



The Cotton Chronicle

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

www.ccgga.org



August 2011

Volume XXII, Issue 8

Industry Calendar

Aug 31 —
Supima Annual Meeting —
Harris Ranch

Sept 14 —
Growers Board Meeting—
Fresno

Sept 21 —
Ginners Board Meeting —
Fresno

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Periodic Smoke Inspections – Are You Doing Them?

The California Air Resources Board requires owners of California-based fleets with two or more vehicles to perform annual smoke opacity tests on their heavy-duty diesel-powered vehicles with a GVWR greater than 6,000 lbs. Under the Periodic Smoke Inspection Program (PSIP) owners of the California-based fleets must comply with all of the following:

- **All heavy-duty diesel powered vehicles (except those with engines that are four years old or newer, or those used exclusively for personal use such as a motor home) must be tested annually with a compliant smoke opacity meter;**
- **Smoke opacity tests must be conducted according to the SAE J1667 test procedure;**
- **All heavy-duty diesel powered vehicles must meet the applicable opacity standards of 55% for pre-1991 engines and 40% for 1991 and newer engines;**
- **All heavy duty diesel powered vehicles determined to be in non-compliance must be promptly repaired and brought into compliance;**
- **Records of opacity tests, repair information and post repair opacity tests for each vehicle must be maintained for at least two years.**

If the above five requirements are followed, there should be no problems complying with this program. The ARB has the authority to audit all inspection records of the heavy-duty diesel-powered vehicles at owner/operator designated fleet locations and test vehicles for

compliance. The ARB has issued millions of dollars in fines on many companies, cities, and even farms. For more details, including a list of authorized test facilities, please visit the Industry Issues of CCGGA's website at www.ccgga.org.

Heat Illness: DOSH Investigating Five Heat Fatalities!

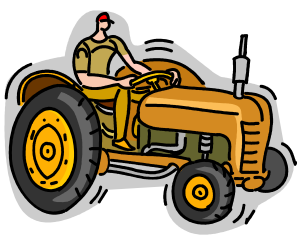
The fifth fatality of the year suspected of being related to possible heat illness was an agricultural worker in Blythe. The latest fatality was in Blythe, where the temperature was up to 107°F, with relative humidity as high as 65%. The worker was part of a cantaloupe harvesting crew, and started exhibiting symptoms of heat illness while operating a tractor about 3:30 p.m. on July 7. The worker died the next day at a local hospital. So far this season, DOSH is investigating four other potential heat illness cases, including another in agriculture, one in mining and drilling, one in law enforcement and another in landscaping. The one in agriculture was a worker who collapsed and later died in a cornfield in Westmoreland (Imperial County). The operation involved walking behind a trailer and breaking corn from stalks. The worker in question had returned to work after a lunch break when he collapsed. He died at a local hospital. The temperature in the field at the time was 84° F. Cal/OSHA also is investigating another 24 non-fatal heat illness cases, according to DOSH's Bill Krycia (who oversees the division's heat illness enforcement program). Ten of the incidents



involve agriculture, five each are in construction and fire protection, and one each are in mining and drilling, temporary services, utilities and warehousing. Krycia also says that DOSH has received 80 heat-illness-related complaints so far this year. Most are related to outdoor employment, but 29 involve indoor workplaces, such as restaurants and kitchens. Cal/OSHA has conducted about 100 heat sweeps this year, he said. DOSH has also issued an Order Prohibiting Use to an employer who had a crew working in a Coachella pepper field without access to shade, DOSH said, in heat registering 98°F at 8:30 a.m. and reaching 105°F by noon. Most recently, DOSH has been sweeping tomato harvesting operations and the farms associated with them. **If you don't have a written heat illness plan you need to prepare one and implement it immediately!**

Good News: More Tractor Money!

Thanks to the efforts of Congressmen Dennis Cardoza and Jim Costa, USDA has recently announced \$9.5 million in additional funding assistance for California farmers seeking to make on-farm improvements that will help to improve air quality, water quality or conserve water. These funds will be provided through USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The additional funding for the San Joaquin Valley includes \$5 million for air quality practices and \$4.5 million toward water quality on dairy farms and water conservation. The funding is



offered through the 2008 Farm Bill's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). "We are happy to provide this additional investment to help farmers and ranchers conserve and improve California's air and water quality,

and water conservation," says **Ed Burton**, NRCS State Conservationist. "While this funding will go primarily toward pending unfunded applications, our local offices will continue to take new applications year-round, and offer landowners ongoing conservation planning and technical assistance. The funding adds to the approximately \$60 million NRCS has already obligated this year in EQIP conservation contracts." Details of the funding include:

- **\$5 million for EQIP air quality practices to help reduce ozone precursors in the high-priority non-attainment areas of the San Joaquin Valley; primarily for replacing old diesel engines with engines that run 75 percent cleaner.**

- **\$4.5 million in EQIP for water quality and conservation practices in the San Joaquin Valley for increasing irrigation system efficiency and managing dairy waste.**

For more information or details on these programs, please contact your local USDA NRCS office or the Association office at (559)252-0684.

Association Hosts Meeting on Fusarium Race 4

Responding to industry concerns, the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations hosted a meeting at our office in Fresno on July 13th. Several growers from throughout the San Joaquin Valley were in attendance. In addition, researchers from the UC system and USDA, ginners, seed company representatives, chemical company representatives, as well as industry reps from Cotton Incorporated, the National Cotton Council, California Crop Improvement Association and CCGGA, were in attendance. After hearing brief presentations on the history of Fusarium Race 4 and thoughts on how it has spread, discussion moved to potential future containment and control methods to hopefully slow the spread of the disease in California cotton fields as well as preventing the spread of this disease to other cotton growing regions of the U.S. Among research discussed were the use of fumigants, heat treatments and solarization. The group then identified research needs as follows:

- **Breeding for resistance**
- **Continued Varietal Screens – Both Upland and Pimas for Tolerance Evaluations**
- **Develop Inoculum Level Measurement Techniques and Improve Evaluation Methods**
- **Encourage and Establish Cooperative efforts with Chemical companies to evaluate:**
 - **Seed Treatments**
 - **Soil Treatments (in furrow at planting and others)**
 - **Fumigation**
- **Crop Rotation affects on FOV Race 4 Control or Containment.**
- **Develop Effective Seed Treatment for Breeding and Screening Work Transfers**
- **Develop Better Inoculation Methods for Future Greenhouse Screenings**

The group then identified areas of focus for industry in-

puts and contributions:

- **Education & Dissemination of Information**
- **Push New Protocol for Seed Saving Field Inspections by CCIA**
- **Promote Grower Cooperation for Test Plot Work**
- **Work to Secure Permanent Field Site for Fusarium Research In Future**
- **Promote Expansion of Greenhouse Space for Fusarium Work**

Finally, general consensus of group was to form a **Cotton Industry Fusarium Work Group** made up of a cross section of the industry from growers to researchers to meet on a regular basis to; monitor ongoing Fusarium research and education efforts, help coordinate and promote collaboration between all segments involved in addressing the Fusarium issue and assess and address needs to insure that all is being done that can be done to find a solution to the Fusarium disease problem in California cotton fields and finally, work responsibly to prevent spread of this disease to other cotton growing regions of the U.S.

Forklift Safety Advisory

As operations prepare for the upcoming season, it is a good time to review your forklift safety program including training and recordkeeping. Training must occur a minimum of every three years, and under conditions that trigger refresher training. Those conditions include:



- **The operator has been observed to operate the vehicle in an unsafe manner;**
- **The operator has been involved in an accident or near-miss incident;**
- **The operator has received an evaluation that reveals that the operator is not operating the truck safely;**
- **The operator is assigned to drive a different type of truck; or**
- **A condition in the workplace changes in a manner that could affect safe operation of the truck.**

Recordkeeping includes documentation of the training, as well as documentation of the pre-operation inspections.

LSI Forklift Rule Compliance Nears

This is the final year to come in to compliance with ARB Large Spark Ignited (LSI) Equipment Regulation, which covers propane and gasoline forklifts at cotton gins. As we have advised in the past, this affects facilities with 4 or more forklifts. Any forklift that is 1990 and newer must be retrofitted, with 20% required to be in compliance by 2009 and the remaining 80% by January 1, 2012. One clarification has been made by the ARB, and that is the older forklifts must be included in the initial count. As an example, if you have four (4) forklifts and three (3) are 1982 and one (1) is 1996, then the 1996 forklift must be retrofitted. The is a statewide rule affecting all ag processing facilities in multiple air districts. The rule is less stringent for ag processing facilities due to the Associations involvement in the development of the rule. Also, forklifts used exclusively on-farm are not subject to the regulation. Non-ag facilities have additional requirements, so if you are talking to any equipment dealers please be aware that you have separate requirements. If you have any questions, please give **Casey** or **Roger** a call at **(559) 252-0684**.

Exemptions –

- Does not cover facilities with 3 or less forklifts
- Does not cover forklifts that are 1989 or older
- Does not cover forklifts that are used 250 hours or less per year

Requirements –

- 20% of covered fleet must have been retrofitted by 2009
- 80% of covered fleet must be retrofitted by January 1, 2012
- Retrofit Technology must meet 3.0 g Nox/bhphr

Examples:

| # Diesel | Propane or Gasoline | | Subject to Rule | Retrofit |
|----------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| | # Pre – 1990 | # 1990 or newer | | |
| 0 | 2 | 0 | No | 0 |
| 2 | 2 | 0 | No | 0 |
| 0 | 2 | 1 | No | 0 |
| 0 | 2 | 2 | Yes | 2 – 1990 or newer |
| 0 | 3 | 1 | Yes | 1 – 1990 or newer |
| 0 | 1 | 3 | Yes | 3 – 1990 or newer |
| 4 | 0 | 0 | No | 0 |
| 4 | 4 | 4 | Yes | 4 – 1990 or newer |

California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations
1785 N. Fine Avenue
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Supima's 57th Annual Meeting

Registration is now open for Supima's 57th Annual Meeting scheduled for **Harris Ranch, Wednesday, August 31st**. Registration begins at 9:00am with meeting to start at 10:00am. The Western Cotton Shippers Association program will follow Supima's meeting and lunch will be served at noon following both meetings. Supima looks forward to the opportunity to update it's membership with an overview of Supima's exciting new, current and future activities. The program will provide an update on Supima's promotional and licensing activities along with ELS market update and other pertinent news. Please use the registration form on back page to register by fax or register online at www.supima.com. Either way, please take time to register in advance to allow for proper planning. Any questions, call **Nancy at Supima (602) 792-6002 or Shana at CCGGA (559) 252-0684**.

57th Supima Annual Meeting Registration

Wednesday, August 31 - Harris Ranch Inn, Coalinga, CA
Registration - 9:00 a.m. / Meeting - 10:00 a.m.



PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE:

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Company: _____ Email: _____

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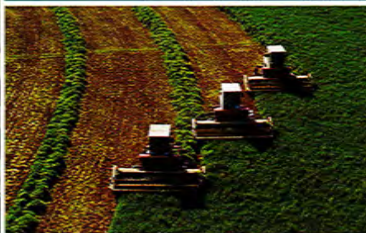
Please return this registration card by mail or fax to (602) 792-6004 no later than Friday, August 26, 2011



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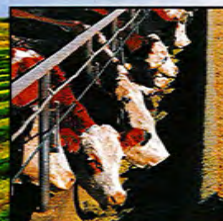
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Genuity® Roundup Ready® Alfalfas

Choose **WL 367HQ.RR**, **WL 454HQ.RR**, **WL 550.RR**, or **WL 660.RR** for high yields, outstanding feed value, and excellent tolerance to Roundup® non-selective herbicide.

WL 367HQ.RR (FD=5)

- Very high yields under 4-, 5-, and 6-cut harvest schedules
- Superior digestibility (our first winterhardy HQ/RR stack) produces more milk or beef and greater profitability when fed
- Dark green, fine-stemmed, and highly palatable

WL 454HQ.RR (FD=6)

- Outstanding yield potential under 5-, 6-, and 7-cut harvest managements
- Very fast recovery after cutting and excellent standability
- "HQ" levels of forage quality maximize %TDN and deliver superior per acre profitability
- Highly resistant to all major nematode pests

WL 550.RR (FD=8)

- Consistently produces big yields of leafy, fine-stemmed hay with dark green color and high %TDN
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- Ideal nondormant alfalfa for the cash hay producer

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- A top yielder under your most intensive cutting schedules; our highest yielding nondormant RR alfalfa
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- Highly resistant to all aphid pests



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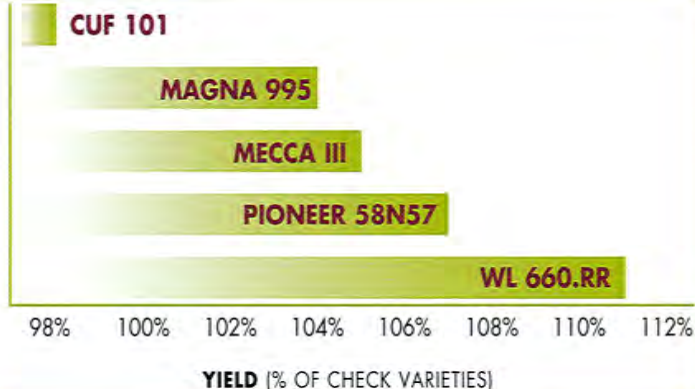
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