



# The Cotton Chronicle

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www.ccgga.org



March 2011

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## Industry Calendar

April 5  
Pima Standards Box  
Review –  
USDA/Classing Office,  
Visalia

April 20  
Annual Ginners  
School/Managerial  
Seminar—  
Corcoran

May 5  
UCCE Cotton Work-  
group Mtg and  
CI State Support  
Committee Mtg –  
Tulare

May 31-June 3  
Ginners Annual  
Industry Meeting –  
Pismo, CA

## CCGGA Staff

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## Ginners Industry Meeting Headed Back to Pismo

The Ginners Annual Industry Meeting is headed back to the Shore Cliff Lodge and Ven-



tana Grill in Pismo Beach. The meeting is scheduled to begin on Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> with a welcome reception followed by the golf tournament on Wednesday at Avila Beach Golf Resort. The board meeting, Industry meeting, and Dinner will be held on Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending this fun and informative event at our beautiful location. We look forward to seeing you all there!

## CCGGA Hosts Legislators

At a special event in Sacramento, the **California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations** co-hosted **Assemblywoman Fiona Ma, Assemblywoman Bonnie Lowenthal, and Assemblyman Stephen Bradford** for dinner, along with the **Western Agricultural Processors Association**.

This special event conducted by the **Agribusiness Presidents Council** included 17 legislators at The Kitchen in Sacramento to bring our Associations together with key legislators for the upcoming legislative session. The Association's **Earl Williams, Roger Isom, and Casey Creamer**, along with Cotton Growers board member **Cannon Michael** and Ginners board member **Kirk Gilkey** represented the Associations at the Dinner. CCGGA's focus was on legislators from the Bay Area and Los Angeles to educate them on the issues facing the cotton industry.

## Rudig Recognized by Industry

**Jim Rudig**, the leader of the industry's Pink Bollworm Program for the last 15 years is retiring on April 1<sup>st</sup> after a distinguished career spanning 45 years with the California Department of Food and Agriculture. He received the industry's "Distinguished Service Award" at the cotton Growers Annual meeting at Harris Ranch on March 10<sup>th</sup>.



Picture above, L to R—Cannon Michael, Cotton Growers Chairman, Earl Williams, CCGGA president/CEO, Jim Rudig, Eric Baty, president Verde Energy

Jim started as a seasonal employee in 1962 working on Japanese Beetle problems in Sacramento. He started full time with CDFA in 1967 working on Pink Bollworm finds in Kern County. The mid 70's and 80's took Jim to the Los Angeles area for work on Medfly infestations where he oversaw the aerial applications as supervisor and area manager.

During his tenure with the department he has also been manager of the Oriental Fruit Fly and Mexican Fruit Fly Eradication Programs. Jim returned to the PBW program in 1996 and became program supervisor in 2000 where he is

finishing his career this month. While overseeing the PBW program, Jim has also managed the Beet Curly Top Virus Control Program as well.

Being one of the most experienced and highly recognized pest control managers in California, he's been called upon over the years and assisted in helping address problems with Tristeza Virus, Pierce's Disease, Exotic New Castle Disease and Light Brown Apple Moth. "Jim's dedication and unprecedented service to California's cotton industry as well as all of California's agriculture is recognized, greatly appreciated and will be sorely missed", stated Earl Williams, president and CEO of the California Cotton Growers and California Cotton Ginners Associations.

### Lockout/Tagout Seminars

While tragically unfortunate, the recent accidental death at a nut processing facility in California calls attention to the need for renewed emphasis on lockout/tagout programs in all of our nut handling and processing facilities.

An employee was recently killed in an accident involving an auger; allegedly because he failed to "lockout" the equipment he was working on, according to Cal/OSHA.

To assist the industry and answer that need, the **California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations** are partnering with the **Western Agricultural Processors Association** and **The Zenith** to host/conduct a series of "lockout/tagout" seminars throughout the state to train and educate employees on proper lockout/tagout procedures and require-



ments. Classes will be conducted at five (5) locations including, Wasco, Waukena, Firebaugh, Modesto and Stockton with an additional Spanish only class to be conducted at Firebaugh. Participants will learn the regulatory requirements, the basic procedures and the fine points of lockout/tagout in an agricultural processing environment. Registration is \$45 for members and \$60 for non-members up until March 9<sup>th</sup>. Registrations received after March 9<sup>th</sup> will be \$80. For details, please visit our website at [www.ccgga.org](http://www.ccgga.org) or call our office at (559)252-0684.

### 2011 Ginners School & Managerial Seminar

The California Cotton Ginners Association will be holding the 2010 Ginners School & Managerial Seminar on

Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. This year's school will be at a brand new location, the **Technology Learning Center in Corcoran**. The TLC is located at **1101 Dairy Avenue** on the South-east corner of Whitley & Dairy.



Topics for this year's Ginners Session will be Press Safety, Sprains & Strains, Welding, and the Safety Contest. In the Managers Seminar, topics covered will be OSHA Accident Reporting, Periodic Inspections, and Hot Topics in Labor Law. The day begins with registration at 7:15 with the first classes starting at 8:00 am. The day convenes at 3:30 p.m. with door prizes and the announcement of the Safety Contest winner. Cost for the event is \$80 per person and includes a catered lunch. This is also a great venue for our Associate members to showcase products and meet with the cotton ginning industry. Registration materials have been mailed. If you have not received your packet yet, please give our office a call. For more information contact Casey Creamer at (559) 255-0684 or at [casey@ccgga.org](mailto:casey@ccgga.org).

### Cotton Gin Injury Surveys Go Out

You should be receiving our annual cotton gin injury surveys for the 2010-2011 ginning season this month. Please complete and return these surveys, as this information is used for determining topics for our annual Ginners School, Association Safety Activities and efforts, as well as determining which gins will receive our "No Lost Time" Accident Awards. Timely responses are appreciated.

### Reminder – Gin Cost Surveys

We would like to remind all of our cotton gin members to complete and return their USDA Gin Cost Surveys. This information is extremely valuable to the Association as a resource for accurate and current cost information to operate gins in California as compared to other cotton gins throughout the cotton belt. Many times this information is used for our benefit in fighting onerous and burdensome regulations and legislation. If you haven't already, please complete the surveys and return them to the Association office at your earliest convenience. Your cooperation is appreciated.

### Temik Update

As previously reported the Association has received a Spe-

cial Local Needs (SLN) 24c registration for Temik (Aldicarb) for use on cotton at the current application rates of 7 pounds of product at plant, and 14 pounds of product sidress. Unfortunately, a Bayer manufacturing plant, critical in the making of Temik is currently closed due to a court order over safety concerns. Bayer has filed for an injunction to get the plant reopened with a hearing scheduled this month. To aid in that effort the National Cotton Council (NCC) and the California Cotton Growers Association have worked to get several affidavits from growers filed to state the need for the product this season and for the plant to be reopened as soon as possible. The Association is following the situation closely and will update our members as soon as we have news.

### **Heat Illness Training Scheduled**

A date has been picked for the Heat Illness Kick-off event. We've had good results for the past 2 years with no death cases attributable to heat, and we believe the tremendous outreach has helped that cause.

The date for the first training class will be **Tuesday, March 29 at CPDES Hall in Easton, 172 West Jefferson Avenue, Fresno, CA 93706. Spanish would be at 10 am, and English would take place at 1 pm.** Stay tuned to our website at [www.ccgga.org](http://www.ccgga.org) for details.



### **DPR Initiates Air Monitoring of Pesticides in 3 Counties**

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) has launched an air monitoring network in three agricultural communities to expand its knowledge of the potential health risks of long-term exposure to pesticides, DPR Director Mary-Ann Warmerdam announced today. The network was set up last month in Shafter in Kern County, Salinas in Monterey County and Ripon in San Joaquin County. "The air monitoring network is the first of its kind in the nation," Warmerdam said. "Our intent is to make more accurate estimates of health risks based on long-term exposure rather than extrapolate from short-term monitoring data to determine if additional protective measures are needed." DPR will monitor for 34 pesticides, including six fumigants and 11 organophosphates. DPR selected these pesticides based on the amount of use and their potential health risks. Shafter, Salinas and Ripon were selected from a list of 226 communities based on pesticide use on surrounding

farmland and demographics, including percentage of children, the elderly and farm workers. Depending on resources, DPR may expand the air network in the future to include more frequent sampling, more pesticides or more communities. The network is a follow-up to DPR's groundbreaking pilot projects in Parlier in Fresno County in 2006 and Lompoc in Santa Barbara County in 2000, which lasted 12 months and 10 weeks, respectively. DPR will monitor one site each in Shafter, Salinas and Ripon. One 24-hour sample will be collected from each site weekly. Data collected from Parlier demonstrated that monitoring a single location once a week provides adequate data to estimate long-term concentrations. Data collected by the network will be released annually beginning in 2012.

### **Fred Starrh Recognized for 20+ Years of Service to CFWC**

Longtime Cotton Industry Leader, **Fred Starrh** was recognized for his dedication and contribution to California

Farm Water Coalition since 1989 while serving as a director. He was among the first group of board members of the organization.

He was presented with a large-size photo

that depicts his farming operation and accomplishments of CFWC since its beginning.

"The coalition, today, has become the organization that we envisioned it needed to be when we first started it," Starrh said in accepting the award.



Fred Starrh, right, stands beside his award following a presentation by CFWC Executive Director Mike Wade.

### **Congressman Nunes Introduces "Energy Roadmap"**

Today, Rep. Devin Nunes (CA-21), Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan (WI-1), Rep. John Shimkus (IL-19), Rep. Mike Simpson (ID-02) and Rep. Rob Bishop (UT-1) introduced comprehensive energy legislation titled A Roadmap for America's Energy Future.

The bill, also known as the Energy Roadmap, seeks to replace current U.S. energy policy with comprehensive and forward thinking initiatives designed to address both the short and long-term energy needs of the United States. It is an updated version of legislation introduced by Rep.

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Nunes during the 111th Congress.

**“For too long, good paying energy jobs have been outsourced by federal policies that prioritize rationing over actual production. As a result, Americans have confronted unnecessarily high energy prices. To create jobs and to protect our long-term interests, we need to adopt an all of the above energy plan,”** said Rep. Devin Nunes.

The Energy Roadmap is a budget neutral, comprehensive national energy strategy. It delivers lower energy prices, enhanced energy security, and lasting economic growth.

**“The Energy Roadmap is a common sense all-of-the-above approach that promotes American-made energy and American jobs. It offers a bold new path that provides additional support for renewable energy, while strengthening our competitiveness and reducing our dependence on government. The Energy Roadmap will help unlock the vast potential of our natural resources, promote a responsible transition to renewable energy resources, and reduce our reliance on foreign oil,”** said Chairman Paul Ryan.

The bill increases our domestic supply of energy by lifting restrictions on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, the Outer Continental Shelf, and oil shale in the Mountain West. It also removes barriers to expanding the uses of

our nation’s extensive coal supplies to fill the tanks of American military vehicles and jets.

To reduce electricity costs and provide enough base-load energy for the expansion of hybrid and advanced electric vehicles, the Energy Roadmap will triple our nation’s nuclear energy capacity. This carbon free energy source will help us ensure 70% of the electricity generated in America is carbon emission free.

The Roadmap for America’s Energy Future acknowledges that dependence on a single fuel source, particularly a finite resource, is not in our national interest and establishes a renewable energy trust fund to spur the mass deployment of affordable alternatives. The trust fund will be financed by the revenue generated by new fossil fuel development and not the American taxpayer, a mechanism that recognizes that the development of conventional energy does not have to be inconsistent with the long-term goal of renewables.

Finally, the Energy Roadmap legislation exceeds President Barack Obama’s carbon reduction goals. However, the carbon reductions will not necessitate, as the President famously opined during his campaign for office, massive energy rate hikes on American consumers.

For more information please visit [www.nunes.house.gov](http://www.nunes.house.gov).