



Riverside County

# AGRICULTURE

The official publication of Riverside County Farm Bureau, Inc.  
A private, nonprofit organization serving farmers throughout Riverside County since 1917

## Legislative Updates

The Legislature has officially recessed for the 2017-2018 session, they heard and approved or held hundreds of proposals. Those bills that successfully passed both houses have been ordered to be prepared for review by Governor Brown. The Governor has until September 30th to sign or veto proposed bills. Unless the bill has an urgency clause, the new laws will be effective January 1st, 2019. Below are just few impacting agriculture...

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) recently held workshops to gather input on its Funding Agricultural Replacement Measures for Emission Reductions (FARMER) Program. The FARMER Program has received \$267 million to fund the replacement of diesel agricultural vehicles and equipment. The public meetings gathered comments on the following project categories: heavy-duty agricultural trucks, large agricultural equipment, and agricultural utility terrain vehicles. Of note to Farm Bureau members is the opportunity for incentives to replace agricultural trucks. The program will fund up to 65 percent of replacement cost with a new or used truck in compliance with CARB's Truck and Bus Regulation. If members have trucks that were compliant with the Truck and Bus Regulation and need to replace those trucks to remain in compliance they should apply as soon as possible. This is because the court order has not yet taken effect, which takes trucks being driven between 1,001 and 5,000 miles annually out of compliance with the rule.

Farm Bureau has lead a large coalition of agricultural organizations in opposition to AB 2447 (Eloise Gomez Reyes, D-Grand Terrace), which would expand the noticing and scoping requirements for projects seeking CEQA compliance in areas zoned industrial as of August 1, 2018. While Farm Bureau is supportive of increasing the transparency of projects for disadvantaged communities, this bill would adversely impact food processing facilities, packing houses and other agricultural-based industries within these zones. It passed the Assembly on a 42-30 vote and is on to the Governor for consideration, Farm Bureau is encouraging a veto.

The California Department of Pesticide Regulation has begun accepting public comment on a proposal to designate chlorpyrifos as a toxic air contaminant, which would lead to further restricted use in California. Comments will be accepted for the next 45 days. DPR will host a public hearing on November 8th at 2pm at the California Environmental Protection Agency (1001 I Street, Sacramento) in the Sierra Hearing Room, Farm Bureau will be submitting a public comment.

**Agriculture** - AB 1165 (Anna Caballero, D-Salinas) would establish the Agricultural Sustainability Council, consisting of representatives from CDFA, the State Board of Food and Agriculture, Natural Resources, EPA, DWR, the State Water Board, ARB and DPR, to plan for regulatory alignments that would assist growers in regulatory compliance and reduce costs for the agricultural industry.

**Cannabis** - Governor Brown has signed a bevy of cannabis bills relevant to local jurisdictions responsible for enforcing the Medical and Adult Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act, including AB 2164 (Ken Cooley, D-Rancho Cordova). This bill will allow locals to impose penalties for violations of building, plumbing, electrical or other structural, health and safety or zoning violations by illegal cannabis cultivators.

**Energy** - SB 1131 (Robert M. Hertzberg, D-Van Nuys) was signed by the Governor. This bill will clarify eligibility and the standard of review for energy efficiency improvements in the agricultural and industrial sectors. SB 1131 provides greater transparency and clear timelines for the industrial, agricultural and large commercial **CONT. ON PAGE 4.....**

### Inside this Issue...

EMWD Warns of Potential Scams .....	2
CDFA: 2019 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program.....	4
About Grade 2 Avocados .....	5
Value of the YF&R Program.....	6
Calendar .....	8

## **Board of Directors**

### ***President***

Richard A. Schmid, Jr.

### ***Vice Presidents***

Ellen Lloyd Trover

Andy Wilson

Paul Cramer

### ***2012 Past President***

Grant Chaffin

### ***Directors***

Linden Anderson

Celeste Alonzo

Stephen J. Corona

Andy Domenigoni

Cindy Domenigoni

Ben Drake

John C. Gless

Dan Hollingsworth

Joyce Jong

Brad Scott

Greg Young

Adrian Zendejas

### ***Treasurer***

Anton Schmidt

### ***Executive Director***

### ***Corporate Secretary***

Rachael Johnson

### ***Office Manager***

Stephanie Bell

For advertising information,

Telephone (951)684-6732

Toll-free (888)383-5684

or Fax (951)782-0621.

Visit [www.RiversideCFB.com](http://www.RiversideCFB.com)

(USPS 466-900) Published monthly by Riverside County Farm Bureau, Inc., a non-profit organization serving farmers and ranchers at 21160 Box Springs Road, #102, Moreno Valley, California 92557, Telephone 951/684-6732 or Fax 951/782-0621. Subscriptions: \$1 per year of membership dues. Periodicals postage paid at Riverside, California 92507, under act of March 3, 1887. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to RIVERSIDE COUNTY FARM BUREAU, 21160 Box Springs Rd., #102, Moreno Valley, CA 92557.

Riverside County Farm Bureau assumes no responsibility for statements by advertisers or for products advertised in "Riverside County Agriculture," nor for statements or expressions of opinion other than in editorials or articles showing authorship by an officer, director or employee of Riverside County Farm Bureau.

Printed by Layton Printing, La Verne, California.

## **Welcome New Members**

**We would like to "Thank You" for becoming part of the Farm Bureau Family.**

## **EMWD Warns About Potential Scams**

Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) encourages its customers to be aware of potential scams from companies promoting water quality testing or selling unnecessary water treatment systems.



fraud alert

Private companies often leave door hangers or mailers that are vague in nature and ask for customer information and a sample of the users' water from inside their home. These business practices are done with the hope of luring customers into purchasing expensive and unnecessary equipment to "solve" an issue that may not exist. These companies often make false claims, use deceptive sales pitches and other scare tactics.

The language on materials provided by these companies may include references to "the district" or "the water company" – wording that some customers may mistake for EMWD.

These organizations are not affiliated with or endorsed by EMWD, which urges customers to be cautious when approached by private companies. EMWD encourages its customers to do their due diligence when approached by any company offering these types of services.

EMWD conducts more than 40,000 water quality tests each year to ensure it is in compliance with state and federal drinking water standards. Each year, EMWD publishes its annual Consumer Confidence Report, which provides science-based data of the drinking water quality throughout its service area.

*Eastern Municipal Water District is the water, wastewater service and recycled water provider to approximately 816,000 people living and working within a 555-square mile service area in western Riverside County. It is California's sixth-largest retail water agency and its mission is "To deliver value to our customers and the communities we serve by providing safe, reliable, economical and environmentally sustainable water, wastewater and recycled water services." More information can be found at [www.emwd.org](http://www.emwd.org).*

Riverside County Farm Bureau cordially invites you to celebrate our

101<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL

# Dinner Meeting

Saturday, November 10, 2018

4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Coachella Valley History Museum  
82616 Miles Avenue, Indio 92201

Bring the whole family for an afternoon of fun

\$35.00  
per person

(children under 12 free)

Special Guest Speaker  
California Farm Bureau Federation President  
Jamie Johansson

For reservations, please call  
Riverside County Farm Bureau at (951) 684-6732 by November 2, 2018

Grown in CDFA/USDA  
approved structures for  
shipment anywhere.

Ellepot paper pots for  
easy planting and  
superior roots.

Palletized trees for  
simple delivery.

Select varieties still  
available for 2019  
delivery.

Still time to place  
2019 and 2020  
orders.

Avocado trees still  
available for 2019.

GLESS  
RANCH  
Nursery



SERVING THE INDUSTRY  
SINCE 1954



Formerly Young's Nursery

www.Youngs-Nursery.com | Office: 760.397.4104

Brian: 760.275.1894 | Nursery@glessranch.com

## The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) is now accepting proposals for the 2019 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP).

Each year, CDFA conducts a two-phase competitive solicitation process to award funds to projects that solely enhance the competitiveness of California specialty crops. Specialty crops include fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops (including floriculture). Review the 2019 Request for Concept Proposals for detailed application instructions.

Phase I of the process begins with the submission of concept proposals, which undergo both an administrative review and a technical review. Successful applicants will be invited to submit a detailed grant proposal in Phase II of the process.

Grant awards will range from \$50,000 to \$450,000 per project and projects may last for up to two years and six months. Non-profit and for-profit organizations; local, state, federal, and tribal government entities; and public and private colleges and universities are eligible to apply. All applicants must register online with the Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST), <https://faast.waterboards.ca.gov>, to apply. **Concept proposals must be submitted electronically using FAAST by Friday, November 2, 2018, at 5 pm PST.**

CDFA will conduct four workshops and two webinars, all featuring an overview of the program, a review of the concept proposal questions, a live demonstration of the online application system, and more. Visit CDFA's SCBGP website, [www.cdfa.ca.gov/grants](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/grants), for full details.

Workshops and webinars will be held at these locations on the following dates:

**Merced Workshop:** Tuesday, October 9, 2018 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

**Sonoma Workshop:** Wednesday, October 10, 2018 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

**Webinar 1:** Thursday, October 11, 2018 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

**Los Angeles Workshop:** Tuesday, October 16, 2018 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

**Webinar 2:** Wednesday, October 17, 2018 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

**Sacramento Workshop:** Thursday, October 18, 2018 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

All prospective SCBGP applicants are encouraged to participate. There is no cost to attend; however, space is limited and CDFA requests that attendees register in advance. To register, [email grants@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:grants@cdfa.ca.gov) with your name and contact information, the workshop/webinar you would like to attend, and the number of seats required. Further details will be provided with confirmation of registration.

Prospective applicants may contact CDFA's Office of Grants Administration at (916) 657-3231 or [grants@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:grants@cdfa.ca.gov) for additional information.

---

.....**CONT. FROM FRONT PAGE.** sector energy efficiency programs. It will require: (1) energy efficiency projects be measured against publicly-available guidelines and according to specific timelines; and (2) requests for information, rejections, and suggested modifications be provided in writing, with accompanying explanations and according to specific timelines.

**Marketing** - Governor Brown has signed SB 946 (Ricardo Lara, D-Bell Gardens) into law, which will authorize a local jurisdiction to adopt a sidewalk vending policy dictating time, manner and health and safety considerations. Farm Bureau was successful in amending the bill to allow local jurisdictions to restrict sidewalk vending within proximity of a certified farmers' market.

**Nutrition** - Several bills for consideration by Governor Brown may offer school children greater opportunity to access healthier food at California schools. Under AB 2271 (Sharon Quirk-Silva, D-Orange County), California schools could increase their purchases of kitchen equipment to allow for greater school lunches with a \$100,000 State match, if federal funds are offered to the State Department of Education. Likewise, under AB 2360 (Freddie Rodriguez, D-Pomona), the Departments of Education, Public Health and Food and Agriculture will work jointly to develop best practices for schools and food banks to increase student access to fresh produce. Finally, AB 3043 (Marc Berman, D-Silicon Valley) would allow school districts, county offices of education and private schools to participate in universal breakfast programs to provide early meals to low-income eligible students.

**Pollinators** - AB 2468 (Joaquin Arambula, D-Fresno), a bill which amends notification and registration requirements for apiarists importing or moving hives in California and specifies any failure is unlawful, with enforcement by County Agricultural Commissioners, has been signed by the Governor.

# Imperfect fruit is as good as Grade 1 avocados at Index Fresh

What's on the inside matters more than an 'imperfect' exterior

California-based avocado marketer, Index Fresh is talking about those less than perfect avocados. The 'So Good – Grade 2 Avocado' brand has a few blemishes on the outside, but taste just as good as a Grade 1 avocado.

Videolink: <https://vimeo.com/282930834>, also available on our YouTube Channel (<https://youtu.be/n-3DNJG93Ww>).



**JOHN DYMTRIW**

In this video, Index Fresh shares the importance of incorporating 'So Good – Grade 2 Avocados' in the sales programs for Retailers, Foodservice and other customers. "These avocados are great to cook with. They can be included in delicious recipes that will wow even the savviest of avocado enthusiasts," said John Dymtriw, Director of Sales and Marketing at Index Fresh.

There are a lot of reasons why an avocado may be deemed 'imperfect' and marked as Grade 2 fruit. An avocado with sun damage or other scarring on its skin doesn't always mean blemishes or brown spots on the inside.

"The inside of an imperfect avocado will be the same as the inside of a fruit you buy at the grocery store," said Bailey Diioia, Ventura Field Representative for Index Fresh.

For Index Fresh, Grade 2 avocados are as precious as any other. So, these are marketed to the food service sector keeping in mind that what's on the inside matters the most. After the bins from the fields arrive at an Index Fresh facility, the team sorts through them and hand-grades the avocados before packing them up for customers.

The avocado company partnered with Vevian Vozmediano (@VevianVoz), Personal Chef and Lifestyle Coach, for easy and delicious recipes using the 'less than perfect' fruit. "Imperfect fruit is actually perfect for so many recipes and the mango salad with avocado dressing is an excellent example of how we can use these avocados," she said. For this exciting summer recipe, visit [www.indexfresh.com/recipes](http://www.indexfresh.com/recipes).

## ABOUT INDEX FRESH

*Index Fresh is a worldwide marketer of avocados, sourcing from all major growing regions around the globe, including California, Mexico, Peru, and Chile. Through its dedication to quality, consistency, and innovation, Index Fresh continues to be a leader in the industry. Over the years the company has earned its reputation for quality and integrity with an unwavering commitment to honesty, hard work, and providing outstanding results to their partners — growers and trade alike.*

*Headquartered in California, the company has facilities spread across Texas, Pennsylvania, Iowa, Ohio, Colorado, and Illinois. Early this year, Index Fresh also started operations at its new packing, bagging, and ripening facility in Pharr, TX.*



## AG IS OUR MIDDLE NAME

Money for agriculture. It's what we know. It's all we do.

**Call 800.800.4865 today or visit [AgLoan.com](http://AgLoan.com)**

A part of the Farm Credit System. Equal Opportunity Lender.

## Farm Bureau President Shows Value of Young Farmer/Rancher Program

### First-generation farmer learned the ropes thanks in part to Farm Credit support

Bringing new farmers and ranchers into agriculture and helping them succeed is an important priority in California and across the nation. As in many fields, the average age of farmers is rising. In fact, the most recent U.S. Census of Agriculture showed that the average principal farm owner in 2012 was 58.3 years old, up from just 50.5 years in 1982.

That's where the California Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers and Ranchers program comes in. The program develops leadership skills and networking opportunities for people between the ages of 18 and 35 in a wide range of agricultural-related occupations.

And providing strong support to the program is the Farm Credit Alliance, consisting of Farm Credit associations in California and CoBank, a national cooperative bank and member of the Farm Credit System. Since 2008, Farm Credit has provided \$316,000 to help fund Young Farmer and Rancher conferences and events along with the CFBF Annual Meeting.



A perfect example of the program's value is Jamie Johansson, who was elected California Farm Bureau president in 2017. An olive grower and olive oil processor in Butte County, Johansson is a first-generation farmer who said he owes his success in large part to the YFR program.

Johansson started Lodestar Farms in 1993 when his parents moved from Humboldt County to Oroville to build a home. The 20-acre parcel had mature olive trees from the area's past as a prime olive-growing region, and so the young man said, "Let's give farming a shot."

"I needed a mentorship opportunity, and through YFR I met other people and was able to get advice from my peers," Johansson said. "It helped me realize there was a place in agriculture for everyone and it's a great way to create more farming families."

In the years since becoming a farmer, he has helped lead the rebirth of California's olive oil industry and now farms 80 acres to produce award-winning oils.

Leili Ghazi, president of CoBank's Western Region Agribusiness Banking Group, said Johansson's story demonstrates how important the YFR program is and why Farm Credit has supported it so strongly.

"Helping to encourage and nurture new generations of farmers and ranchers is an important priority for Farm Credit. California helps feed the nation and indeed the world, and it's vital that we keep our farms operating and prosperous for decades to come," Ghazi said.

"The information that younger farmers learn at the Annual Meeting, the YFR Leadership Conference, and their Discussion Meet contests is invaluable, and Farm Credit is pleased to play an important role in keeping these events happening."

Johansson explained that a Discussion Meet is not structured as a debate, but rather as farmers talking with each other at a coffee shop. By learning to hear others' perspectives and discuss important topics with an open mind, the competitions build leadership skills and mold farmers into better spokespeople for agriculture.

**About Farm Credit:** American Ag Credit, Farm Credit West, CoBank, Fresno-Madera Farm Credit, Golden State Farm Credit, Colusa-Glenn Farm Credit and Yosemite Farm Credit are cooperatively owned lending institutions providing agriculture and rural America with a dependable source of credit. We specialize in financing farmers, ranchers, farmer-owned cooperatives, rural utilities and agribusinesses. Farm Credit offers a broad range of loan products and financial services, including long-term real estate loans, operating lines of credit, equipment and facility loans, cash management and appraisal and leasing services...everything a "growing" business needs. For more information, visit [www.farm-creditalliance.com](http://www.farm-creditalliance.com)

#### **About the California Farm Bureau Federation:**

The California Farm Bureau Federation works to protect family farms and ranches on behalf of nearly 40,000 members statewide and as part of a nationwide network of more than 5.5 million Farm Bureau members.

# grown by locals



Grower-owned  
Index Fresh has been  
investing in growers  
for over a century,  
and through good times  
and challenging times,  
good continues to grow  
from those relationships.

800-352-6931

[IndexFresh.com](http://IndexFresh.com)





# Food and Farm News

Courtesy of CFBF

## *Coalition seeks new federal urban-agriculture program*

Pointing out the unique needs of farmers in urban and suburban regions, a coalition of agricultural and urban groups has urged Congress to include new urban-agriculture initiatives in the 2018 Farm Bill. A conference committee has been working to finalize the new farm-policy bill. Supporters of a proposed federal Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production say it could help foster food production in ways that would benefit cities and rural areas alike.

## *Solar heat protects crops from pests*

Hot weather in California's desert farming regions gives farmers a good opportunity to kill pests and weeds, by heating the soil. Farmers use soil solarization: spreading clear plastic tarps over fields that will be planted with crops later in the year. The tarps heat the ground and kill soil-borne pathogens, insects and many weed seeds. Farm advisors say placing the plastic sheets on the soil for four to six weeks appears effective.

## *Grapevine research pursues disease resistance*

If a grapevine comes down with the malady known as Pierce's disease, a farmer's only remedy is to remove the vine. But University of California researchers want to change that. Plant scientists at UC Davis say they are learning more about why certain grapevine varieties may be more or less susceptible to the bacterium that causes the plant disease. The ultimate goal is to breed grape varieties that will resist Pierce's disease.

***"Farm Bureau Working for You"***

**FRITTS FORD**  
**HERE FOR YOU THEN**  
**HERE FOR YOU NOW**

**951/ 353-8800**  
**WWW.FRITTSFLEET.COM**

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ✧ Oct. 6th - 14th - Southern California Fair, Perris Fairgrounds, Perris.
- ✧ Oct. 10th - RCFB Board of Director meeting starting at 5:30 p.m., Russo's Italian Kitchen in Banning.
- ✧ Oct. 13th - Jr. Livestock Auction, 10:30 a.m. at Southern California Fair, Perris Fairgrounds, Perris.
- ✧ Oct. 18th - State of the EMWD District, 7:30 a.m. at 2270 Trumble Rd., Perris. RSVP no later than Friday, Oct. 5th, (951) 928-3777, ext. 3430.

## *UC researchers learn how plants attract helpful microbes*

Recruiting is important for businesses, for college sports teams—and also for plants. Recruiting the right microbes can help plants grow, and researchers at the University of California, Riverside, said Tuesday they have learned more about that process. Looking at pea plants, the scientists determined that genetic variations among plants help them attract beneficial microbes. That information could help plant breeders develop plant varieties that naturally grow faster.

**Perdue Russell Matthies & Fusco**  
**Real Estate Appraisal**

**Real Estate Appraisals**  
**for**  
**Commercial, Residential**  
**&**  
**Agricultural**

**Robert Shea Perdue, MAI**  
**Richard T. Russell**  
**Colleen E. Matthies, MAI**  
**Brenda H. Fusco, MAI**

**41881 5th Street**  
**Temecula, CA 92590**  
**951/ 694-6904**