



# The Cotton Chronicle

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

[www.ccgga.org](http://www.ccgga.org)

March 2013

Volume 24, Issue 3

## Industry Calendar

Mar 26  
Ginners Board &  
Membership Mtg—  
Fresno

Mar 27  
Ginners School—  
Corcoran

Mar 28  
Cotton Pest Control  
Board Mtg—  
Fresno

Mar 29  
Good Friday—  
Office Closed

*(Visit web calendar  
for details)*

## CCGGA Staff

Earl P. Williams  
President / CEO  
[earl@ccgga.org](mailto:earl@ccgga.org)

Roger A. Isom  
Executive Vice President  
[roger@ccgga.org](mailto:roger@ccgga.org)

Casey D. Creamer  
Vice President  
[casey@ccgga.org](mailto:casey@ccgga.org)

Shana Colby  
Administrative Assistant  
[shana@ccgga.org](mailto:shana@ccgga.org)

## Jack G. Stone Honored

The offices of the National Cotton Council of America in recognition of a lifetime of service to the United States cotton industry honored Jack Stone with the Council's highest award, the Oscar Johnson Lifetime Achievement Award at the recent meeting in Memphis, Tennessee.

The award reads "With dedication, character and integrity, Jack G. Stone effected a profound, positive influence on the United States cotton industry, reflecting the persistence and vision of Oscar Johnson, the founder of the National Cotton Council.

Accepting the award on behalf of his father from National Cotton Council Chairman Chuck Coley was **Bill Stone**.



## Confined Spaces – Cal/OSHA -Not Finished Yet

If you have not completed your confined space program yet, you need to do so soon. Cal/OSHA has indicated that the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) that they will continue their special emphasis program on confined spaces into 2013. This effort will include more webinars and training sessions.

The special emphasis program was put into play to address a series of confined space incidents in 2011, including seven deaths. The **California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations** and **Western Agricultural Processors Association (WAPA)** got ahead of the curve on this issue conducting several training sessions throughout California in nut growing areas in 2012 in partnership with **Zenith, Jorgensen & Company** and **Cal/OSHA Consultation**. Unfortunately, confined space incidents have continued to occur, and Cal/OSHA has found numerous violations. According to information from Cal/OSHA, their inspectors conducted 75 inspections where violations were found. In those 75 inspections, 149 violations were issued with 34 of those being classified as "Serious" violations! Each operation with a confined space must have a written confined space program that identifies each confined space, and include procedures to test the atmosphere and control any and all hazards that may be present. The program must also include training. WAPA is currently working on several confined space programs for its members. If you need assistance in developing your plan or have any questions, please contact Elda Brueggemann of WAPA at (559)455-9272 or via email at [elda@agprocessors.org](mailto:elda@agprocessors.org)



## CARB Proposing Changes to Truck Regulations

The staff of the Air Resources Board has scheduled a single workshop on March 11 to discuss four different rulemakings related to heavy duty

trucks, including the Heavy-Duty GHG Regulation, Tractor-Trailer Amendments, Optional NOx Standards, and Truck Idling. This is the only workshop prior to their planned adoption by the Board in October of this year. Beyond the Greenhouse Gas Regulations for trucks, the rulemakings include:

- ◆ The staff is also proposing optional NOx emission standards for California certified 2015 and later model year engines. The staff may propose more than one optional NOx emission standard that would be below the existing 2010 model year standard.
- ◆ The staff is proposing to extend responsibility for complying with this idling regulation to the owner of the vehicle. The staff proposal would make the owner responsible for driver violations where the owner failed to provide the driver with a compliant alternative during rest periods. In addition the proposal would require California-based shippers and brokers to share responsibility for compliance with idling restrictions where they utilized the services of motor carriers that violate the regulation and then fail to settle their outstanding fines.

**Aerial Lift/Fall Protection Training Is Here!**

If you have a scissor lift, boom lift, man-lift or use a man-basket in conjunction with a forklift, your employees must be properly trained. And if you haven't signed up for the **2013 Aerial Lift and Fall Protection Training Courses**, the time is now! The dates are coming up and there is a location near you. There are two separate classes: **Aerial Lift Training** in the morning from 8:30 to

12:00, and **Fall Protection** from 1:00 to 4:30 in the afternoon. Cost for each class is \$45 per person or \$80 for both. Instructors will be from **CalOSHA Consultation, The Zenith, CCGGA, WAPA, CH Bull, and MEC**. Co-hosting the classes will be WAPA, the California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations, California Grape and Tree Fruit League, AgSafe, and the Nisei Farmers League.



**A Peak at Legislation So Far**

While there are a few days left in the legislative session to still introduce legislation, things could be much worse. There are some bad bills for the tree nut industry and agriculture in general, but many expected far worse given the current makeup of the legislature, consisting of a two-thirds majority in the Senate and Assembly for the Democrats, as well as a Democrat Governor. Here are a few of the bills the Association is currently tracking and/or involved in:

Bill	Author	Topic
AB 8	Perea	Incentive Program Reauthorization
SB 11	Pavley	Incentive Program Reauthorization
AB 10	Alejo	Minimum Wage: Annual Adjustment
AB 155	Alejo	Employment: payroll records: right to inspect
AB 284	Quirk	Energy: Road to 2050 Board
AB 304	Williams	Pesticides: toxic air contaminants: control measures
AB 793	Gray	Water Storage
AB 909	Gray	Metal Theft
SB 25	Steinberg	Agricultural Labor Relations: contract dispute resolution
SB 465	Correa	Fair Packaging and Labeling Act
SB 483	Jackson	Hazardous Materials: business and area plans
SB 497	Walters	California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: fees
SB 623	Gaines	Food Safety
SB 790	Price	Labor Standards: enforcement

These are just a few of the bills we are watching closely.

Aerial Lift and Fall Protection Training		
Date	Location	Site
March 6 <sup>th</sup>	Dinuba	<i>Wespak, Inc.</i>
March 13 <sup>th</sup>	Denair	<i>Monte Vista Farming Company</i>
March 14 <sup>th</sup>	Kerman	<i>Central Calif. Almond Growers Assn.</i>
March 19 <sup>th</sup>	Wasco	<i>Semi-Tropic</i>
April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Santa Maria	<i>Betteravia Farms</i>
April 9 <sup>th</sup>	Ripon	<i>Travaille &amp; Phippen</i>
April 18 <sup>th</sup>	King City	<i>Rava Ranches/South County Packing</i>
April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Chico	<i>Hart Farms/ North Valley Nut</i>

**CCGGA Hosts Legislators at “Kitchen Dinner” Event in Sacramento**

The California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations hosted Assemblyman Bill Quirk, Assemblywoman Toni Atkins, Assemblyman Marc Levine, Assemblyman Jim Patterson, Assemblywoman Susan Eggman, and Assemblyman Chris Holden as part of the **Annual Agricultural Presidents Council (APC) “Kitchen Dinner” Event** in Sacramento this past month. Co-hosted by the agricultural organizations that make the APC, this year’s event attracted 19 legislators including the following:

- Assembly Member Bill Quirk**
- Assembly Member Susan Talamantes Eggman**
- Assembly Member Henry Perea**
- Assembly Member Luis Alejo**
- Assembly Member Marc Levine**
- Assembly Member Jim Patterson**
- Assembly Member Chris Holden**
- Assembly Member Kristen Olsen**
- Assembly Member Bob Wieckowski**
- Assembly Member Brian Dahle**
- Assembly Member Connie Conway**
- Assembly Member Toni Atkins**
- Assembly Member Rudy Salas**
- Assembly Member Ben Hueso**
- Assembly Member Richard Bloom**
- Assembly Member Richard Pan**
- Senator Tom Berryhill**
- Senator Cathleen Galgiani**
- Senator Bob Huff**
- Senator Ricardo Lara**
- Senator Anthony Cannella**

Co-hosting the event were the **Western Agricultural Processors Association, California Citrus Mutual, California Grape and Tree Fruit League, California Rice Commission, California Strawberry Commission, Western Plant Health Association, Far West Equipment Dealers Association, American Pistachio Growers and California Agricultural Aircraft Association.** The events provide the Association and its leadership an opportunity to meet new legislators, as well as veteran ones, and educate them on the critical issues facing our industry. Attending on behalf of CCGGA included **Ginners Association Chairman Greg Gillard, Growers Association Chairman Cannon Michael, President/CEO Earl Williams, and Executive Vice President Roger Isom.** Each and every legislator received a mini cot-

**CLASSING AVERAGES**

**February 1, 2013  
Visalia Classing Office**

Bales Classed	2011	2012
CA Saw Upland	376,643	364,991
CA Roller Upland	174,270	161,267
Pima	CA 786,291	ALL 707,783
CA Saw Upland	2011	2012
Mike Avg.	4.09	4.28
Color Grade % 21+	45.1	78.2
Color Grade % 31	49.5	18.9
Color Grade % 41	4.5	0.9
Length Avg.	36.90	36.69
Strength Avg.	32.61	32.85
Uniformity Avg.	81.23	81.57
Leaf Distribution 1	8.1	11.6
Leaf Distribution 2	47.8	55.6
Leaf Distribution 3	37.3	29.4
Leaf Distribution 4	5.4	3.0
CA Roller Upland	2011	2012
Mike Avg.	4.23	4.35
Color Grade % 21+	34.1	79.1
Color Grade % 31	52.6	16.8
Color Grade % 41	8.4	0.4
Length Avg.	39.35	38.88
Strength Avg.	33.91	34.03
Uniformity Avg.	83.33	83.26
Leaf Distribution 1	7.2	9.2
Leaf Distribution 2	50.6	62.6
Leaf Distribution 3	35.3	26.2
Leaf Distribution 4	5.5	1.8
All Pima	2011	2012
Mike Avg.	3.91	4.02
Color Grade % 1	41.7	56.2
Color Grade % 2	50.1	39.3
Color Grade % 3	5.9	4.1
Color Grade % 4	1.4	0.3
Length Avg.	47.90	47.50
Strength Avg.	42.18	42.63
Uniformity Avg.	85.65	85.46
Leaf Distribution 1	23.9	29.2
Leaf Distribution 2	59.2	57.9
Leaf Distribution 3	13.9	11.7
Leaf Distribution 4	2.5	1.0

California Cotton Ginners and Growers Associations  
1785 N. Fine Avenue  
Fresno, CA 93727

PRESORTED STANDARD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
FRESNO, CA  
PERMIT NO. 2509

[www.ccgga.org](http://www.ccgga.org)

ton bale and two 100% cotton handkerchiefs as part of an overall California Agriculture gift bag.

### **ARB Does About Face on Farm Equipment Rule**

Shocking all of us who have been following this rule so closely, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) dropped their plans to adopt a farm equipment rule

this year. But the news is not all good! Based upon the tremendous response by farmers and agricultural processing operations in utilizing the incentive program funds to replace their existing tractors, loaders and harvesters, CARB indicated that the emissions reductions have met the necessary goals for time being. The initial goal contained in the State Implementation Plan (SIP) was 5 to 10 tons per day of oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emissions. This is the good news. The bad news is that ARB has also announced that they will be doing a new farm equipment rule somewhere between 2015 and 2017 and the reductions will be based on the next SIP due in 2015. This SIP will have to provide even further emis-

sion reductions necessary to achieve an even lower ozone standard. CARB has indicated the need to look at requiring full Tier 4 engine based tractors by 2032. This is the area of biggest concern and uncertainty. At least for now, there will be no rule for at least two more years.

