



The Cotton Chronicle

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

www.ccgga.org

October 2015

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Industry Calendar

Nov 17
Joint Steering &
Exec Comm.
Meeting—
Fresno

Nov 30
Grower Board
Meeting—
Fresno

Dec 7
Ginner Board
Meeting—
Fresno

(Visit web calendar
for details)

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EPA Opens Comment for Vital Organophosphates

The Environmental Protection Agency has released preliminary human health and ecological risk assessments for seven organophosphate pesticides (OPs). The seven pesticides that underwent the risk assessments include dimethoate, dicotophos (Bidrin), chlorpyrifos-methyl, tribufos (Def), terbufos, profenofos and ethoprop. Many of these products are vital for the growth and production of cotton in California. EPA retained the FQPA (Food Quality Protection Act) 10X safety factor when conducting the individual risk assessments. The current pesticides under fire are just the first in EPA's round of OPs to face public comment. Based on public comment and the risk assessments, there is a possibility that EPA will seek further mitigation or elimination of these pesticides, most of which have firm regulations. . CCGGA will submit comments on the EPA position paper on the use of the FQPA 10X safety factor as well as on the risk assessments themselves.

CCGGA Presents New Tool to Take Action!

CCGGA is excited to use GrassRoots on Call to allow members to take greater action and have a larger voice on regulatory and legislative issues. In order for it be effective we need **YOUR** help! If you have not received it already, an email from Roger Isom will appear in your inbox. Following the given instructions you will be asked to input your contact information and the company you associate with. Once this one-time step is completed, the hard-part is over! From there,



when issues require comment or the Associations' support/opposition you will receive a recorded call from Roger asking if you would like to join the association in our support/opposition of an issue. If you choose to join us, you simply press "1" for yes and the CCGGA staff and GrassRoots on Call will write a letter on your behalf, inputting your personal contact information and even your company letterhead. This creates a successful "power in numbers approach," however, this cannot work unless we have your participation! If you do not receive the email and you would like the Association to add you to the participatory list, call Jodi Raley at (559) 252-0684.

Major Revisions to Agricultural Worker Protection Standards

The Environmental Protection Agency has revised the 1992 Agricultural Worker Protection Standard regulation in an effort to reduce risks of injury and illness for agricultural workers and pesticide handlers who use and come into contact with pesticides or pesticide treated plants on farms, forests, nurseries and greenhouse. Most rules will take into effect 14 months after the revisions are posted to the Federal Registrar, unless otherwise noted.

The following are new provisions:

- Training must be conducted annually to inform of required protections, with no grace period for training
- Trainers of workers must meet levels of certification & complete EPA approved train-the-trainer course
- Training topics expanded for workers and handlers. New training content is not required until 2 years



from effective date of final rule

- Records of training must be kept for 2 years and a copy given to employees upon their request. Safety data sheets (SDSs) and application information must also be kept for 2 years.
- SDS and application information must be displayed at a central location within 24 hours of end of application and before workers enter treated. Both need to be displayed 30 days after REI expires
- Post warning signs if REI is greater than 48 hours for an outdoor application of 4 hours for enclosed space application
- Handlers and early-entry workers must be at least 18 years old (Members of owner's immediate family are exempt)
- For outdoor production, no entry is allowed into treated area or the application exclusion zone (area up to 100 ft around the application equipment) during applications
- Handlers must apply pesticides so as not to contact anyone, application must be suspended if anyone enters application exclusion zone
- Pesticide safety information must be posted at a central location as well as where decontamination supplies are located
- Personal protective equipment consistent with Department of Labor's OSHA standards
- Anti-retaliation provisions comparable to Department of Labor
- Must provide water for workers, handlers and early entry workers for decontamination
- Eye-wash stations must meet specific standards for amount of water and rate of flow
- Immediate family is expanded to also include in-laws, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and first cousins

Sustainable Freight Strategy Near-Term Actions

When Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-32-15 on July 17, 2015, it directed several state agencies and departments to improve freight efficiency, transition to zero-emission technologies and increase the competitiveness of California's freight system. This integrated action plans



calls for action and implementation as early as 2015 to begin transitioning trucks, forklifts, freight hubs and locomotives to zero or near-zero emission technology.

Among the 18 near-term actions lined out by the Air Resources Board in the "Sustainable Freight Pathways to Zero and Near-Zero Emissions Discussion Document," include a few that would have a profound impact on agriculture industry members. ARB intends to take action this year to petition to US EPA to develop a lower NOx standard for heavy-duty truck engines for rulemaking in 2018. California heavy duty trucks are currently undergoing the first year of transition of the previous truck rule with pre-1994 heavy duty trucks to be replaced this year. If the US

EPA is unable to proceed, ARB aims to develop and propose California-specific standards above the national standard in 2018. Another item in the Sustainable Freight Strategy near-term action items applies to all sectors or freight hubs. A sector or freight hub includes seaports, airports, rail yards, warehouse and distribution centers and truck stops. ARB would collect data such as facility location, equipment, activity and proximity to sensitive receptors. This data would be used to identify facility-based or sector-specific action to reduce emissions and improve efficiency. In addition this data would be used to support a future facility emissions cap. Lastly, ARB would like to implement in 2020 the Large Spark-Ignition (LSI) rule. Off-road LSI engines are most commonly fork lifts, scrubbers, sweepers, portable generators, welders along with a wide array of agricultural or industrial equipment fueled by gasoline, propane or compressed natural gas. The LSI rule would call for reporting and labeling requirements as early as 2016 followed by the expanded deployment of zero-emission technologies into the LSI fleets.

SJVAPCD Accepting Prop 1B Funding Applications

The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District (SJVAPCD) is now accepting applications for Prop 1B funding, which is aimed at reducing emissions. Prop 1B: Goods Movement Emissions Reductions is a program aimed at providing funding for applicants that want to replace individual trucks or fleets of vehicles, refrigerator trucks, or simply trade up in engine tier for cleaner technology installed vehicles. There are several types of transactions that can be utilized from the Air District. Applicants can submit funding requests for the truck replacement program, repower, 3-way transactions, and Diesel TRU Replacement.

The amount of funding available is dependent on the type of program that is being applied for. Small fleet funding is available up to \$60,000 for 2011 or newer diesel and alternative fuel compliance, whereas large fleet funding is available for up to \$200,000 for 2015 or newer advanced technology, natural gas, and low-NOx equipment. Eligibility for the programs depend on the types of trucks that applicants wish to upgrade. Class 6 – 8 trucks are acceptable, model year 2009 or older, the vehicle must be involved in the movement of goods through designated Trade Corridors, vehicles must have operated at least 75% in California for the past 2 years (at least 10% of that must have been within SJVAPCD boundaries), the vehicles are required to have been DMV registered for 2 years minimum, applicants must have mileage documentation to verify the miles traveled and the mileage minimum is de-

pendent of the class of vehicles. TRU eligibility is similar in that the vehicles must have operated in Goods Movement services for the past 2 years. Trucks and trailers must be equipped with a diesel TRU. This is the last opportunity to apply and receive Prop 1B funding. In order to meet California's Truck and Bus Regulation requirements for smaller fleets, Prop 1B funded trucks must be operational by December 31, 2016. If you are interested in applying for funding, please submit your applications at www.valleyair.org. The deadline for applying is the end of the business day on November 20th, 2015.

Breakfast IPM and Regulatory Update

Focusing on West Side Cotton and Almond Production

Tuesday, October 13, 2015

8:00 AM – Noon

Deiner Hall—West Side Field Station
17353 W. Oakland Ave., Five Points, CA

Breakfast Burritos, Coffee and Registration at 8 AM

8:30 AM—Welcome and Introductions

Dan Munk, UCCE Farm Advisor

8:45 AM—• Chlorpyrifos Project Overview & Crop Team Process

• Definition of Critical Uses of Chlorpyrifos

Peter B. Goodell and Lori Berger, UC Statewide IPM Program

9:05 AM—• New Decision Support Tools for Cotton and Almonds • Hands-on Training

Peter B. Goodell, UC Statewide IPM Program

9:30 AM—• Cotton and Almond Pest Update, TBA

10:00 AM—• Ant Management in Central CA

Kris Tollerup, UC IPM

10:30 AM—**BREAK**

10:45 AM—• Science Behind New Regulations

• Required Mitigation

Randy Segawa, CDPR

11:00 AM—• Local Restrictions on Chlorpyrifos

Bill Griffin, Fresno Cty Ag Comm. Office

11:10 AM—• Focused IPM and Stewardship Opportunities

Doug Downie, CDPR

11:20 AM—• Best Management Practices,

Joe Williams, NRCS

11:30 AM—• Local on-Farm Stewardship

• Impact of Regulations on IPM Decisions

Local PCAs and Growers - Panel

11:55 AM—Closing Comments

UCCE and UC Statewide IPM Program

Meeting Adjourns at Noon

bert, Kirk Gilkey, and Ron Nimmo. Nomination Forms together with a Candidates Statement Form have been mailed to all of our gin members. **Remember a Candidate's Statement Form must be completed for each nomination**, so please copy the Candidate's Statement Form if you nominate more than one candidate. Make sure all the forms are filed before **Friday, November 13th, 2015.**

It's Also Election Time for Fresno and Merced County Growers

For Fresno and Merced County Cotton Growers, election time is here! Seven (7) of the eighteen elected Board of Directors of the California Cotton Growers Association are to be nominated and elected by the cotton grower members of their respective counties this year. The Directors whose terms expire this year are:



Fresno County

Andrew Clark

Vince Marshall

Gary Martin

Mark McKean

Bob Wilson

Merced County

Robert McDonald

Cannon Michael

To be nominated, a petitioner must be a current dues paying member of the California Cotton Growers Association, and must have the signatures of ten (10) current dues paying members of this Association. **Also, the petitioner must be a cotton grower in the county in which he or she is attempting to qualify as a candidate in this election.** The petition must be returned to California Cotton Growers Association office, at 1785 N. Fine Ave., Fresno, CA 93727, on or postmarked by **Friday, November 13th, 2015** for the nominee's name to appear on the Ballot. If enough nominations are received to have a ballot election, ballots listing the candidates will be mailed to you for your vote on December 1st, 2015.

EPA Tightens Ozone Standard

Citing "extensive scientific evidence on effects that ground-level ozone pollution, or smog, has on public health and welfare" the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has strengthened the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ground-level ozone to 70 parts per billion (ppb) down from 75 ppb! What does this mean for California? Good question. Much of the state has not even written the plan on trying to meet the 75 ppb, because the current requirements are for the 84 ppb stand-

It's Election Time Again

For the California Cotton Ginners Association, it's Director elections time again! There are 5 sitting directors' terms expiring this year. Current directors whose regular 3-year terms are expiring this year are: **Mike Davis, Wayne Gil-**

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ard adopted under the Clinton Administration. To put it in perspective, the San Joaquin Valley just had their cleanest summer on record for ozone, and still exceeded the 84 ppb standard on 75 days. In fact, substantial progress has been made in reducing ground-level ozone. Nationally, from 1980 to 2014, average ozone levels have fallen 33 percent, and the San Joaquin Valley has reduced the number of exceedances of the 84 ppb standard by 54% just since 1996! Depending on the severity of their ozone problem, areas would have until between 2020 and 2037 to meet the standards. In the San Joaquin Valley it will be 2037, and many doubt that this standard is achievable in the San Joaquin Valley, including EPA who stated the technology does not yet exist for the San Joaquin Valley to get into attainment! To take it one step further, the San Joaquin Valley has indicated that this new standard could not be met, even if you took every car, truck and tractor off the road! Nonetheless, EPA has adopted a new standard, and failure to meet the standard will result in penalties on businesses. What that means is that the current truck rule and the potential

tractor rule will not be enough to get into attainment and businesses in the San Joaquin Valley will pay penalties as a result...

