

SELF-PROPELLED OFF-ROAD AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT SURVEY

The California Farm Bureau Federation (CFBF) along with other agricultural organizations are asking our respective members to fill out the attached questionnaire regarding self-propelled off-road agricultural equipment that is 25 hp or greater. **Please complete this survey and return it no later than December 31, 2009 to your primary agricultural association at the address listed below.** Other agricultural organizations are also conducting this survey so only provide this information once; do not send the completed survey to more than one agricultural association.

We are collecting this information because the California Air Resources Board (CARB) is required to take steps in California to meet Federal Clean Air Act requirements that include developing a control measure to reduce emissions from in-use off-road agricultural equipment. Many of you responded in 2008 when a similar survey was conducted for on-road diesel trucks. Your responses were crucial in helping create an emissions inventory that was used to achieve regulatory flexibility for the agricultural community in the on-road diesel truck rule allowing low-mileage thresholds to be established and giving longer compliance schedules for truck replacement. The information from this agricultural equipment survey will be used in the same manner to help develop a rule that provides air quality improvements while taking into full account the significant cost impact to California agriculturalists. Once the agricultural equipment survey information is compiled and an emissions inventory developed, the rule will be developed with stakeholder input throughout 2010. CARB staff currently plan to bring this measure to the Board for a vote in late 2010.

(The diesel truck rule is completely separate from the agricultural equipment rule. CARB will soon begin outreach on the diesel truck rule as the deadline for information to be submitted is March 31, 2010. CFBF and other agricultural associations will disseminate compliance information as soon as CARB has completed it later in 2009.)

This cover letter with your contact information will be removed from the questionnaire by CFBF before this information is submitted to the California State University, Fresno Foundation who will be compiling the data for the California Air Resources Board (CARB). Fresno Foundation is a private, nonprofit corporation that conducts contract research in support of regional partnerships and alliances. All information provided to the Foundation is confidential and cannot be accessed by any private or public request. CFBF will give each survey respondent an identification number that will be put in the box on the top right corner of the survey. If clarification is needed on the information you provide, Fresno Foundation would contact CFBF and ask us to contact you to get further explanation. We anticipate this would only be a rare occurrence. **In every step of the survey process your personal contact information will remain confidential and protected and will not be shared with the Fresno Foundation or state of California.**

Please complete only the one form appropriate for your operation and business. The "Agricultural Producers" form is intended for farmers, ranchers, nurserymen and others that grow crops or raise animals. This form should also be completed if the agricultural producer also provides custom services to others. The "100% Custom Operator" form is intended for only custom operators that do not also grow crops or raise animals on their owned or leased land. Those operations should not complete the "Agricultural Producers" survey. The "First Processor" form is intended to be completed by first processors only, based upon the definition provided in the survey form.

If you have questions contact Cynthia Cory, Director, Environmental Affairs for CFBF at 916.446.4647. **Please return your survey no later than December 31, 2009 to:**

Your address
Board
Ca

Name _____
Address _____
Phone Number _____

We sincerely appreciate your time and effort