



The Cotton Chronicle

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June 2013

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Industry Calendar

June 12
Growers Board Mtg—
Fresno

July 30—Aug 1
CA Association of
Grower Gins—
Lake Tahoe, NV

July 4
Offices Closed

(Visit web calendar
for details)

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Gillard California's 2012 Ginner of the Year

Greg Gillard, General Manager of Olam Cotton's California Division was named the Association's 2012

"Ginner of the Year" during the organization's 41st Annual Industry meeting held recently in Pismo Beach.

Greg began his career in the cotton business in 1990 managing the cotton planting seed operation for

Producers Cotton Oil Co. and Anderson Clayton after 11 years in the cattle feedlot business. He became the Cottonseed Trader in 2000 and has since been marketing the seed from Olam's California and Arizona Ginning operations. Greg is an active participant in the cottonseed and ginning industries. He is the past President of the National Cottonseed and Feed Association, a Ginner Delegate to the National Cotton Ginners Association, Advisor to the California Cotton Growers Association, and current Chairman of the California Cotton Ginners Association. Greg is also active in the Clovis Rodeo Association and currently sits as its Vice President.

Greg was raised in Santa Barbara and attended Santa Barbara City College and transferred to Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. He graduated in

1979 with a degree in Animal Science from Cal Poly. He married his wife Sabrena the same year and together they have two daughters,

Devon and Caitlin and two grandsons, Cayden and Coltyn.

Congratulations to the 2012 recipient of the California Cotton Ginners Association's "Ginner of the Year" Award winner **Greg Gillard**.



Ginners Meet in Pismo

The California Cotton Ginners Association held their Industry Conference in Pismo from May 28th through May 30th. The meeting was a huge success with over 75 attendees that included gin managers, associate members, and industry representatives. The meeting was highlighted with special guest speakers including; **Derek Whitelock**, USDA-ARS Southwest Gin Lab; **Janet Webb**, Western Growers; **Harrison Ashley**, National Cotton Ginners Association; **Richard Kelly**, National Cotton Ginners Association.

At a dinner on the evening of the May 30th, **Greg Gillard** was honored as the Ginner of the Year. Special thanks to associate membership sponsors: **Penny-Newman Grain Co.**, **Zenith Agribusiness Solutions**, **Allenberg of California**, **Calcot, Ltd.**, **J.D. Heiskell & Co.**, **Ranchers Cotton Oil**, **Signode Packaging Systems**, **I.F.P/L.P.**

Brown Co., Langston Companies, Inc., Lummus Corporation, Mackey & Mackey Insurance, Mike Ponce Insurance Services, Stover Equipment Co., Inc., Western Cotton Shippers Association for making the event possible with their generous support!

Golf Contributors

Calcot, Ltd., Langston Companies, Inc., Lummus, Mackey & Mackey Insurance, Mike Ponce Insurance, Signode Packaging, Supima, Zenith Agribusiness Solutions

Huge Victory for Cotton Gins!

It took 12 years, but the industry has finally prevailed. For cotton gins in the Southern California Edison territory for electricity, it is now time to make the switch from the commercial/industrial electric rate tariff you've been under to the agricultural rate tariff you are now eligible for! Almost all cottons have already made the switch and in the case of most gins, the savings will be at least 30%, which in the case of typical cotton gin, it will be \$40,000! These new rates are a direct result of CCGGA's efforts to seek out competitive electricity rates for our members. Working with the Ag Energy Consumers Association (AECA), we were able to be successful in obtaining these lower rates as part of Edison's latest General Rate Case (GRC). Overall, the Association estimates that the cotton ginning industry will save approximately \$340,000 per year! Most importantly, this brings the SCE gins in line with the gins in the rest of the state.

SJVAPCD Is First to Adopt Rule to Get Credit for Incentive Programs

On June 20th, the San Joaquin Unified Air Pollution Control District (SJVUAPCD) will consider adoption of a new Rule 9610 (State Implementation Plan Credit for Emission Reductions Generated through Incentive Programs). The Rule, when adopted, will be the first such rule in the country and could set a valuable precedent for recognition of incentive-based reductions in attainment plans both in California and elsewhere. The federal Clean Air Act permits U.S. EPA to recognize emission reductions generated by incentive programs in fulfillment of a State Implementation Plan (SIP) for attaining a federal ambient air quality standard. However, EPA has been reluctant to approve such reductions due to concerns about whether or not they actually are in excess of what otherwise would have occurred voluntarily without the incentive or as a result of the normal command-and-control regula-

tory process. The incentive programs operated by the SJVAPCD are widely recognized as some of the most effective and well-run anywhere in the country. There is



approximately \$100 million annually available for incentive programs within the District. Examples of equipment that has been purchased by these funds include, but are not limited to, irrigation pump engines, diesel trucks, diesel tractors and school buses. The grants provide only a portion of the purchase price of the upgraded or new equipment with the owner being required to provide the balance. Programs such as Carl Moyer, Prop 1B and the air quality program administered through the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are examples of incentive programs that have been providing significant emissions reductions far in advance of the SJVAPCD. This will become increasingly more important as the Federal ambient air quality standards become more stringent.

Safety Programs – Enforce Them!

If you have a farm or cotton gin, you have an Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP). In addition to your IIPP, you also have your other programs such as Hazard Communication, Lockout/Tagout, Bloodborne Pathogens, Emergency Action Plan, and others. But do you have a disciplinary program? And if so, do you use it and enforce all of your safety programs? If you do not, then you do not have an effective safety program. Without enforcement, workers don't feel that they will be disciplined for taking shortcuts and bypassing necessary safety precautions. And should there be an accident you won't be able to adequately defend your safety program and reduce any potential fines. In a recent incident this past season, an employee was seriously injured while

accessing a lint cleaner during the coast down. The employee failed to lockout the equipment and failed to follow the necessary safety procedures for accessing the lint cleaner. The employee had been warned a couple of weeks prior to the accident for doing the same exact thing, but was not injured. CalOSHA investigated the accident and initially indicated they were going to issue a serious violation. When all pertinent information was submitted by the gin, including a copy of the disciplinary write-up on the employee from earlier in the year, CalOSHA reversed its position and determined that no violation actually occurred. The violation alone would have initially been as much as \$25,000. Without the written warning, the withdrawal of the violation would not have occurred. And while the accident was tragic, had the employee heeded the written warning and followed the procedures he was trained on, he would not have been injured.

Last Chance

This is the last couple of months for farms with Tier 1 diesel-fired pump engines to submit applications for incentive funding to replace these engines with new Tier 4 pump engines. The regulations governing diesel fired pump engines requires Tier 1 or Tier 2 pump engines to be replaced by January 1, 2015, or within 12 years after it is installed. And to receive incentive funding the engine must be purchased and install by January 1, 2014. While there still may be some time for Tier 2 pump engines, the funding opportunities for Tier 1 pump engines is winding down. Theoretically, to get through the entire funding process and receive the money, these applications need to be submitted to the District no later than September. So if you want to replace any Tier 1 pump engines, you need to do so now. For more information, please visit the Air District's website at http://www.valleyair.org/Grant_Programs/GrantPrograms.htm#HeavyDuty.

Irrigated Lands Moving Forward

A recent tentative ruling on the CEQA challenge to the program put the adoption of the remaining Coalition Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) on hold for potentially up to a year. The Water Board continued to hold the final workshop on for the Tulare Lake Basin even though they concurred that the adoption of the order would likely be delayed. The Board hearing that was set for June 21st in Fresno was subsequently cancelled because of the likelihood the tentative ruling would hold up. Since that time the Judge has issued his final ruling that completely re-

versed course and sided with the Regional Board that the CEQA Analysis was not perfect, but met the minimum requirements and he would not require a redo of the analysis. According to recent discussions with Regional Board staff, September has been targeted for the adoption of the Tulare Lake Basin WDR. Following the Tulare Lake Basin will be workshops and adoption of the other coalition area WDR's. The Association remains heavily involved in the development of all the WDR's and the implementation of the already adopted East San Joaquin River WDR. If you have any questions about how these WDR's will affect your individual operations, please give Casey Creamer or Roger Isom a call at (559) 252-0684.

Classing Fees Remain the Same for 2013

Greg Townsend, Director of USDA/AMS Cotton Classing office in Visalia has announced that 2013 classing fees will remain the same as 2012, \$2.15/bale if collected and paid by the gin, \$2.20/bale if paid direct.

California Association of Grower Gins (CAGG)

CAGG president Tom Pires is putting a good program together for this year's upcoming CAGG meeting in Lake Tahoe. Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 30th through Thursday August 1st at Harvey's Lake Tahoe Resort.

Meeting format will be similar to prior meetings with informative subject matters discussed during the business sessions along with plenty of time for fun and relaxation. Rooms are now available at the CAGG rates through June 29th, so don't let the time slip away. If you plan to or would like to attend and have not received a registration form, contact Tom Pires at the West Island Gin office at (559) 924-2969 or Tom direct at (559) 804-5783. Please plan to attend!



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The Association now offers First Aid/CPR Training

Cal/OSHA Title 8, Section 3400 states that “In the absence of an infirmary, clinic, or hospital, in near proximity to the workplace, which is used for the treatment of all injured employees, a person or persons shall be adequately trained to render first aid.”

Training shall be equal to that of the American Red Cross or the Mine Safety and Health Administration. In years past we have offered First Aid/CPR Training once every two years in Fresno. Now our sister organization, the Western Agricultural Processors Association (WAPA), has their **Safety Assistant Irma Ramirez**, who is a **Medic First Aid Certified** Instructor for First Aid and CPR, and is bilingual! By having our own in-house trainer, we can make it more convenient to our members throughout California by bringing the training to you at your facility. The cost of the training is \$50 per person, which covers all training materials and certification through Medic First Aid. Training can be provided for a maximum of 12 people and a minimum of 8 participants at each session. Trainings throughout California are already being scheduled. If

you are interested, please call Irma at (559)455-9272 or contact her via email at Irma@agprocessors.org.

