



The Cotton Chronicle

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www.ccgga.org

August 2014

Volume 25, Issue 8

Industry Calendar

August 27

Supima Annual Mtg—
Harris Ranch

September 11

Grower Board Mtg —
Fresno

September 17

Ginner Board Mtg —
Fresno

(Visit web calendar
for details)

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Pima Grade Standards Guide Box Review, Standards Matching, and Saw Gin Codes

The USDA Visalia Cotton Classing Office held its 2014 American Pima Grade Standards Guide Box Review and Standards Matching on July 16th. Attendance included



Association staff, Growers, Ginners, Merchants and other interested parties. The association encourages all members and associates to attend and participate in this very important event, so be on the lookout for next year's date if you couldn't make it this year. In addition to the 2014 American Pima Grade Standards Guide Box Review and Standards Matching, an additional meeting was held to discuss some instances where pima cotton was ginned in a saw gin. As the association understands the situation, saw ginning of pima cotton was performed in those instances where the cotton was sticky and could not make it through the roller gin. The saw ginning of pima cotton will result in substantial discounting and it is far from a desired consequence. Concerns and questions were raised on just how this cotton would be classified and handled by the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS). In response to these concerns, Association staff, Supima, several interested gins, and USDA AMS officials discussed the issue. According to USDA AMS, saw-ginned pima will be handled as follows. First, any pima that is saw ginned must have a tag with a saw gin code. The Classing Office has requested to be notified in advance of the bales by giving the Classing Office the sequence of bales that are saw-ginned pima. The office will class the saw-ginned pima as "pima," but will place "92 – Pima Ginned on a Saw Gin" in the remarks codes section. The association stresses to do everything possible to avoid sticky cotton in the

first place, and hopefully avoid this issue if at all possible. The Association will continue to monitor the situation and bring folks back together if necessary. Please call the Association if you have any questions.

Whitefly at the Forefront!

The association has received reports that whitefly are beginning to show up in cotton fields. It is imperative for growers, managers, PCA's and all other parties to closely monitor their fields for populations of whitefly to keep sticky cotton out of the gins, and out of the mills. Keeping California cotton at the highest standard of quality is crucial for the industry's reputation and longevity! Resources to help you identify, control, and manage whitefly are available at your fingertips! The association has published presentations given by UC IPM leader Pete Goodell and UC Davis entomologist Larry Godfrey at recent regional meetings held in



Tulare, Shafter, and Five Points. The presentations include the biological and chemical, and cultural management practices for whitefly in cotton and can be found on our website. In addition, a narrated presentation is also

available on our website: at ccgga.org under latest news or go there directly at: tinyurl.com/nowhitefly. UCM IPM leader Pete Goodell has offered his help with any questions or concerns you may have in the field. He can be contacted at: pbgoodell@ucanr.edu

CCGGA Involved in Major Effort on Federal Water Legislation

As you well know, California is in a dire situation that grows worse with each day without rainfall. Reservoirs are substantially below average, wells are increasingly going dry, and as a result, more and more acres of prime agricultural land are going fallow. This year the tree nut industry began to remove trees, because on an unprecedented lack of water. Never has the water supply situation been so drastic. The time to act is now. There can be no further delays, or indecision. The State of California needs both short

term and long term solutions to its water deficit problems, and it is critical that Congress and the Senate come together right now. There is an opportunity to make a difference, and it sits in Congress. **S. 2198** and **H.R. 3964** are important pieces of legislation that can play a role in resolving this critical issue. The California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations (CCGGA) is working to urge Congress to work together in the remaining days of the legislative session to pass a unified and comprehensive bill. Recently, a group of growers from several different areas and water districts in California came together to develop a list of concepts to help guide this legislation to a satisfactory solution. We support these concepts, and have urged Congress to incorporate these guidelines in working together to come up with a final solution that helps to solve this state’s debilitating water crisis. The passage of legislation on this issue could not



be more critical than it is right now, and we need your help. We have their attention. They know something has to be done. But they need to hear a united voice from throughout the state to move forward on pas-

sage of a bill that is meaningful and impactful. And now they need to hear from you! Every single one of you has been impacted and they must hear your story! A template letter is on our website, or call our office for assistance at (559)252-0684. The clock is running out and we need every single letter! It does make a difference. Please be sure to send us a copy so we can track the impact and use that whenever and wherever we can. **Remember, now’s the time to act! Send your letter today!**

Chlorpyrifos Regulations Tighten

The association has been heavily involved in efforts to help update the UC Integrated Pest Management plan for the use of Chlorpyrifos in cotton. This project, includes several other commodity groups including almonds, citrus, and alfalfa. The project is aimed at identifying critical uses of Chlorpyrifos in each respective crop. The project is a few months into the 2 year process but was handed some very troubling news. CDPR will now proceed forward with Chlorpyrifos mitigation measures. The proposed measures seem to address concerns brought forward by the agency’s Director Brian Leahy after years of pressure from environmental and activist groups. Proposed changes were released in July and CDPR would like to address environmental issues such with the product, including finding it in surface water (due to drift) and key health issues including bystander/residential exposure (due to drift). CDPR is proposing to make Chlorpyrifos a state restricted material when used for production agriculture, thereby requiring applications to be made or supervised by a certified applicator and requiring a permit from

the county Ag commissioner for purchase, possession or use. While CDPR continues with research and analysis projects including air monitoring for Chlorpyrifos and other mitigation measures, the timeline for rulemaking is as follows:

- **July-August: Stakeholder Meetings**
- **September 2014: Public Comment Period**
- **November 2014: end of public comment period**
- **Summer 2015: earliest possible effective date**

The management team for the crops which includes the association staff from Cotton, Citrus, Almond and Alfalfa groups will meet in the second week of August to discuss the details of the proposal.

Update on Cotton Acreages for California for 2014 –

The Association has recently received information on the cotton acreage in California including the breakdown between upland and pima. **Preliminary** acreages as determined by the California Department of Food and Agriculture’s Pink Bollworm Program are **54,440 acres of upland** and **153,325 acres of pima**, for a total of 207,765 acres. This does **not** include the cotton acreage for the Sacramento Valley, which will be all upland and is estimated to be between 2,000 and 3,000 acres. The breakdown in the San Joaquin Valley is as follows:

County	Upland Acres	Pima Acres
Fresno	7,465	40,140
Kern	4,230	30,205
Kings	4,135	60,510
Madera	715	30
Merced	19,770	16,290
Tulare	8,080	5,940
TOTALS =	44,395	153,115

In Southern California, the breakdown is as follows:

County	Upland Acres	Pima Acres
Imperial	2,485	210
Riverside	7,445	0
San Bernardino	115	0
TOTALS =	10,045	210

Please be advised that the acres listed are based on Pink Bollworm Program field mapping techniques are intended for use on PBW Program detection and control activities and are not assumed to represent exact cotton acreage planted in California

State Water Bond

The Association is part of an effort to move legislation through the state legislature for an amended water bond. As one might imagine this has been quite a process given the state’s politics. Balancing regional needs with pressures to reduce the overall bond funding amounts creates many challenges, and as a result, several meetings have been held to bring the interested parties together. The latest effort culminated in a joint letter to legislators agreeing on the following funding amounts:

- **\$3 billion for new surface water development with continuous appropriation for those purposes.**
- **\$300 million for local/regional conveyance projects and groundwater recharge.**

- \$2.25 billion for Delta sustainability. This is critical for the ground-work necessary for BDCP.
- \$1 billion in Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) grants. These funds would continue and further expand effective work already being cooperatively undertaken by counties, cities, special districts, water agencies and many other interested parties. Kings River is an example of someone who will utilize these funds.
- \$400 million for safe drinking water, including water quality funds for use by disadvantaged communities as well as specific language directed at aiding rural residential homeowners and tenants.

The Governor has come out publicly to indicate he would not support anything more than a \$6 billion bond. The Association has been standing firm with other agricultural organizations to stand firm on the minimum amount of funding, which means a bond of at least \$9.25 billion. The legislature will take this back up when they reconvene in the second week of August, and the bond will be one of the main items up for discussion along with groundwater legislation.

Association Co-Hosts Ag Tour

The Association co-hosted a special tour for **Richard Corey**, Executive Officer of the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and **Alberto Ayala**, Deputy Executive Officer of CARB, along with some CARB and SJVAPCD staff. The focus of the tour was to introduce the Executive Officers to agricultural equipment and the issues

facing the industry with regards to incentive programs and potential regulations. The two day tour covered many different crops and areas of the valley in an attempt to educate the agency on the vast difference in equipment, the types of specialty equipment that is used in agriculture and the unique challenges facing agriculture including the devastating drought situation. The tour included visits to the operations of CCGGA members **Gary Esajian**, **Bob Wilson**, and **Don Cameron**. The types of agricultural operations

visited included citrus groves, stone fruit orchards and packing house, a corn silage field and dairy, cattle feedlot, almond orchards, processing tomato field, onion and bell pepper fields and a cantaloupe field. Cooperating organizations in the tour included California Citrus Mutual, California Grape and Tree Fruit League, the Nisei Farmers League and the Milk Producers Council.



CCGGA Board Member Don Cameron speaking to ARB's Richard Corey and Alberto Ayala on Incentive Programs



Grower Gary Esajian speaking to ARB Executive Officer Richard Corey and Deputy Executive Officer Alberto Ayala

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CCGGA & AgSafe Conduct WPS Briefing

Association President/CEO **Roger Isom** provided a briefing of the proposed changes to the Federal Worker Protection Standards (WPS) at a recent AgSafe Briefing Meeting held at the Association offices in Fresno. Isom provided an overview of the proposed changes along with highlighting the concerns for farms and processing facilities in California subject to the regulations under the laws of the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR). Many of the proposed changes will have significant impact on most places throughout the U.S., but will have little impact in California, where regulations for protecting handlers of pesticides and field workers exceed that of the Federal WPS. However, there are a couple areas of concern for California, and the Association will be working on comments on those sections. They include the following:

- **The requirement for some pesticides will change.** Current WPS regulations allow oral notifications, but the proposed regulations would change that to require posting for any pesticide with a restricted entry interval (REI) in excess of 48 hours. Current California law requires posting for any pesticide with an REI of 7 days or more.
- **Another potential issue is the new requirement of a 25 ft. to 100 ft. buffer zone during any pesticide application.** Current law does not specify a buffer zone, unless specified on the label. The proposed change would mandate the buffer zone for any pesticide.
- **There are concerns on potential restrictions for those workers that may need to enter a field during an REI.** An example could include an irrigator who needs to enter the field during an REI to move sprinkler pipe. This is allowed under current law with the necessary personal protective equipment (PPE).

Comments are due on August 18th and the Association will be weighing in on these issues and others.

Make Contamination Prevention a Priority

With more textile mills reporting their contamination experiences to the International Textile Manufacturers Assoc. (ITMF) this year through ITMF's biennial survey, US cotton industry members are urged to make contamination prevention a high priority. That includes before, during and after the '14 cotton crop reaches US cotton mill customers. A good resource is the NCC's CONTAMINATION FREE COTTON - KEEP IT CLEAN AND PURE initiative at www.cotton.org/tech/quality/contamination-prevention.cfm. These guidelines are designed to be the starting point for frank dialogues among all groups with a vested interest in achieving zero tolerance regarding contamination. Additional contamination prevention resources can be found on the NCC Quality Preservation web page at www.cotton.org/tech/quality/index.cfm. Another reason for vigilance is the expansion of mill resources used to find, then separate detrimental foreign materials from pure cotton lint. Advanced technologies in contamination detection are being placed around the world. Most of these detectors are being positioned closer to the bale opening process and increase the likelihood that contamination will be traced back to a specific bale or group of bales in an opening room laydown. However, even convention-

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al inspections may reveal the presence of contamination in cotton bales. For example, some mills perform a visual inspection of each bale when the bale wrap is removed. To document recent incidents, mills have sent photographs of foreign materials, mostly black plastics protruding from a bale's surface, to the shipper or the gin. When contamination is discovered, the next step is usually a physical inspection of the bale's interior while it is being prepared for processing. Just like the advanced solutions, visual inspections help minimize downstream contamination incidents.

The cost associated with these extra inspections, though, often results in unacceptable outcomes for mills and may affect their future bale sourcing decisions. The NCC believes that without continued attentiveness by all US cotton industry participants, a hard-earned reputation for providing the world with contamination-free cotton can be lost quickly. Once that reputation is sullied, it may take years to overcome the damage – with the net result possibly being lost premiums for all US cotton. *Reprinted from Cotton's Week - July, 2014*



60TH SUPIMA ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2014 – HARRIS RANCH INN, COALINGA, CA
REGISTRATION – 9:00 A.M. / MEETING – 11:00 A.M.



PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

NAME(S): _____

COMPANY: _____ EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ PHONE: () _____ FAX: () _____

3 WAYS TO REGISTER: 1) AT SUPIMA.COM 2) EMAIL NANCY@SUPIMA.COM 3) FAX TO (602) 792-6004 BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2014



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- **Performs consistently...** across all temperature variables.



2 oz ET + 5 oz Ginstar + 3 pt CottonQuik
Dos Palos, CA

Use Recommendations

Program		Rate/Acre	Use Information
Pima	First Shot	ET 0.5 - 2.0 fl oz + ethephon + Ginstar + 0.25% v/v NIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ET should be applied in a tankmix with an ethephon product when boll opening is desired. ■ ET should be applied when the crop has reached the 60% open boll stage. ■ ET should be applied in a minimum finished spray volume of 20 gallons by ground and 5 gallons by air.
	Second Shot	ET 2.75 fl oz + Gramoxone + 0.25% v/v NIS	
Upland/Acala	First Shot	ET 2.0 fl oz + ethephon + 0.25% v/v NIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ET should be applied in a tankmix with an ethephon product when boll opening is desired. ■ ET should be applied when the crop has reached the 60% open boll stage. ■ ET should be applied in a minimum finished spray volume of 20 gallons by ground and 5 gallons by air. ■ The second application typically occurs 7 days after initial application.
	Second Shot	ET 2.75 fl oz + Gramoxone + 0.25% v/v NIS	

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