



# The Cotton Chronicle

1785 N. Fine Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727 • Telephone: (559) 252-0684 • Fax: (559) 252-0551

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

February 2018

Volume 28, Issue 2

## Industry Calendar

CCGGA Annual Meeting  
February 21—23  
Monterey, CA

Western Cotton Shippers Meeting  
April 9—11  
Monterey, CA

Visit web calendar  
for details

### CCGGA Staff

Roger A. Isom  
President/CEO  
[roger@ccgga.org](mailto:roger@ccgga.org)

Christopher McGlothlin  
Director of Technical Services  
[chris@ccgga.org](mailto:chris@ccgga.org)

Jodi Raley  
Director of Regulatory Affairs  
[jodi@ccgga.org](mailto:jodi@ccgga.org)

Shana Colby  
Administrative Assistant  
[shana@ccgga.org](mailto:shana@ccgga.org)

### VIP Town Hall Meeting with Sonny Perdue, US Secretary of Agriculture

You are invited to a VIP Town Hall Meeting with the **United States Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue**. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. in the Heritage Complex Banquet Hall (4500 S. Laspina Street, Tulare, CA). Seating is limited. Please RSVP to [info@farmshow.org](mailto:info@farmshow.org). For more information about this event please call 559-688-1030.

### Neonics under Review

The United States Environmental Protection Agency opened up four neonicotinoid dockets for public comment on December 15, 2017. The products, are crop protection tools used on California tree nuts. The comment period closes on **Tuesday, February 20**. The California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association will be submitting a request for a 60-day extension to properly review the documents in each docket. If you would like to provide public comment for these products please email Jodi Raley at [jodi@ccgga.org](mailto:jodi@ccgga.org).

### CCGGA Annual Meeting Registration Deadline EXTENDED

The registration deadline for the 2018 CCGGA Annual Meeting has been extended from Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup> to **Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**. The 2018 Annual Meeting will be held at the Monterey Plaza from February 21-23. This year's meeting will be one for the books as we offer a new and **FREE Irrigation & Nitrogen Management Plan Self Certification** course on **Thursday, February, 22<sup>nd</sup>** in conjunction with the Annual Meeting. This specific training will prove extremely valua-

ble as growers will be able to utilize this certification to achieve compliance for the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. In addition, attendees will enjoy a Wednesday evening reception, the Annual CCGGA Golf Tournament at the **Quail Lodge & Golf Club** and the CCGGA Annual Meeting Dinner complete with entertainment provided by comedian **Adam Ferrara!** Members will dive into an information packed agenda for the Friday Business Meeting, which will include a ginner's and a grower's track. Topics of discussion will include an annual insect panel review, classing office activities, gin lab research updates and MUCH MORE! Guest speakers include representatives from the National Cotton Ginners Association, National Cotton Council, Cotton Inc., Supima and Association staff. The deadline to receive rooms at the Annual Meeting discount rate has passed, rooms are now at regular price and subject to availability. Please complete and return your registration forms with payment ASAP. **Deadline to register is now Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**. You can pay for your registration online and download forms at <https://ccgga.org/membership/ccgga-annual-meeting/>.

If you have any questions please contact our offices at (559) 252-0684.

### 2018 CCGGA Annual Meeting Tentative Agenda

#### Wednesday, February 21, 2018

5:00 pm **Welcome Reception – Lower Terrace**

#### Tuesday, February 22, 2018

8:00 am **Nitrogen Management Plan Self Certification Workshop – Carmel Room**

8:30 am **CCGGA Golf Tournament – Quail Lodge and Golf Club, Carmel Valley**  
 6:00 pm **Reception – Lower Terrace**  
 7:00 pm **Dinner – Monterey Bay Room**  
 8:00 pm **Entertainment: Comedian Adam Ferrara – Monterey Bay Room**

*Jodi Raley, Director of Regulatory Affairs, CCGGA*

11:55 am **Closing Remarks**  
*Phil Hansen, Chairman, CCGGA*

**Friday, February 23, 2018**

8:00 am Annual Meeting – Cypress Ballroom

**AGENDA**

8:00 am **Welcome/Introductions**  
*Phil Hansen, Chairman, CCGGA*  
 8:05 am **CCGA Financial Report**  
*Janell Attebury, Baker Peterson Franklin*  
 8:15 am **National Cotton Council Update**  
*Mike Brueggemann, National Cotton Council*  
 8:35 am **Supima Update**  
*Jeff Elder, Supima*  
 8:55 am **Cotton Board Update**  
*Christi Chadwell, Cotton Board*  
 9:15 am **BREAKOUTS**

**URGENT ADVISORY**

Recently, an individual associated with the US Department of Labor (DOL) showed up at an almond huller in the valley. She indicated that she was with JBS International and was onsite to conduct employee interviews. Her business card states she is from JBS International (Burlingame, CA), but she indicated she is from US DOL National Agricultural Workers Survey (NAWS). Please request that she not conduct the interviews today, and to make a formal request in writing and that you will forward the request to the Association’s legal counsel. This is not out of line and is a reasonable request. We have been in contact with our legal counsel, the Saqui Law Group and we will review each request. If you have any questions, please call our office at 559-252-0684.

**Indoor Heat Illness – Cal/OSHA Releases Another Draft of Proposed Regulation**

Like a broken record, here we go again. Another regulation for regulation’s sake. As mandated by the California State Legislature, the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) at CalOSHA is working on an “indoor heat illness regulation”. They are now on their third iteration of a draft regulation, and this latest one is more complicated than the last draft. This effort was precipitated by a single case that stemmed from a 2012 serious citation issued to a warehouse and distribution center for the heat illness suffered by an employee who was working inside a metal freight container with a temperature of over 100 degrees. In this latest draft, unfortunately, DOSH is not “limiting the applicability” and is including any and all employers with an indoor place of employment where the temperature is equal to or greater than 80 degrees. This means farm shops, cotton gins, packing houses, hullers and processors would all be subject to the new regulations, even if they haven’t had a single incidence of heat illness. These operations must provide access to water and a “cool-down area”. The cool-down area must be open to the air or “provided with ventilation or cooling”. A cool-down area must be provided when the temperature exceeds 80 degrees Fahrenheit, and employees shall be allowed and encouraged to take a “preventative cool-down rest” in a cool-down area when they feel the need to do so. When the tempera-

Ginners Track Cypress Ballroom		Growers Track Carmel Ballroom	
9:15-9:35 <b>National Cotton Ginners Association Update</b>	<i>Stan Creelman, President, NCGA</i>	9:15-10:15 <b>Insect Pressures – 2017 Season in Review Panel Discussion</b>	<i>Bob Hutmacher, UC Cooperative Extension State Cotton Specialist, Moderator Panelists: Andy Gulley, Jim Razor</i>
9:35-9:55 <b>Cotton Ginning Laboratory Research Update</b>	<i>Derek Whitelock, Research Leader, USDA-ARS, SWCGRL</i>		
9:55-10:15 <b>Cotton Classing Update</b>	<i>Greg Townsend, Area Director, USDA AMS</i>		

10:15 am **\*\*BREAK\*\***  
 10:35 am **Water Situation for Cotton in 2018**  
*Dan Munk, U.C. Cooperative Extension*  
 10:55 am **Sacramento Update**  
*George Soares, Kahn, Soares & Conway*  
 11:15 am **Regulatory and Legislative Issues Update**  
*Roger Isom, President/CEO, CCGGA*  
*Christopher McGlothlin, Director of Technical Services, CCGGA*



## SJV GROWER RELIES ON TECHNOLOGY AND PHYTOGEN TO THRIVE

To thrive in the cotton industry, growers must stay informed of the latest news and information so they can make the best decisions for their farms.

For cotton grower Geoff Toledo of Visalia, California, that means using social media to keep up with new information and interact with farmers across the Cotton Belt. He first joined Instagram to keep track of his kids, but quickly saw the potential to network and gain information about the cotton industry.

“Through social media, I see a lot of different things going on. I like to read articles and learn new things. If I find something helpful, I share it to help other farmers,” Toledo says. “It’s all about information exchange. Everything in the industry is moving and changing so fast — the more you keep up with things, the better.”

One way he uses social media is to keep abreast of new information from companies or organizations. If a new variety or technology is available, he can learn about the product and decide if it’s a good fit for his farming operation.

“I like to read what the companies are saying on their Twitter or Instagram pages. You get information faster than waiting to go to a meeting,” Toledo says. “You’ve got to stay on top of your game to succeed in this business. We’re constantly trying to do whatever we can to better our cotton yields and fiber quality.”

### Industry-leading staple length

Toledo farms cotton, alfalfa, wheat and corn with Tri-T Farms, which includes his dad, Jack, and his brother John. In addition to their own row crop acres, they have a herd of registered Angus cattle and custom farm several thousand acres.

In 2017, Toledo planted just under 1,000 acres of cotton — half Pima and half Acala cotton. On his Pima acres, Toledo planted PhytoGen® brand PHY 881 RF and PHY 888 RF because of their excellent fiber qualities, especially staple length.

“PhytoGen Pima varieties have really good fiber quality — the staple is better than the competition and the yield potential is excellent,” Toledo says. “The staple length with PhytoGen Pima varieties is usually around 50 to 52, and the competitive varieties have around a 48 staple.”

Toledo also says the PhytoGen brand Pima varieties have excellent Race 4 Fusarium resistance, which he says is a major problem across California cotton acres.

“Race 4 Fusarium is a big concern for California cotton farms, but PhytoGen has done a great job breeding Pima varieties that are highly resistant to Race 4 Fusarium,” he says. “The new PhytoGen Pima varieties have Race 4 Fusarium just about whipped.”





Join **Best Yielder** today and become a member of a community of PhytoGen growers. Just visit **PhytoGen.com** to share your story and enjoy the benefits!

## 5-bale yields

Toledo also plants Acala cotton varieties on his farm because of their high-end yield potential. Although the Acala cottons don't produce the same extra-long staple of Pima, Toledo can push his Acala acres to offset that with maximum yield production. His new favorite Acala variety is PhytoGen brand PHY 764 WRF, which he says offers half a bale more yield per acre than his previous Acala variety. On his farm, it's a variety that fits variable agronomic scenarios and has produced a reliable, top-end yield.

"PHY 764 WRF is an outstanding yielder that does well in all soils," Toledo says. "Four bales is average, and we are shooting for five bales — that's a good crop. In 2016, we averaged 4.1 bales per acre on 1,000 acres with PHY 764 WRF."

After planting PhytoGen® cottonseed for a decade, Toledo says he depends on the consistent yield and quality. With varieties bred uniquely for the California market, PhytoGen provides the seed he needs to thrive.

"PhytoGen has been really aggressive with breeding, bringing forth varieties that are a good fit for California," Toledo says. "PhytoGen varieties have great seed quality and outstanding seedling vigor, and they come out of the ground growing. They have outstanding yield and fiber quality."

For more information on PhytoGen cottonseed, PhytoGen.com offers variety information, agronomic tips and articles on growers from across the Cotton Belt who are thriving with PhytoGen. Like Toledo, use social media to keep up with the latest information from PhytoGen by following our Facebook or Twitter pages.

### Visit us Online

[www.PhytoGen.com](http://www.PhytoGen.com)



[www.facebook.com/phytogenyields](http://www.facebook.com/phytogenyields)



[www.twitter.com/phytogen cotton](http://www.twitter.com/phytogen cotton)



PhytoGen® brand Pima and Acala cottonseed produces excellent yield and fiber quality. Visalia grower Geoff Toledo says, "PhytoGen has been really aggressive with breeding, bringing forth varieties that are a good fit for California... They have outstanding yield and fiber quality."



**Western Cotton Development Specialist**

Jennifer Crawford

(661) 303-2071

[jjcrawford@dow.com](mailto:jjcrawford@dow.com)

ture is such that the “heat index” equals or exceeds 95 degrees Fahrenheit, the employer shall implement control measures to reduce the heat index to below 95 degrees Fahrenheit. These measures are now proposed to include engineering controls such as fans and air conditioning; administrative controls, such as changing work schedules or reducing work intensity; and personal protective equipment, such as water-cooled or air-cooled garments, heat-reflective clothing and supplied-air personal cooling systems. Similar to the current outdoor heat illness standard emergency response procedures must be in place, and close observation during acclimatization must occur. In addition, training will remain a priority with risk factors, heat illness procedures, recognizing heat illness symptoms, and emergency procedures. The employer will also have to establish and implement a written plan. As we move into the final stages of this rule development process, the debate now centers on CalOSHA’s proposed approach. One option would be to open up the existing outdoor standard and do a combined indoor/outdoor standard. The second option would be a standalone indoor heat illness standard. The agricultural industry does not want to open up the existing standard and give the labor activists another chance to tighten the outdoor standard. Yet, we remain concerned with the confusion caused by having two separate standards, and what happens when employees work both indoors and outdoors for the same job (e.g. forklift drivers at a gin). We also remain opposed to the whole concept as the agricultural industry has yet to see a fatality or even illness to indoor places of employment such as a cotton gin.

### **Forklift “Train-the-Trainer” Workshops**

The **California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association** in conjunction with the **Western Agricultural Processors Association (WAPA)**, **California Citrus Mutual**, **California Fresh Fruit Association**, **AgSafe**, **Basi Insurance**, **Nisei Farmers League**, **The Zenith**, **JM Equipment Co., Inc.** and **Fresno County Farm Bureau** are hosting several Forklift “Train-the-Trainer” workshops throughout the state in February, March and April. The goal of these workshops is to train and authorize selected individuals from your company to implement and conduct your in-house forklift training. CalOSHA specifically requires training of forklift operators and these operators must be evaluated every three years. The training provided at these workshops gives your supervisors and lead employees the training



and tools necessary to conduct the necessary training of the forklift operators at your facility. Classes will be offered in English and Spanish and the cost is only \$50 which includes a certificate and training materials. For registration or more information, please visit WAPA’s website at [www.agprocessors.org](http://www.agprocessors.org), or call the WAPA office at (559)455-9272.

### **Association Lone Opposition to Fee Increase by SJVAPCD**

The Association testified this past week in opposition to a proposed increase in fees to permit holders in the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD). The SJVAPCD is proposing a 4.8% increase in 2018/2019 and a 4.6% increase in 2019/2020. This will affect permit application fees, permit renewal fees and permit processing fees. The SJVAPCD held fast to their claim to have the lowest fees of any of the large air districts, and to have the most cost effective permitting program among all air districts as evidenced through independent audits. The Association was the only organization to speak in opposition to the proposed fees increases at a workshop held this week. **Association President/CEO Roger Isom** recognized the District’s efforts to streamline their programs, but questioned the District on several aspects of their proposal. First, Isom pointed out that while SJVAPCD fees might be lower compared to large air districts like the South Coast and Bay Area Air Quality Management Districts, they are significantly higher than all of the rural districts like the Yolo/Solano, Feather River and Mojave Desert Air Quality Management Districts and all of the County Air Pollution Control Districts in the Sacramento Valley. Isom also pointed out that the SJVAPCD had the highest hourly permit processing rate amongst the rural districts, and the second highest permit renewal fee. Isom further pointed out that this fee increase follows the last fee increase by the SJVAPCD in 2016, less than two (2) years ago! Finally, Isom simply stated “Our members are being

**California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association**  
**1785 N. Fine Avenue**  
**Fresno, CA 93727**

PRESORTED STANDARD  
**US POSTAGE PAID**  
 FRESNO, CA  
 PERMIT NO. 2509

## Newsletter Sponsored by: **PhytoGen**

Fee'd to death. We cannot pass along the cost, and every agency wants to keep increasing their fees. While we appreciate the District's efforts to minimize the fee increase, enough is enough!"

### Western Cotton Shippers Association

95th Annual Convention

**Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa, Monterey, California**  
**April 9-11, 2018**

President Tim North invites you to attend the 95th Annual Meeting of the Western Cotton Shippers Association April 9 -11, 2018 in Monterey, California at the Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa. Make your hotel reservations now by calling toll free 800-334-3999. Be sure to request the WCSA rate of \$229 for a room with an inland view. Hotel CUT-OFF March 15, 2018 To Register: [www.westerncotton.com](http://www.westerncotton.com)

## SAFETY ADVISORY

### Cal/OSHA 300A Summary Posting Requirements

It's that time again....the **Cal/OSHA 300A Summary**, which lists the total number of job-related illnesses and injuries that occurred during 2017, **must be posted from February 1<sup>st</sup> – April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. Form 300A should be displayed in a common area where notices to employees are usually posted. The summary must include the total number of job-related injuries and illnesses that occurred in 2017 and were logged on your Cal/OSHA Form 300, *Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses*. To assist in calculating incidence rates, information about the annual average number of employees and total hours worked during the calendar year is also required. If no injuries or illnesses occurred in 2017, you must enter "zero" on the total line. The form must be signed and certified by a company executive. Visit our website for Recordkeeping Forms or contact our office.

Cal/OSHA Form 300A (Rev. 7/2007) **Appendix B**  
**Annual Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses**

All establishments covered by CCR Title 8 Section 14300 must complete this Annual Summary, even if no work-related injuries or illnesses occurred during the year. Instructions to complete the Log are on the back of the Log. To verify that the information is complete and accurate before completing this summary, check the Log against the individual entries you made for each category. Then write the totals below, making sure you've added the entries from every page of the Log. If you had more than one Log, use the totals from each Log to calculate the totals for this summary.

Employers, former employers, and those representatives have the right to receive the Cal/OSHA Form 300 or its contents. They also have limited access to the Cal/OSHA Form 300 or its contents. See CCR Title 8 Section 14300.35, 14300.36, 14300.37 for more information, for further details on the access provisions for these forms.

Number of Cases			
Total number of deaths	Total number of cases with days away from work	Total number of cases with job transfer or restriction	Total number of cases with other recordable costs
(01)	(04)	(03)	(02)

Number of Days	
Total number of days away from work	Total number of days of job transfer or restriction
(05)	(03)

Injury and Illness Types			
Total number of	(1) Skin disorders	(2) Respiratory conditions	(3) Poisonings
(06)	(07)	(08)	(09)

Employment information: Annual average number of employees, Total hours worked by all employees last year, Signer name, Date.

I certify that I have reviewed this document and that to the best of my knowledge the entries are true, accurate, and complete.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print this Annual Summary from February 7 to April 30 of the year following the year covered by the form.