirements that are being put on us to go all electric are exacerbating an already known problem. And that's the inadequate electric infrastructure in

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our state. Businesses are encountering significant time delays or an outright inability to connect to the system. The fundamental obstacle lies in the absence of infrastructure necessary to connect our facilities to the requested services. We face statewide system constraints, impacting members across various locations, whether in the northern part of the state, in Tehama County, or the southern part of the San Joaquin Valley, like Kern County, and everywhere in between."

She also provided various examples of significant time delays for some, in one case it took over 6 years to connect a simple farm shop to power, despite being located only 500 ft from a highway. In another example, after being promised by PG&E that a processing facility would receive their requested demand increase for their new processing equipment, the request was delayed time and time again. This request is still not executed and will take over 5-6 years to fulfill. The processing facility had to resort to renting generators to run their operations costing millions of dollars each season.

She emphasized the importance to understand electric infrastructure needs through an ag power study to determine how much, where and when power will be needed for the immediate future and the next 5, 10, 15 years, so infrastructure can be built accordingly. "We have a strong concern we are low on the priority list for companies like PG&E. Our members tend to be in rural areas or end of the line type applications. If it's necessary to build a new substation for one of our hullers or one of farms,

how are we going to rank versus a city or urban area. They have other priorities like undergrounding lines, to avoid lawsuits", stated Rodriguez.

With rules like the Advanced Clean Fleets and proposed ZEV Forklift rule, if we do not focus on significant planning and investment into the state's infrastructure, we are jeopardizing business in California by holding them liable for electrifying when their demand cannot be met by utility providers.

**Save the Date!**

**Tuesday, May 14, 2024**

**It is almost time for the 2024  
California Cotton Ginners and Growers  
Association Annual Meeting.  
Registration will soon be open.**