



The Cotton Chronicle

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www.ccgga.org

April 2018

Volume 28, Issue 4

Industry Calendar

April 9—11
Western Cotton
Shippers Meeting—
Monterey, CA

April 25
Sticky Cotton
Summit—
Fresno, CA

June 6
Board Meeting—
Fresno, CA

Visit web calendar
for details

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Association Announces Election Results and New Chairman

The **California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association** is pleased to announce that **Tom Gaffney**, of the **J.G. Boswell Company** has been named Chairman of the Association's Board of Directors. Gaffney succeeds outgoing Chairman **Phil Hansen, of Hansen Ranches**. The Association would like to recognize Hansen for his outstanding service to the Association, especially during the critical time of merging the Ginners and Growers Associations into one organization. **President/CEO Roger Isom** stated, "Phil was a true asset to the Association during this transition, and the cotton industry in California owes a debt of gratitude for his leadership and service during this time. During his time at the helm, Chairman Hansen led this Association in addressing critical issues like sticky cotton, the Association's Section 18 for Transform, as well as the many regulatory and legislative issues we faced. He also served as the face of the California Cotton Industry during his tenure speaking at critical events in support of FFA and the construction of Temperance Flat Reservoir." Also appointed were **1st Vice Chair, Bryan Bone of Buttonwillow**; **2nd Vice Chair, Mike Davis of Dos Palos Coop**; and **Secretary/Treasurer Gary Martin of Firebaugh**. Re-elected to the board were the following Ginners: **Tom Gaffney, J.G. Boswell Company**; **Greg Gillard, Olam Cotton**; **Tom Pires, West Island Cotton Growers**; and **Mason Otten, Semi Tropic Cooperative Gin**. The following Growers were re-elected: **Kings County: Jim Razor, J.G. Boswell Company**; and **Phil Hansen, Hansen Ranches**; and **Southern California: Tim Cox**. Newly elected to the Board of Directors was Kings County Grower **Geoff Toledo** of

Hanford. **Sam Carreiro, of Kings County** was appointed as an Advisor to the board. All board member positions are three year terms, while officers serve in those positions for two years.

2018 Sticky Cotton Summit, April 25th

The cotton industry in California is faced with a critical issue, and that is the continued presence of sticky cotton. We have discussed this issue many times, and brought it to the forefront last year in our first ever Sticky Cotton Summit. We walked away from that meeting with several action items, and now it's time to see where we are. The cotton industry in California can ill afford to be labeled with sticky cotton. Our Board of Directors has called for an update on where we are on those action items. **This important meeting will be the 2018 CCGGA Sticky Cotton Summit and will be held on Wednesday, April 25th at the Wyndham Garden Fresno Airport Hotel in Fresno. Registration and Continental Breakfast will begin at 8:30 am.** The ac-



tual program will begin at 9:00 am and will end with lunch. This event is FREE; however registration is REQUIRED in order to provide us with an accurate count for room and lunch needs. You may register online at <https://2018stickycottonsummit.eventbrite.com> or you can call our offices at (559) 252-0684.

Gin Superintendent—Job Opportunity Corcoran, CA

Job opportunity in Corcoran California as a Cotton Ginning Superintendent. Salary depending on experience. \$90,000 plus with 401K, Health Insurance, Vacation and Vehicle to and from work. Must be bilingual with experience as a cotton gin mechanic and people management skills. Would be in charge of day and night crews during ginning season and in charge or repairs during off season. If you are interested please send resume to Cross Creek Ginning Company, PO Box 426, Corcoran CA 93212 or fax to (559)992-8266.

ARB Approves Spending Plan for Agricultural Equipment

The culmination of tough legislation, and six months of negotiations resulted in the approval of \$135 million for



agricultural equipment in California. This momentous event occurred at the California Air Resources Board (CARB) hearing in Riverside this past week. This funding will replace ag tractors and harvesters, ag trucks and ag irrigation pump engines. This is critical because the California Air Resources Board is forced to consider mandatory tractor replacement regulations in the San Joaquin Valley, due to the imposition of incredibly restrictive federal ambient air quality standards. Without federal action to delay those standards, CARB is obligated to consider all potential measures, including a mandatory tractor re-

placement rule, such as those already being implemented on trucks and construction equipment. The Association pushed for this funding, as it is the only way agriculture can comply without being forced out of business. At the hearing, **Association President/CEO Roger Isom** stated, “the problem with agriculture is that we have no way to pass along the cost.” The funding plan was approved unanimously and money should start flowing to the air districts in the late spring.

CCGGA Pursues TWO Section 18s for Transform

As the industry comes off the heels of a year of Lygus damage, with levels that have not been seen in decades, the Association is taking every step to ensure that the proper crop protection tools are available to growers for this season. CCGGA has submitted a request to renew the 2017 Section 18 authorizing the use of Transform on cotton for Lygus control. This differs from



last year’s request due to the fact that it is simply a renewal request. There is no change in use pattern or acreage requesting to be treated so the application is anticipated to be fairly expedited. Additionally, after receiving several comments from the grower community, it became clear that there was a need for additional tools to assist in aphid control. CCGGA is currently in the process of preparing an Emergency Exemption Section 18 Application to authorize the use of Transform on cotton for aphids. The Association is working diligently to complete this application as quickly as possible to have it available for use. CCGGA would like to thank Bob Hutmacher, UCCE State Cotton Specialist, as well as Peter Goodell, former UC IPM Specialist, for assisting in seeing these applications through. If you have any questions, or would like an update please contact Jodi Raley at (559) 252-0684.

ARB Hosting Compliance Workshop for Diesel Trucks

On April 17th, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) will be hosting a “One Stop Truck Event” for compliance assistance and information on clean technology options

Radiant®

SC

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.

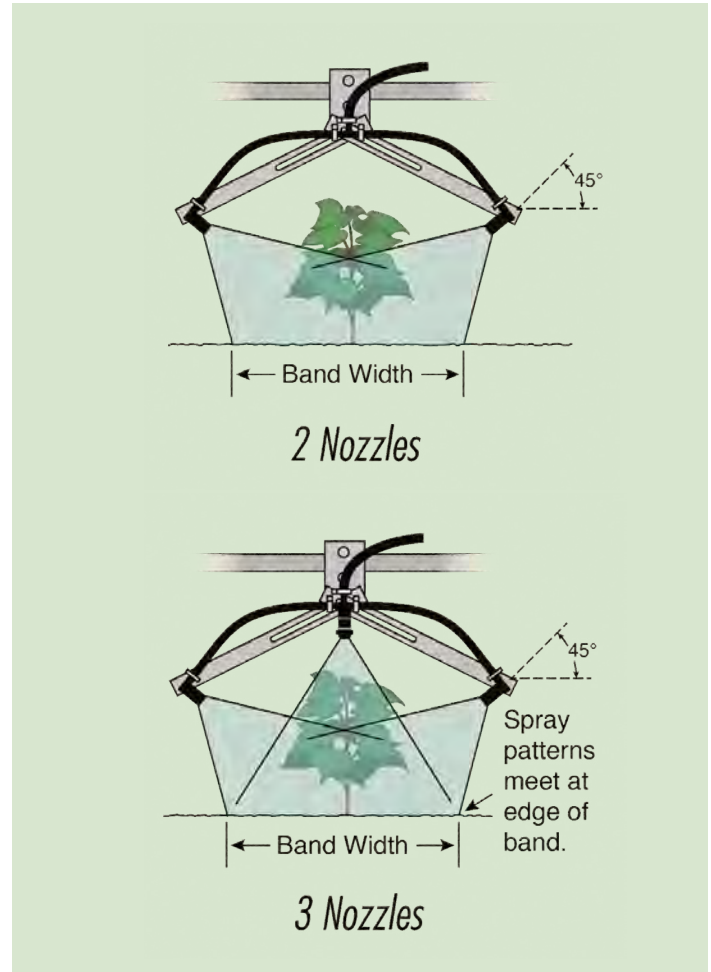
RADIANT® INSECTICIDE

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.

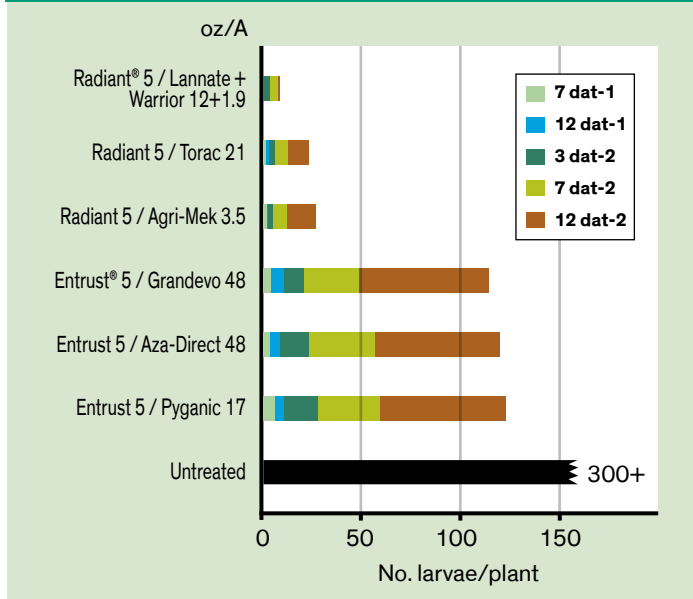
Rates

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



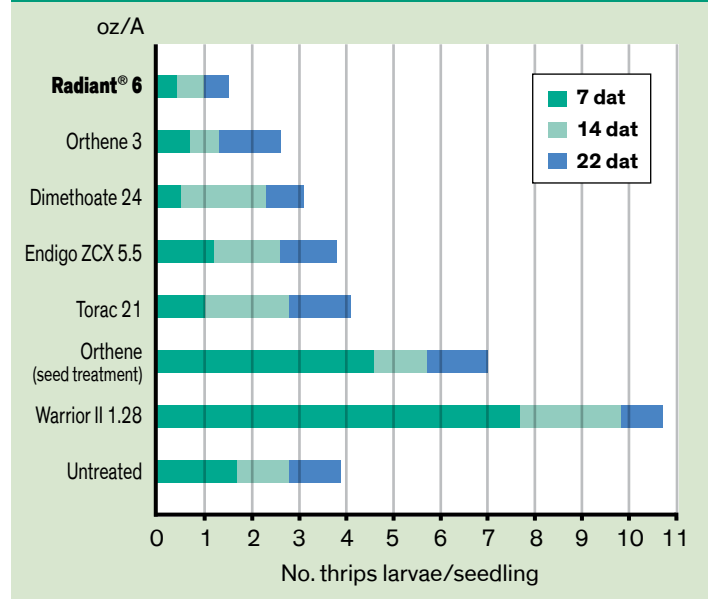
Western Flower Thrips Efficacy Trial – Romaine

J.C. Palumbo, Yuma, AZ – 2016



Western Flower Thrips Efficacy Trial – Cotton

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



for bringing your fleet into compliance. This workshop aims to help stakeholders in complying with CARB's Truck and Bus Regulation. Sessions will cover Regulatory/ Compliance Assistance, Financial Incentives & Loan Program Assistance, Enforcement Inspection Demo, Truck & Bus Regulation Overview, and a presentation on New Technology. If you are interested in attending, please visit the Truck Stop website on CARB's website, and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Chris McGlothlin with the Association.

CCGGA to Submit Comments Defending Pesticides

The California Cotton Ginners & Growers Association (CCGGA) continues to defend the availability and ability to use critical crop protection tools. CCGGA will be submitting comments regarding neonicotinoid use, including Imidacloprid and Clothianidin, before the comment period deadline of April 21, 2018. CCGGA will also be submitting comments on the Biological Opinion released by the National Marine Fisheries Service for chlorpyrifos, malathion and diazinon before the close of the comment period deadline of May 22, 2018. Additionally, comments will be submitted to the Glyphosate docket prior to the April 30, 2018 deadline. If you would like to provide comments of support for any of the above crop protection tools please send them to jodi@ccgga.org and they will be included with our Association comments.

Ginner's School Update

Last month, CCGGA held its annual Ginners School & Managerial Seminar in Corcoran. Participants attended classes designed to highlight safety practices around the various equipment dealt with during the ginning season, as well as other beneficial safety classes. The Manager's



(Back Row L-R) – Hugo V. Chavez, Elizabeth Orozco, Ken Blackwell, Manuel Alcaraz, David Correa

(Front Row L-R) – Jorge Ortiz, Marcos Monteil, Armondo Flores, Armondo Avina, Raymond Aquino



Safety Contest Winner: Hugo V. Chavez – Semi Tropic Cooperative Gin & Almond Huller

Session included an update on Hot Topics in Labor Law presented by The Saqui Law Group. Topics covered in the gin employee section included Sexual Harassment Overview presented by AgSafe, Module Feeder Safety presented by WAPA staff, Module Truck Safety presented by CHP, Tool Safety and Press Safety presented by J.G. Boswell staff as well as our annual Safety Contest. This year's **Safety Contest Award winner** went to **Hugo V. Chavez from Semi Tropic**.

Congratulations Hugo!

We would also like to thank all of our sponsors and exhibitors who help make this event possible. If you have any suggestions for future Ginners School topics, please feel free to contact Chris McGlothlin chris@ccgga.org.

THANK YOU to our SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS!

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Thirty Years Later Farmers Continue to Struggle and the CA Ag Mediation Program is Still Here to Help

In 1987, Congress passed the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 as a lifeline for producers who have seen their interest rates turn double digit, lost export markets, watched their land values crash and who in some cases took their own lives because they saw no other exit strategy. The Act authorized each state to certify a mediation program to help farmers and ranchers resolve problems with farm loans, credit issues, adverse decisions from the USDA, and several other challenges. Still Strong 30 Years Later. Today, forty-one states have established agricultural mediation programs and they continue to be a resource for producers. Yet even thirty years later, farmers are still struggling, especially in the dairy sector over the last few years as well as other sectors due to continuing water shortages and devastating freezes. Once again, we are seeing articles about how lives are impacted due to circumstances beyond anyone's control as producers search for ways to preserve their legacy and their lands in an uncertain world. A Free Resource for Producers. Despite the fierce independence of the farming community, data shows that when farmers know about resources, they use them. The California Agricultural Mediation Program (CALAMP) is an important resource for farmers to know

about. CALAMP is confidential, voluntary and FREE for any farm loan or credit issue or adverse decision from the USDA. We also can address certain federal farm and conservation programs; wetlands determinations; grazing permits on national forest system lands; and rural housing loans. If we are not authorized to mediate a case for free under the Act, we will work on ways to make the cost reasonable. Maintaining positive business relationships with lenders, creditors, and USDA personnel is key. We can facilitate conversations that have become difficult and help you gather the information necessary to make an informed decision about the best path forward. Where can I get more information? Requesting mediation is easy. Visit www.calamp.org and click on "request mediation" or call (916) 330-4500 and dial ext. 101 for Matt Strassberg, 103 for the Southern California Program Coordinator Mary Madison Campbell, or 104 for the Northern California Program Coordinator Julia Rose Golomb. You can also email CA Agricultural Mediation Program Staff at matts@emcenter.org, maryc@emcenter.org, and juliag@emcenter.org.