



# The Cotton Chronicle

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

March 2017

Volume 27 Issue 3

## Industry Calendar

March 15  
CCGGA Board  
Meeting—  
Fresno, CA

March 21  
Sticky Cotton  
Summit—  
Fresno, CA

Save the Date:  
May 31—June 2  
Cotton Annual  
Meeting—  
Monterey, CA

Visit web calendar  
for details

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## The Association Attends APC's Annual Kitchen Dinner

On February 22nd the Association and board members had the opportunity to meet and enjoy dinner with members of the California State Assembly and Senate. The Ag President's Council (APC) Kitchen Dinner is held every year at The Kitchen restaurant in Sacramento, and it gives the APC and the associated commodity group's board members an opportunity to sit with legis-



*Mike Davis, Dos Palos Cooperative Gin speaking with Assemblyman Ken Cooley and Assemblyman Jim Cooper.*

lators and discuss some of the challenges the agricultural industry faces. **Dos Palos Coop Manager Mike Davis**, as well as the Association's **Director of Technical Services, Chris McGlothlin**, were in attendance for the event. Davis and McGlothlin got the opportunity to sit down with **Assemblywoman Anna Caballero (D-30)**, **Assemblyman Adam Gray (D-21)**, **Assemblyman Ken Cooley (D-8)** and freshman **Assemblyman Vince Fong (R-43)**. Topics ranged from the current flooding situation throughout California, to the hope of more cotton acreage, the recent action against Module Hauling Trucks,

and the overall effect that the changes to minimum wage and Ag overtime will have on employees at similar facilities. Overall, it was a productive event.

## Ginner's School April 12<sup>th</sup>!

CCGGA's annual Gin School and Managerial Seminar is set for April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017 in Corcoran, CA. The regular session will cover topics such as: **Fall Protection, Hazard Communication, LO-TO, the Annual Safety Contest as well as Associate Member Exhibits**. The Manager's Session will cover: **Sexual Harassment Training, Hot Topics in Labor Law with emphasis on new bathroom regulations, as well as an update on Hiring Procedures**. Lunch will be catered by Sue Sa, and there will be the prize raffle for all attendees. The Association has sent out reminders to all Gin Managers, so make sure you reserve your spot for this year's trainings!

## Proposed Changes to Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Fees

The Association attended a meeting hosted by the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWB) accounting staff in regards to the current status of the state-wide Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP). SWB staff is proposing an increase on fees collected from Waste Discharge Requirements and the ILRP of 27%. This increase is planned to go towards an increase of 5 staff members dedicated to analyze information submitted to the SWB for ILRP compliance. The increase in fees collected will not ultimately cover the overall cost that the new staff members will incur, the plan is to hire the staff needed for the program and then adjust fees accordingly to cover the cost of their annual salaries. On an-

other troubling note, SWB accounting staff has also begun introducing developing a new fee structure for ILRP stakeholders. One of the primary discussions revolves around setting ILRP fees around the price value of the commodity that specific stakeholders grow. Fee prices for cotton will be different than the fees associated with garlic, or tomatoes, or tree crops. The Association's **Director of Technical Services, Chris McGlothlin**, provided public comments voicing opposition against the proposed changes. The Association would like to encourage growers to contact their representative coalitions and voice their opinions on the proposed fee changes to reflect commodity pricing.

### Legislative Hearing on Pesticides Near Schools

The Senate Environmental Quality Committee held a hearing this week on the topic of "pesticides near schools". **CCGGA President/CEO Roger Isom** was asked to be a panelist representing agriculture. The hearing, chaired by **Senator Bob Wieckowski**, included representatives from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR), the California Department of Public Health (CDPH, UC Davis, Sonoma County Ag Commissioner, and



pesticide activists. Joining Isom on the stakeholder panel was **Matthew Allen of the Western Growers Association** as the only representatives from agriculture. While the ag commissioners and others spoke in support of the proposed regulations to prohibit many pesticide applications within ¼ mile of schools and require notification of others, Isom reminded the Committee of the rigorous analysis that every single pesticide goes through at the Federal EPA level, as well as additional scrutiny at the state CDPR level. Isom pointed out that all of the perceived protec-

tions for children are already addressed in specified application rates and methods and label restrictions. Isom stated the Association's clear opposition to the proposed regulation. The hearing was part of an oversight review process by the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, and allowed CCGGA to identify problems with the proposed regulations.

### Mills Push for Elimination of Wire Ties for Bales

In a letter to the Joint Cotton Industry Bale Packaging Committee (JCIBPC), Parkdale Vice Chairman and CEO Anderson D. Warlick demanded the JCIBPC works toward the elimination of wire ties by 2018. Warlick, who is also current Chairman of the National Council of Textile Organizations (NCTO), claims it is that organization's number one priority. In the letter, Warlick claims "***We have made great progress with the adoption of PET straps and even the development of a strapless bale package. However, while we have made tremendous progress moving away from wire ties to PET straps, it appears that progress has stagnated. We estimate that nearly 24% of the bales ginned in the US still have wire ties. This creates a serious safety hazard for the domestic textile industry. In fact, we have experienced some serious injuries from employees handling wire ties in the opening process. All other fibers that we consume are packaged with PET strapping. We feel our industry needs to continue to make progress in making our bale package safe. Therefore, we ask the Committee to work for the elimination of wire ties by the 2018 crop. We know that this is an aggressive time schedule, but the domestic textile industry cannot continue to put our workers safety at risk.***" JCIBPC Members **Greg Gillard, Olam Cotton, and Mike Davis, Dos Palos Coop**, attended the recent JCIBPC meeting in Memphis and reported that the JCIBPC is not supporting that mandate and is gathering data to determine how many gins still have wire ties. To that point, the Association is currently surveying its member gins to determine the impact of such a mandate.

### CCGGA Meets with Steve Haro

The California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association (CCGGA) and several irrigation districts recently met with **Steve Haro**, the new Chief of Staff for **U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein**, to introduce ourselves and to provide an update on critical water issues faced in California, despite this winter's record setting storm onslaught. Representing CCGGA was **President/CEO Roger Isom**. CCGGA

# Radiant®

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## THRIPS CONTROL IN COTTON, TOMATOES

INSECTICIDE

### 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 disease.

University studies continue to try to pinpoint the sources for tomato spot 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® 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 rasp 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

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



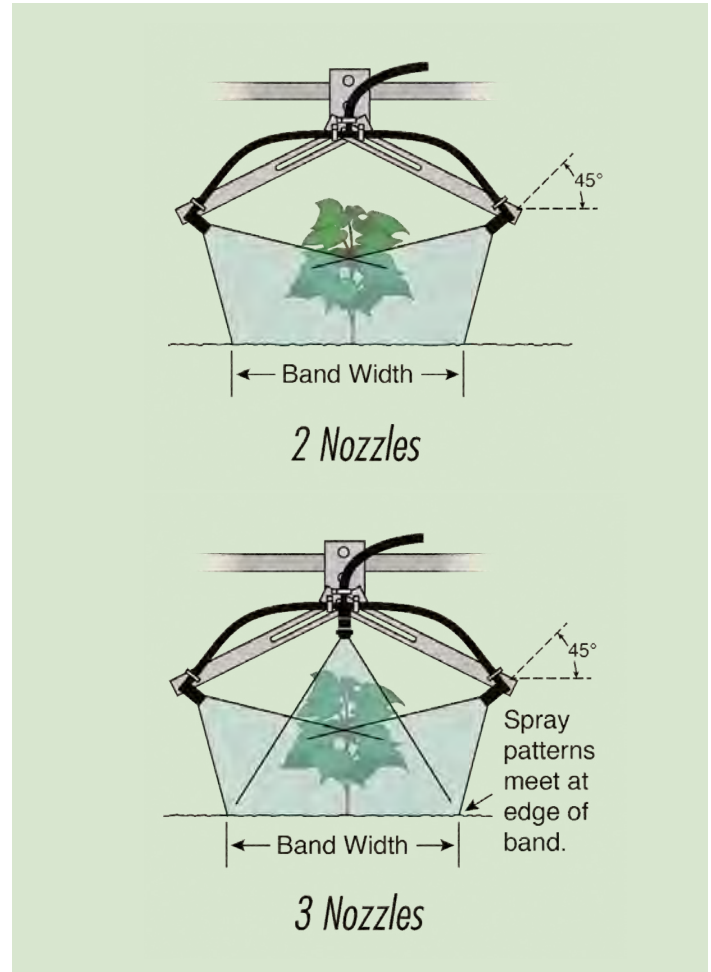
# RADIANT® INSECTICIDE

## 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 1/4 to 1/2 the area, rates can be dropped to as low as 2 ounces per acre.

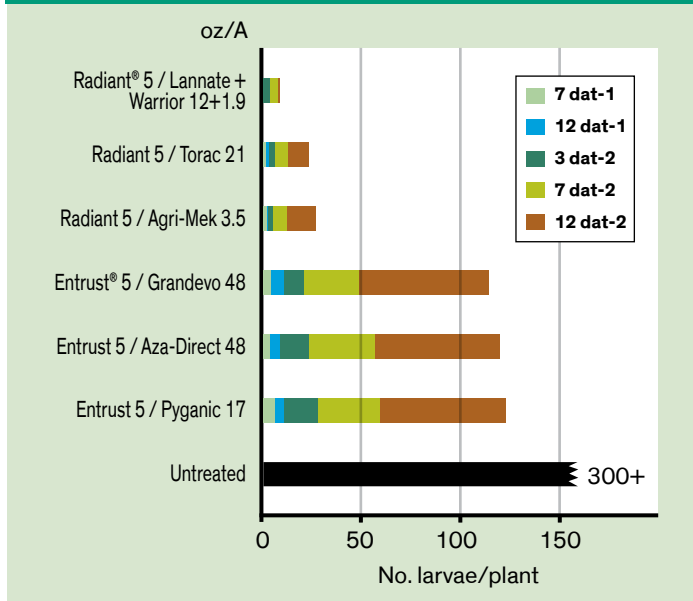
### Rates

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



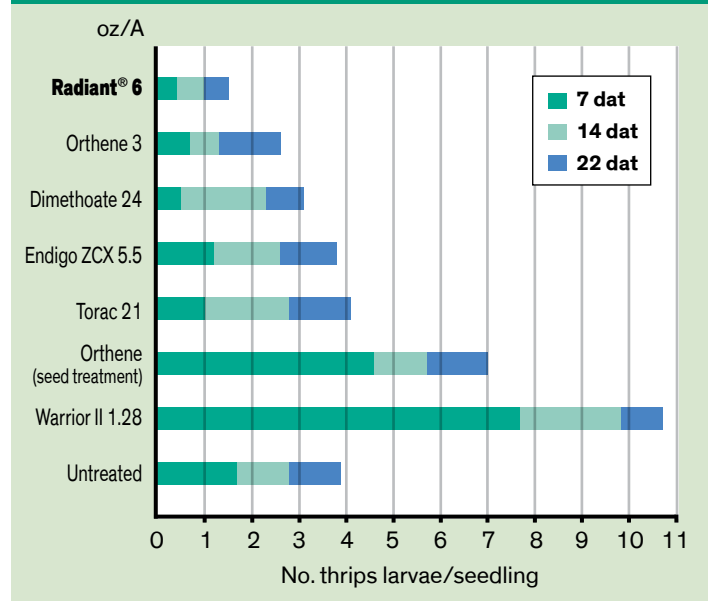
### Western Flower Thrips Efficacy Trial – Romaine

J.C. Palumbo, Yuma, AZ – 2016



### Western Flower Thrips Efficacy Trial – Cotton

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



also used the opportunity to discuss issues related to the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), where the Senator has been helpful in getting traction on some of the more critical issues, such as applicability of specific rules to cotton gins.

### **USDA NRCS EQIP Funding Continues**

The USDA NRCS continues offering eligible producers payments for promoting conservation practices that benefit air quality. Through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), NRCS provides the technical and financial assistance to eligible agricultural producers for addressing their natural resource concerns, including the air quality concerns from their farming operations. NRCS accepts EQIP applications year round and establishes cut-off dates for making funding sections. For 2017, the upcoming cut-off dates are scheduled for March 17, 2017 and May 26, 2017. EQIP payments are available for the following air quality improvements: replace old diesel-powered farm equipment with similar new equipment powered with the cleanest Tier emissions-certified diesel engines; repower irrigation engines with new electric motors or new Tier 4 emissions-certified diesel engines; adopt no-till or reduced-till conservation tillage practices; utilize combined-tillage implements that perform multiple tasks in a single pass; use “low-dust” nut harvesters instead of the conventional harvesters; stabilize unpaved roads and traffic areas to limit dust; establish windbreaks and shelterbelts at Confined Animal Feeding Operations; chip debris from orchard or vineyard removals; and apply the safe handling and disposal of chemically-treated wooden stakes. For more information, please contact your nearest USDA Service Center or visit on-line at: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ca/programs/financial/eqip/>

### **CalOSHA Holds First Meeting on Proposed Indoor Heat Illness Regulation**

In response to SB 1167 (Mendoza), CalOSHA has begun the process of developing an indoor heat illness standard. CCGGA **President/CEO Roger Isom** attended the first meeting in Oakland where CalOSHA representatives unveiled the proposed regulation which would require all employers to adopt indoor heat illness plans and protections, including mandatory rest breaks. The proposed regulations would also require employers to base actions on “Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT)” which would require a special temperature measurement device that



costs about \$300. Labor activists were in attendance, and as expected pushed for much more stringent regulations, including mandatory 10 minute breaks every one hour, and an indoor temperature trigger of 70 degrees F. The Association is preparing comments opposing the proposed regulations citing lack of indoor heat illness incidents. If implemented as proposed, it would be a significant imposition on farm shops, cotton gins and warehouses.

### **Submitting Pyrethroid Comments during Regulatory Freeze**

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) granted an extension to the comment period of the Pyrethroid pesticides. The new deadline for comments is Friday, March 31. However, due to the White House order, effectively putting a freeze on publications of new regulations to the Federal Register, the online docket is not open to accept comments. It is not clear how or when the docket will reopen but there is still a opportunity to have comments submitted. The Pyrethroid Working Group (PWG) has created a “Voter Voice” website for individual grower to access and submit comments directly to EPA. The website address to make these comments is <https://www.votervoice.net/PWG/campaigns/48706/respond>. The Association will be submitting its own comments directly to the EPA Chemical Review Managers for consideration. If you have any questions or need any further information to submit comments please contact our offices.

### **Updated Race 4 FOV Brochure Available**

In an effort to continue to raise awareness regarding Race 4 FOV, the California cotton industry gathered to create

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## Newsletter Sponsored by: Dow AgroSciences

an updated resource with information about the disease available to growers. This brochure delves into the biology of FOV and further provides growers notes on how to properly scout fields for this disease. This also includes information to make distinctions between FOV infection and the presences of *Verticillium* Wilt. Growers will be able to gain information on which varieties would be ideal

or extremely susceptible to FOV. Finally, it offers suggested cultural practices that growers can adopt to prevent the the spread of FOV from field to field. Some of the practices suggested include washing equipment, limited soil movement and limited foot and

vehicle traffic. The brochure can be found on CCGGA's website at [www.ccgga.org/cotton-information/](http://www.ccgga.org/cotton-information/). We would extend our thanks to **PhytoGen**, who sponsored the production of this brochure.

### Managing Race 4 FOV (*Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *vasinfectum*) in California Cotton



### Confined Spaces Workshops announced for 2017

In an ongoing effort to increase safety awareness in the agricultural industry, Western Agricultural Processors Association will be conducting specialized **Confined Spaces Workshops**. These workshops will be held throughout the State from Wasco to Chico and will focus on confined spaces for nut hullers and processors, farms, cotton gins and ag processing facilities. We encourage you to send your employees to these workshops which will be presented by experts in the industry! A copy of the schedule and registration form can be found on our website [www.agprocessors.org](http://www.agprocessors.org). If you have any questions, please contact our office at (559) 455-9272.

