



The Cotton Chronicle

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www.ccgga.org

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Industry Calendar

(See Website for details)

PhytoGen Field Days
2-15 – Heritage Complex - Tulare

2-16 – Espana's – Los Banos

2-16 – Wool Growers – Bakersfield

2-17 – Tachi Hotel & Casino – Lemoore

2-21 – Office Closed – President's Day

2-24 – Hazera Seed Mtg – Los Banos

3-1 – Ginners Membership Mtg – Fresno

3-1 – Ginners Board Mtg – Fresno

3-10 – Growers Board Mtg – Harris Ranch

3-10 – Growers Annual Mtg – Harris Ranch

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Stan Creelman Named Chairman of the Bale Packaging Committee

California's own **Stan Creelman, Mid Valley Cotton Growers**, has been named Chairman of the 2011 Joint Cotton Industry Bale Packaging Committee (JCIBPC). Joining Stan on the Committee from California are **Tom Pires, of West Island Cotton Growers, Inc.; Dane Jones, of the Bakersfield Cotton Warehouse; and Robert Crume, of Calcot**. The first meeting of the JCIBPC for 2011 will be held February 23rd, at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, Tennessee.

2011 Cotton Planting Intentions

In Mid-December 2010, the National Cotton Council distributed the annual early season planting intentions survey. As always, the survey results should be viewed as a measure of growers thoughts and intentions prevailing at the time the survey was conducted. Many changing factors including market conditions, water availability, competing crops prices, weather at planting time, to name a few, could cause final actual number to change significantly from the numbers here which again are based on stated intentions in December 2010 Survey.

CCGGA's initial estimates were 400,000 acres total with pima and upland splits at 250,000 and 150,000 respectively. Today, many in the industry believe that with some of the factors in the mix today; more water and high prices, that the December estimates here could be somewhat higher. Can't disagree! If all the stars continue to stay aligned, with good weather at planting, we could certainly see higher numbers for California cotton!

Prospective 2011 U.S. Cotton Area

	2010 Actual (Thou.) 1/	2011 Intended (Thou.) 2/	Percent Change
SOUTHEAST	2,597	2,930	12.8%
Alabama	340	388	14.0%
Florida	92	109	18.3%
Georgia	1,330	1,410	6.0%
N. Carolina	550	694	26.1%
S. Carolina	202	225	11.2%
Virginia	83	105	26.9%
MID-SOUTH	1,920	2,283	18.9%
Arkansas	545	589	8.0%
Louisiana	255	278	8.9%
Mississippi	420	524	24.8%
Missouri	310	348	12.4%
Tennessee	390	544	39.5%
SOUTHWEST	5,886	6,585	11.9%
Kansas	51	69	34.6%
Oklahoma	285	326	14.4%
Texas	5,550	6,190	11.5%
WEST	366	465	27.0%
Arizona	195	226	15.8%
California	124	172	38.8%
New Mexico	47	67	42.5%
TOTAL UPLAND	10,769	12,263	13.9%
TOTAL ELS	204	251	23.1%
Arizona	3	4	47.2%
California	182	225	23.6%
New Mexico	3	3	28.2%
Texas	17	19	13.7%
ALL COTTON	10,973	12,514	14.0%

1/ USDA-NASS

2/ National Cotton Council

Lockout/Tagout Training

Is your operation fully in compliance with lockout/tagout? Do you perform annual certifications of your employees that perform lockout/tagout? Do you have written lockout/tagout procedures for every single piece of energized equipment in your operation including rolling stock? If not, you want to be sure to attend one of our upcoming Lockout/Tagout Training Seminars in your area. Here is the tentative schedule:

Date	Location
Wednesday, March 16	Waukena
Thursday, March 17	Wasco
Wednesday, March 30	Firebaugh
Thursday, March 31	Turlock
Thursday, April 7	Orland

Be sure to look in the mail for the registration forms and official notice coming soon!

Landmark Lawsuit Filed: Endangered Species

The Center for Biological Diversity and Pesticide Action Network North America has filed the most comprehensive legal action ever brought under the Endangered Species Act to protect endangered species from pesticides, suing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for its failure to consult with federal wildlife agencies regarding the impacts of hundreds of pesticides known to be harmful to more than 200 endangered and threatened species. The lawsuit seeks protection for 214 endangered and threatened species throughout the United States, including the Florida panther, California condor, piping plover, black-footed ferret, arroyo toad, Indiana bat, bonytail chub and Alabama sturgeon. Over 300 pesticides could be affected.

Association Receives 24c for Temik!

TEMIK® The California Cotton Growers Association has received a third-party Special Local Needs (SLN) 24c registration for Aldicarb (Temik) valid through December 31, 2014, when Temik’s registration will officially end altogether. I became effective on January 24, 2011. Most importantly, the registration allows for the current application rates of 5-7 pounds of product per acre at planting, and up to 14 pounds of product per acre for side dress applications. EPA had proposed to drop side dress application rates to 5 pounds of product per acre, which would

have rendered the chemical useless for most critical situations in California. The Association would also note that the 2014 deadline is also two years beyond what EPA originally told the Association they would allow.

Forklift Rule Update

Have you replaced or retrofitted the remaining 80% of your propane or gas fired forklifts yet. Remember, the California Air Resources Board’s (CARB) Large Spark Ignited (LSI) Regulation requires that forklifts



used in crop preparation services, including almond hullers and processors, must have 100% of their fleet in compliance with a 3.0 g NOx/bhp-hr standard by January 1, 2012 as set forth in CCR Title 13. This applies to forklifts that are 1990 or newer, and to facilities that own four or more forklifts. The regulations required 20% of the fleet to be replaced or retrofitted by January 1, 2009. If you have any questions regarding this regulation, please call our office at (559)455-9272. Do not wait until CARB shows up at your door!

Direct Access Beware

Many of you have called us regarding the option of moving to “Direct Access” for electricity. While it may appear to be great savings on the surface, we hasten to caution folks that many uncertainties remain. First, one of the critical pieces of information that seems to be left out of the communications is the application of an “exit fee”. This exit fee can eat up much of the savings proposed by moving to direct access and is applicable to any customer leaving the utility to move to direct access. Be sure to ask your direct access provider what the current exit fee is before making the switch. Second, make sure you understand that moving to direct access is only for the energy portion of the bill or the electricity commodity itself. Distribution and transmission charges (aka demand charges) still apply. These costs constitute approximately 35-45% of the total cost of electricity. The energy prices can be volatile. Make sure you know the length of your contract, as the fluctuation in natural gas prices, the implementation of AB 32 and its fees and required controls will have an impact on energy prices in the future. Also, the implementation of the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) will have a great impact on electricity suppliers, especially those that are substantially deficient in renewable

energy. This could have a huge impact on your electricity prices in the future. Additionally, switching from direct access back to bundled service can only occur at certain times, and may include additional costs, so be sure to have a good understanding of your costs and rights to move back to full PG&E service if you choose to do so in the future. So, while WAPA isn't telling its members not to move to direct access, we would urge every possible caution when considering the switch and make sure you understand all of the consequences before you do.

California Special Interest License Plate for AG!

When you show your support for California agriculture with the purchase of a special interest license plate you are investing in the next generation of our ag industry's innovators, entrepreneurs, and leaders. Your purchase directly supports youth agriculture programs that have an established record of success. Invest in your future today!

Fees Support:

- o Agricultural Education
- o Agricultural Career Awareness
- o Agricultural Career Training
- o Youth Leadership Development

To reserve your California agriculture plate today go to www.calagplate.com and follow ordering instructions. Costs range from \$50.00 to \$98.00 depending on type of plate you currently own.

DMV will only issue after 7500 paid pledges for these new plates have been received so get on board today!



CLASSING AVERAGES

February 4, 2011

Visalia Classing Office

Bales Classed	2009		2010	
CA Saw Upland	155,288		273,876	
CA Roller Upland	85,639		112,040	
Pima	CA	384,208	ALL	477,683
CA Saw Upland	2009		2010	
Mike Avg.	4.26		4.02	
Color Grade % 21+	37.2		45	
Color Grade % 31	47.7		46.4	
Color Grade % 41	12.4		5.9	
Length Avg.	37.25		37.48	
Strength Avg.	32.67		32.87	
Uniformity Avg.	81.47		81.63	
Leaf Distribution 1	3.5		5.3	
Leaf Distribution 2	40.5		55.8	
Leaf Distribution 3	49.2		34.8	
Leaf Distribution 4	5.7		3.5	
CA Roller Upland	2009		2010	
Mike Avg.	4.53		4.23	
Color Grade % 21+	40		21.3	
Color Grade % 31	48		51.4	
Color Grade % 41	6.5		17.9	
Length Avg.	39.21		39.48	
Strength Avg.	33.9		34.29	
Uniformity Avg.	83.5		83.78	
Leaf Distribution 1	0.7		1.7	
Leaf Distribution 2	67.7		57.9	
Leaf Distribution 3	30.7		35	
Leaf Distribution 4	0.8		4	
All Pima	2009		2010	
Mike Avg.	4		3.83	
Color Grade % 1	28.2		27.1	
Color Grade % 2	56.1		58.3	
Color Grade % 3	13.5		11.9	
Color Grade % 4	1.9		2.1	
Length Avg.	47.5		48	
Strength Avg.	41.23		41.62	
Uniformity Avg.	85.54		85.58	
Leaf Distribution 1	10.8		17.1	
Leaf Distribution 2	57.7		60.7	
Leaf Distribution 3	26.6		18.9	
Leaf Distribution 4	4.3		3	

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Newsletter Sponsor: **PhytoGen**

California Cotton Growers Association

Thursday, March 10, 2011

9:30am

Harris Ranch

Registration and Coffee at 9:00am

Program Starts at 9:30am

Please plan to attend!

There will be Association reports together with important industry issues discussions and updates.

A sponsored luncheon for all guests will follow program.

See you at Harris Ranch on March 10th.

Cotton-Up!

2011 Annual Meeting