



The Cotton Chronicle

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September 2008

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Industry Calendar

September 10

CCGA Growers Board Meeting — Fresno, CA

September 16

Shafter Research Center Cotton Field Day — Shafter, CA

September 16

CA State Support Committee Meeting — Shafter, CA

September 17

CCGA Ginners Board Meeting — Fresno, CA

September 18

West Side Research Station Field Day — Shafter, CA

October 8-10

Cotton Inc. Executive Committee — New York

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PBW 2008 Cotton Acres

There are always a lot of guesses on the number of cotton acres each year and what the splits will be between upland and pima. Below are those estimates for 2008 by county with 2007 estimates for reference as well.

County	County Totals		Uplands		Pima	
	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007
Fresno	69,795	144,520	22,635	46,185	47,160	98,335
Kern	52,240	75,375	24,205	30,750	28,035	44,625
Kings	85,980	131,395	13,515	21,150	72,465	110,245
Madera	1,940	5,125	1,900	5,125	40	0
Merced	35,010	49,190	30,520	44,080	4,490	5,110
Tulare	12,605	23,120	12,605	21,430	0	1,690
SJV						
Totals	257,570	428,725	105,380	168,720	152,190	260,005
Sac Valley	3,350	4,440	3,350	4,440	0	0
So. Cal	9,570	18,840	9,570	18,800	0	40
CA						
Totals	270,490	452,005	118,300	191,960	152,190	260,045

Acres listed here are based on Pink Bollworm Program field mapping techniques and are intended for use on PBW Program detection and control activities. Totals are not assumed to represent exact cotton acreage plantings. CCGGA believes that these numbers represent the most accurate estimates available.

2009 Ginners School Set

Mark your calendars for the 2009 Ginners School & Managerial Seminar on Wednesday, April 15, 2009, at the Kings Fairgrounds in Hanford. The Ginners School committee met

recently and moved the date from the traditionally mid May date to the middle of April. This was done to avoid other scheduled conflicts in May and provide more time between the Ginners School and the Industry Meeting that is typically held late May to early June.

Two States Sign Biofuels Legislation

In July, Pennsylvania Governor Edward G. Rendell signed into law the Biofuel Development and In-State Production Incentive Act. The legislation includes the Alternative Fuels Incentive Grant program, which provides a 75 cent per gallon production incentive for Pennsylvania's in-state biodiesel producers, capped at \$5.3 million per year for three years. It also includes a requirement of 2 percent biodiesel blended into all diesel sold in Pennsylvania, increasing to 20 percent after reaching 400 million gallons per year of biodiesel produced in-state. The Pennsylvania Biodiesel Producers Group (PABPG) was instrumental in establishing these producer incentives. Also in July, Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick signed the Clean Energy Biofuels Act legislation, encouraging the growth of an advanced biofuels industry in Massachusetts. The legislation requires biofuel content in all the diesel and home heating fuel sold in the state, and proposes a new fuel standard for the region that will encourage a range of emissions-reducing technologies for cars and trucks. The mini-

mum percentage of biofuel as a component of all diesel fuel and home heating fuel sold in the Commonwealth starts at 2 percent in 2010 and ramps up to 5 percent by 2013. Massachusetts is the first state in the nation to require biofuel in home heating fuel.

New Farm Bill Conservation Roll Out

Conservation cost share applications for the popular Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) are being accepted for funding consideration in fiscal year 2009 from now through November 2, 2008, at USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) offices throughout California. The program, providing financial and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers for natural resource improvements, received a record \$53,959,920 in funding in California for 2008. "We begin this fiscal year with the promise of a newly minted Farm Bill that carries a strong conservation title," says NRCS State Conservationist Ed Burton. "All of our programs provide helpful tools for balancing agricultural productivity with natural resource protection but EQIP is our flagship conservation program. Combined with technical assistance and conservation planning, EQIP has had a huge impact on the California landscape and I expect these benefits to continue and expand in the next year and forward into this Farm Bill."

In fiscal year 2008 California NRCS partnered with farmers and ranchers on nearly \$54 million in conservation cost share contracts, setting a new record for the program in the state. The contracts covered a broad spectrum of natural resource enhancements including increasing irrigation efficiency; nutrient and manure management on dairies; grazing land management; riparian buffers and wildlife habitat; wetland protection; forest management and more. Assistance can be in the form of structures and conservation "hardware" such as irrigation or manure management facilities, as well as incentive payments for proper management to achieve environmental benefits. The November 2, 2008, date reflects

the cut off for funding consideration during the 2009 fiscal year.

Truck Rule Adoption Postponed

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has announced they have postponed adoption of their heavy duty truck regulation until their December board hearing. The regulation, which would require the replacement of all heavy duty trucks that operate in California, was originally scheduled for adoption in October. The Association has been part of an ag coalition working to make the regulation more workable for ag interests. The coalition has been meeting with ARB staff for the past several months, but has ramped efforts in the past month by meeting with ARB on a weekly basis to reach a more reasonable solution. The hearing is set for December 11 and 12 in Sacramento.

Shafter Cotton Field Day

The Shafter Research and Extension Center will be holding their Cotton Field Day on Tuesday, September 16th from 9 am to 1 pm. Field tours will begin at 9:30 am and will cover Nitrogen Management Impacts on Defoliation, Chemical Insect Control Options, Developments in Cotton Germplasm Screening, FOV Pathology Research, and Lygus Ecology and Management. Lunch will be provided following the tour. For more information contact Ruthie Tafoya at (661) 746-8037.

West Side Cotton Field Day

The West Side Research and Extension Center will be holding their Cotton/Cropping Systems Field Day on Wednesday, September 17th from 8 am to 2 pm. Field tour will begin at 8:30 am and will feature speakers Bob Hutmacher from UCCE Five Points; Jeff Mitchell, UCCE Parlier; Dan Putnam, UCCE Davis; Steve Wright, UCCE Tulare County; Pete Goodell, UCCE Parlier; Lee Jackson, UCCE Davis; and Dan Munk, UCCE Fresno County. Luncheon Speaker is Ed Barnes, Director of Agricultural Re-

search at Cotton Incorporated. Dr. Barnes will discuss the Use of Precision Technologies to Enhance Implementation of Conservation Tillage Systems. For questions please contact Dan Munk, UCCE Farm Advisor for Fresno County at (559) 456-7561.

Climate Change Hysteria and Its Impact – When Will it End?

Environmentalists are taking another step on the issue of global warming and climate change, by filing lawsuits against the Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and the California Department of Fish and Game to protect a rabbit species found in the Western United States. The lawsuits claim that there have been dramatic decreases in the population of the “American pika” rabbit due to the impact from global warming. The lawsuit was filed by Earthjustice on behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity and claims that the pika population has decreased by more than a third in the past century due to global warming. This lawsuit follows on the heel of the previous ruling by the Department of Interior to list the polar bear as threatened by global warming.

9th Circuit Court Ruling Lower Court’s Orders on VOC Regulations

The Air Coalition Team (ACT) of which the CCGGA are members, was successful in their appeal to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals to reverse a district court judgment requiring the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) to implement new volatile organic compound (VOC) regulations and remanded the entire action back to the district court with orders to dismiss the case for lack of jurisdiction.

CI Survey Essential to Defending Cotton

CI is conducting an on-line survey that will enable CI to deliver factual information about how cotton is grown and to increase consumer demand for your cotton.

How to take the survey – visit: www.cottoninc.com/agsurvey

Please participate.....It’s important to our industry.

Safety Manual Updated

The Cotton Ginners Association Safety Manual update has been completed and mailed to all gins. The Safety Committee reviewed and approved the changes, which consist of the updates to the Machine and Machine Operations to include a section on electric module tarp rollers and other minor changes. If you did not receive your update or need additional copies, please contact our office at (559) 252-0684.

Reminder - No Sticky Cotton

It appears whiteflies are raising their ugly heads out there. Over the past several seasons cotton growers with much guidance and leadership from the PCA community have done an outstanding job in preventing sticky cotton. This is a small acreage crop and it would be a real disaster for the high demand markets that we all have worked so hard to develop to be shorted on needs because of sticky cotton in addition to already possible limited supplies. Quality is our reputation and it must be protected. Thanks for all the efforts over the last few years. It’s made a difference. Let’s keep it up! Cotton – Up – No Sticky Cotton!



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