

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020



CALIFORNIA
FRESH FRUIT
ASSOCIATION

“To fulfill the needs of its membership while serving as the primary public policy organization advocating on behalf of fresh fruit growers and shippers in California.”

California Fresh Fruit Association Mission Statement

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is with pride that I report that the role of your Association remains just as important today, as it was 84 years ago: To serve as the primary public policy advocate for the fresh fruit growers and shippers of California. It probably goes without saying, but 2019 truly was a year of transition for the California Fresh Fruit Association (CFFA). But as I reflect on the year, I am proud to say that we have weathered the storm, righted our ship, rebuilt our crew and set a path which we are determined to follow.

Let me pause there for one moment, as I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge my sincere appreciation to our leadership and membership for the opportunity to serve as President of the California Fresh Fruit Association. Nearly five and a half years ago, I sat in Barry Bedwell's office, discussing my interest in joining the Association team. Through my own interactions with Barry, I had observed the strength of the industry's collective, admired the longstanding history of its member companies, and deeply respected the members who had invested their time, talents and treasures creating an entity that spoke as one voice for the California fresh fruit industry. I saw a place that I wanted the opportunity to be a part of, to build my career at and hopefully, have the opportunity to lead someday. Those five and a half years have flown by and I stand here today more thankful, determined and invigorated to make a positive lasting impact for our industry.



Ian LeMay
CFFA President

As we look back at the last year for CFFA, we see that the top priorities for our membership continued to be oriented around three key topics: Labor, Water and Trade.

On labor, CFFA continued to impress upon our elected representatives that Congressional action is needed to ensure a long-term solution toward addressing labor security for the agriculture sector. The Association was pleased to join our industry peers and members of Congress in supporting the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, which passed the House of Representatives with an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote and now waits to be heard in the Senate. With regards to the California State Legislature, CFFA continues push back against biased rulemaking and legislative attempts to tilt the balance against the employer while ignoring the will of the employee.

As it seems like every year, water policy continued to be a top priority for CFFA. In California, the need for long-term water certainty remains the utmost importance for sustaining a viable agriculture economy. CFFA continued to press federal representatives and state representatives working on the biological opinion re-consultation efforts, voluntary agreements and infrastructure improvement efforts that meaningful progress was needed.

CFFA also worked with leaders in water to prepare the industry for the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, which will be fully implemented in 2020. Throughout the agriculture industry, significant concern remains over how the Act would be governed by the State.



Finally, the importance of trade remained front and center throughout the 2019 season. CFFA was supportive of the Trump Administration's efforts to pass the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), understanding that for many of the commodities we represent, Mexico and Canada remain the number one and two export markets. CFFA Staff also remained engaged with the Administration on the ongoing China Trade Dispute. We were pleased to see both the U.S. Government and the Chinese Government finally come to an agreement over the Phase One Deal and

appreciated the opportunity for our Chairman, Randy Giumarra, to be invited to the White House to witness the signing of the agreement. We now hope and continue to work with the Administration to ensure that China lives up to their purchasing agreements.

Let me close with a few personal acknowledgements. First to our outgoing Chairman Randy Giumarra, thank you for believing in me and my abilities. For exemplifying leadership in troubled times. For your commitment to our industry, its history and its vibrant future. For all the phone calls, emails, last minute flights to Washington D.C., lunches to talk, and all the unsaid things that you probably are glad to pass on to Kevin as our next Chairman. Thank you for being the leader we needed at this important time. Next, to our staff: Courtney, Caroline, Adam, Allyson, Mary and Perla. If I have said it once, I have said it a million times. We are a team; we are this industry's team. Thank you for repeatedly rising to the occasion, for buying into a vision and committing yourself to an industry that is worth fighting for. It is a privilege to work with each of you. And finally, to my wife Molly. For all the challenges and transitions that the Association went through this past year, the LeMay Family might have equaled them in our own personal life. Thank you for being by my side through all of it. And to our entire membership, thank you for your continued support and dedication to the Association. The work, the fight and the progress continues.

CFFA LEADERSHIP

Robert O. Bianco

Anthony Vineyards, Inc.

Steve Biswell

Fresh Farms

Nicholas Bozick

R. Bagdasarian, Inc.

Martin Britz

Sunwest Fruit Company, Inc.

Jack Campbell

Delano Farms

Kirk Cerniglia

Royal Madera Vineyards

Bill Chandler

Chandler Farms, LP

Verne Crookshanks

Venida Packing, Co.

Jerry DiBuduo

SunValley Farms

***Richard Elliot**

David J. Elliot & Son

***Melissa Frank**

Wonderful Orchards

Ralph Hackett

Dayka & Hackett, LLC

Steve Hash

Hashwood Farms, LLC

Doug Hemly

Greene and Hemly, Inc.

Demetri Hronis

Hronis, Inc.

David Jackson

Family Tree Farms

Mike Jackson

Kingsburg Orchards

Casey Jones

Sun Valley Packing

Herb Kaprielian

CRJ Farming Co. LP

Todd Kinosian

Sundale Vineyards

Jared Lane

Grapeman dba Stevco

***Harold McClarty**

HMC Farms

George Nikolich

Prima Wawona

Justin Parnagian

Fowler Packing Company, Inc.

Pat Ricchiuti

P-R Farms, Inc.

Patrick Scully

Scully Packing Co.

Kent Stephens

Marko Zaninovich, Inc.

Matt Surber

Columbine Vineyards

Russ Tavlan

Moonlight Companies

Mike Thurlow

Mountain View Fruit Sales

John Tos

Tos Farms, Inc.

Paul Wilson

Rivermaid Trading Co.

Cliff Woolley

Munger Bros., LLC

John D. Zaninovich

Merritt Farms

***Jon P. Zaninovich**

Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.

Marko S. Zaninovich

Marko Zaninovich, Inc.

EX-OFFICIO

Micky George

*Executive Committee

CHAIRMAN

*Randy Giumarra

Giumarra Vineyards Corporation

FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN

*Kevin Herman

The Specialty Crop Company

SECOND VICE CHAIRMAN

*Wayde Kirschenman

Kirschenman Enterprises Inc.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

*Louis Pandol

Pandol Bros., Inc.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	President's Report
2	CFFA Leadership
3	Chairman's Report
5	Top Issues
7	CFFA Membership
8	CFFA Programs & Services
9	CFFA's Ag Network
11	Labor
13	Government Relations
14	Annual Fruit Delivery
15	Marketing & Trade
17	Environmental Resources
19	CFFA Financial Summary
20	FruitPAC
21	Year In Review
23	Legislative Review
24	CFFA Partnerships
25	Past Chairmen & Staff
26	Committee Service



**CALIFORNIA
FRESH FRUIT
ASSOCIATION**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2019-2020 – “The Year of the Transition.” If you would have told me two years ago when I stepped into the Chairman’s role that in the subsequent 24 months we would go through a transition in the position of President, have two of our Directors hired away to head other industry organizations, lose a staff member due to an untimely passing, hold a Strategic Planning Session and suffer the 1st global pandemic in modern history, I would have told Harold to enjoy two more years as Chairman! The truth is, I have enjoyed every minute of it, and I appreciate our dedicated Executive Committee and staff for all the hard work that has gone into addressing each issue as it came our way. The result - virtually an entire new team of talented women and men who are leading CFFA and taking our Association to the next level.



Randy Giumarra 2018/20

Ian LeMay is doing an incredible job as CFFA President and we are blessed to have him as the voice of our Association. He has dealt with more complicated scenarios and situations in one year as President than many people do in a career and is already recognized as one of the primary go-to resources for ag related issues by politicians, policymakers and lobbyists. None of the industry issues stopped while we were regrouping at CFFA headquarters. Ian successfully juggled multiple roles and relied heavily on office staff like Allyson, until he was able to bring Courtney Razor on board as Director of Membership Services and Communications. She jumped in with both feet, took some of the load from Ian and has already added tremendous value. Caroline Stringer joined the team in January 2020 as the Director of Trade. She came to us from Public Affairs Division of Pacific Gas & Electric Company and is well versed in Crisis Management, which was fitting because when Marcy Martin informed Association leadership that she was accepting an offer to become the President of the California Citrus Research Board I feared many of the stone fruit shippers were going to have a meltdown. While there was reason to feel concern and urgency, there was also reason to feel flattered. It says a lot about the caliber of our staff when two of the Directors are recognized to have the skills required to run other industry organizations.



Ian was then able to complete his team with the addition of Adam Borchard, Perla Chavarria and Mary Williams. Adam serves as the Director of Public Policy & Government and comes the Association from Association of California Water Agencies. He has a strong background in water law and will be a huge asset advocating on behalf of our membership. Perla is a recent graduate of Fresno and will assist Caroline as the Association’s Programs Assistant. Mary has stepped in to serve as the bookkeeper for CFFA. As you can see, Ian has created a dynamic team to lead our Association!





I am proud to say that through all this transition, the Association has remained dedicated to serving our members. With the help of the Kahn, Soares, Conway team in Sacramento, CFFA has maintained relationships with politicians and policymakers. We have continued to hold the policy line and advocate in the best interest of the industry.

With the Association's continued support, the California Farmworker Foundation (CFF) has continued to be a great partner of the Association and advocate for our industry. On February 26th, a group of 300 CFF members marched on the State Capitol in Sacramento for their first "Advocacy Day". This may not seem like a significant milestone, but this was monumental for our Association and for all of production

agriculture. For decades we have been making trips to Sacramento to visit politicians to discuss real issues that affect the hard-working men and women of this industry but our message has often been drowned out by the pleas from other farm labor interest groups. Now, with the direction of Joe Garcia and Hernan Hernandez, the grassroots CFF movement is proving to be an effective method for farmworkers to deliver truth to the decision-makers in Sacramento.

Trade remained a paramount policy issue for the industry in 2019. We need not look any further than the signing of the Phase One United States - China Trade Agreement. The CFFA was one of few ag industry associations to be invited to participate in this symbolic event at the White House. This was possible, due in large part, to Ian's hard work and connections in Washington, D.C. I had the tremendous honor of attending and representing the Association and our industry. Beyond the jubilation of receiving an invitation, the focus was on the facts and whether we would benefit from this trade agreement. Overall, the signing was a positive step for agriculture producers in the United States because it revived a massive export market. For many CFFA members who grow and market blueberries and nectarines, they had now gained access into China for their products. However, in its current form, the reality of crippling tariffs means that Chinese importers will be challenged to pay profitable FOB prices for our products. There is much work to level the playing field and return this market to its previous appeal.

In summary, one thing is certain, the issues that farmers have dealt with for generations are not going away. They simply evolve with time and circumstance. That is why we need strong representation to continue to forge ahead with one unified voice on behalf of California's fresh fruit industry. We are all receiving that representation from Ian LeMay and the new staff at the Association. It has been an honor to serve as your Chairman for the past two years. Please know that CFFA will continue to rise to the occasion to serve our members for many years to come.



TOP ISSUES

FEDERAL IMMIGRATION POLICIES: CURRENT AND FUTURE LABOR

Despite both legal and political hurdles we will continue to impress upon our elected representatives that Congressional action is needed to ensure a long term solution toward addressing labor security for the agricultural sector. The Association continues to be a key component in the policy shaping debate on both short and long-term proposals to strengthen labor security.

INCREASING WAGE COSTS (BASE WAGES/OT THRESHOLDS)

Labor costs have continued to increase resulting from changes to agriculture overtime and an increasing minimum wage, which rose to \$12.50 per hour in January 2020. Seasonal wages, along with those in every category of agricultural production such as tractor drivers and irrigators, increase proportionately along with a higher minimum wage. Farmers routinely experience seasonal hourly costs of approximately \$12.00 to \$17.00 per hour now and these amounts will only increase as the largest business cost for growers and shippers of labor intensive fresh fruit commodities who must compete in a highly competitive global market.

WATER SUPPLY AVAILABILITY AND CURTAILMENT

With a highly diverse membership, spanning from Lake and Mendocino counties in the north, down through the San Joaquin Valley and south into the Coachella Valley. The need for long-term water certainty remains of utmost importance to sustaining a viable agricultural sector. The drought conditions that continued through 2016 placed significant stress onto farming operations, shifting more permanent fresh fruit crop producers to rely upon groundwater supplies. Despite current hydrologic conditions, the viability of our permanent crop sector is dependent upon a certain supply and the political will to protect California agriculture production in the face of mounting regulatory and legal challenges which undoubtedly will curtail or limit access to critically needed water supply.

IMMIGRATION COMPLIANCE (I.C.E.)

Frustrations continue as earnest attempts to secure passage of a comprehensive immigration package have been met with resistance in both the House and Senate. In order to ensure the continued production of a domestic food supply, comprehensive reform that contains an agricultural labor component remains vital. In working as part of diverse national coalitions, the Association continues to urge Congressional representatives and the Trump Administration to support measures designed to ensure an adequate and legal work force for agriculture, while highlighting the fact that the pressure on employers and the employee base continue to mount.

GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS (S.G.M.A.)

The passage of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act provides for local management of groundwater basins throughout California. The creation of sustainable groundwater management agencies will combine management with enforcement mechanisms in an attempt to ensure the sustainability of groundwater resources through planning which must be in place as early as 2020, and achieve sustainability goals in the basin within 20 years of implementation. There is significant concern that as a result of this Act the governance of groundwater supplies will look much differently in just a few years as local agencies will be tasked with ensuring groundwater pumping does not jeopardize the basin's ability to be sustainable over the long-term.

LABOR REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

Every year the California Legislature considers measures that advance opportunities for organized labor to unionize the agricultural labor force. Missing from that consideration is the thorough examination of the will of the labor force and the value they perceive in paying a percentage in dues for added wages, benefits, and working conditions which either have been addressed or continue to be advanced by the Legislature or through regulation, thus deflating the value of union membership. The Association remains committed and ready to confront biased rulemaking and legislative attempts to tilt the balance against the employer while ignoring the will of the employee to freely choose whether or not to be part of a union.

WATER QUALITY AND CLEAN DRINKING WATER REGULATIONS

The adoption of water quality regulatory programs has put the burden of improving the water quality for disadvantaged communities in rural areas onto agriculture. Farming operations have seen added impacts in the form of compliance costs associated with regulatory oversight and reporting. Significant efforts remain to identify whether agricultural nitrogen management practices are sufficiently protective of groundwater or whether practices must change in order to mitigate groundwater degradation. The Association is positioned to continue its work across legislative and regulatory audiences to ensure industry compliance with water quality goals while continuing to advance the importance of maintaining the economic viability of the agricultural sector.

FEDERAL AND STATE FOOD SAFETY COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Ensuring a safe food supply remains a top priority and the industry continues its advancements in employing science and risk-based practices through food safety research designed to identify potential risks and guide the continued production of safe, fresh fruit. Growers and packers are looking to ensure their implementation of food safety practices exceed government standards such as the Food Safety Modernization Act for safe production and the ever increasing retailer demands for meeting demand-side food safety expectations. The industry will look to lead with the implementation of science and risk-based practices to continue to preserve consumer confidence and meet their expectations.

HEALTH CARE COSTS (POLICY COSTS/PAID SICK LEAVE)

In the wake of the Affordable Care Act employer mandate, providing health care coverage to employees became the norm, as opposed to the exception. It is the desire of the employer to ensure a healthy workplace and continue to make investments into employee wellness. For instance, some employers have created unique partnerships with health-care providers within their own local community and others have created on-site health care options for both farm employees and their families. Employers recognize that healthy employees and families increase the likelihood of continued productivity. However, as employees grow older and health care costs rise onto both employers and employees alike, the Association remains concerned over changes that could shift a larger portion of financial responsibility onto the employer to offer affordable coverage, or be faced with offering coverage that borders the line of affordability for both parties in a way that becomes a financial burden for both employer and employee alike.

PLANT HEALTH MATERIALS (PESTICIDES/HERBICIDES/FUNGICIDES)

The Association works to protect the use of critical plant health materials to ensure quality, marketable fruit. The Association is well-positioned to serve as the conduit for preserving critical tools for the fresh grape, berry and deciduous tree fruit sectors in order to meet the demands of the domestic and international markets.

MEMBERSHIP

When you support the Association, you are a part of a unified voice that advocates relentlessly for the fresh table grape, tree fruit and berry communities, so that our operations may stay viable, profitable and sustainable in California. We continually strive to be the best resource for our members regarding a wide range of labor, environmental, transportation, marketing, technical and regulatory issues. Above all else, we are committed to helping our members succeed.

It is due to your financial contributions and the organization's grassroots approach that we are able to accomplish the things that we do each and every year. This Annual Report summarizes areas on which the Association has worked this past fiscal year. As always, in addition to the Annual Report, the Association continues to publish our bi-weekly newsletter "On Target" to keep members up-to-date regarding important industry news.

The Association strives to serve our members to the best of our ability. The challenges are countless, but together we can make a positive impact for our industry. We look forward to continuing to represent you!

2019/20 New CFFA MEMBERS

The Membership & Communications Committee kept a steady pace to recruit new Association members and communicate to current members about the many benefits associated with membership. The newest additions included:

Agriculture Capital
Ag Alliance Services
Capstone Headwaters Ag & Consumers Group
Coamerica Bank
Coldwell Solar
Gempler's
Hazel Technologies
Herman Produce Sales
Jackson Insurance & Associates
JP Morgan - Agribusiness
Midwest Insurance
Pago
Paramount Exclusive Insurance Services
Redbank Ranch
Sun World Innovations



CALIFORNIA
FRESH FRUIT
ASSOCIATION

The Membership & Communications Committee is responsible for exploring membership opportunities and overseeing communication to current and prospective members regarding the value of Association membership. The Committee plays a key role in helping CFFA's membership continue to be a strong-suit for the organization. Growth in membership is evidence that the Association continues to demonstrate the value of being part of a unified voice, where the members' resources are used in the most efficient manner to maximize benefits.



PROGRAMS & SERVICES



The Insurance & Financial Benefits Committee is responsible for monitoring the Association's group property insurance program, property & casualty insurance program, crop insurance endorsements, workers' compensation insurance program and the group retirement program. In addition, the committee is charged with creating additional insurance programs that may prove beneficial for Association members.



TRANSPORTATION

CFFA has been successfully partnering with **C.H. Robinson** for full service logistics since 2007. The grower-shipper program offers benefits through transportation management assistance, which was designed to specifically address the transportation needs of fresh fruit operations. Through the partnership with CHR, a rebate is provided to CFFA for each load moved by a shipper member who uses the transportation company, which further strengthens the organization's advocacy efforts.



C.H. ROBINSON

CROP INSURANCE



Rain and Hail Insurance Service, L.L.C. has served as an endorsed carrier for CFFA for more than 24 years, establishing a long-lasting and successful relationship with members. Although all insurance rates and procedures are the same, the Association encourages its members to select Rain and Hail for their crop insurance needs, based on top-quality service and the company's solid dedication to California's specialty crops. The company continues to be the leading crop insurance provider in the state, with approximately 30 percent of its business in California.



A FAIRFAX Company

WORKERS' COMPENSATION

Zenith Insurance Company became CFFA's endorsed carrier of workers' compensation insurance in 2012, and the relationship grows stronger each year, with combined efforts to provide employers with resources to reduce exposures, claims and costs. Activities from the 2019/20 FY included exclusive safety seminars for CFFA members, which were developed to address the supervisors' safety responsibilities including safety enforcement, inspection and training. Zenith's Ag Summit was also open to CFFA members.

All training and outreach material is designed specifically to meet the needs and exposures unique to the California fresh fruit industry. Zenith's safety specialists address the exposures by providing examples of proven practices that have reduced or eliminated workplace injuries.

PROPERTY, CASUALTY & AUTO INSURANCE

On January 22, 2015, CFFA's Board of Directors approved **Zenith Agribusiness Solutions** as an endorsed provider of property & casualty insurance for California agribusiness and farms. Zenith Agribusiness Solutions, a division of Zenith Insurance Company, serves as the Association's partner to provide exceptional value, coverage and service to grower, shipper and associate members through independent insurance agencies.



RETIREMENT

The Association's Board of Directors has endorsed **Alerus Retirement Solutions** since April 1998 for its group 401(k) program, after it was thoroughly reviewed by the CFFA's Insurance & Financial Benefits Committee. Association members are eligible to participate in a full-service retirement program with Alerus, which is a specialized program offering great value to participants because members receive additional services without the added charges and fees.



EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

During the 2019/20 FY, the Association helped to educate members through workshops and seminars on a wide range of agriculture-related issues.

DELANO/MADERA ZENITH SEMINAR

Keeping employees safe is an ongoing, year-round endeavor, even for seasonal operations like those of CFFA members.

Safety training is an effective method of protecting the safety and health of workers. In 2019, managers and supervisors representing our membership participated in two-hour training sessions that addressed critical topics: Heat Illness and Incident Investigation.

The sessions were held in Delano and Madera, respectively, with more than 60 attendees, in total, participating. Zenith's safety and health consultants led the Heat Illness session, which was provided in both English and Spanish. They emphasized the importance of communication in the event an employee exhibits heat illness signs or symptoms. They also explained that supervisors must respond immediately to symptoms by providing "water, rest and shade" to the employee. If symptoms don't subside, the supervisor must respond with next steps; all of which must be detailed in every employer's Heat Illness Prevention Plan.

Zenith safety and health consultants also reviewed with participants the steps necessary for incident investigations. They reviewed the proper way to document incidents and reviewed why it's so important to keep records.

CFFA and Zenith partnered to provide members with training opportunities in preparation for the new season. This is the 9th year of training provided.



All-Terrain Vehicle Safety and Heat Illness Prevention Training
(Presented in English and Spanish)

The California Fresh Fruit Association (CFFA), Growing Consultants (GC) and Zenith Insurance Company have teamed up to provide a free seminar for CFFA and GCV members. The sessions are provided in English and Spanish and are intended to provide managers, supervisors and farmers with valuable training applicable to agricultural operations.

All-Terrain Vehicle Safety
Learn important safety tips to consider while operating all-terrain vehicles (ATV/UTV's). We will discuss the safe operating elements required for an all-terrain vehicle training program.

Heat Illness Prevention
Heat illness continues to be a serious concern for businesses that have employees working in environments with high temperatures, radiant heat sources, high humidity, and strenuous physical activities. Heat-related illnesses can cause serious health problems and, in some cases, lead to death. We will review best practices to prevent heat-related illnesses to your employees.

Speakers:
The Zenith
Growing Consultants

CFFA COHOST HEAT ILLNESS PREVENTION TRAINING

The California Fresh Fruit Association, in conjunction with other agricultural organizations, hosted a heat illness prevention training on April 12th, in Fresno. The seminar was offered in English and Spanish and certificates were provided to all attendees upon completion.



CFFA COHOSTS AERIAL LIFT & FALL PREVENTION WORKSHOP

CFFA, in partnership with other agriculture associations, hosted Aerial Lift & Fall Protection workshops around California. The goal of this workshop is to train selected individuals from your company to conduct your in-house aerial lifts and fall protection training. The seminar met all applicable safety requirements including industry regulations. Additionally, the trainings provided:

- An overview of applicable regulations: Case studies and accident data pertaining to Aerial Devices and fall protection;
- Aerial Devices – Safety Aspects Overview: Capacity and stability, work area assessment; Emergency procedures;
- Operation and Maintenance: Inspection checklist, refueling safely and Battery Charging procedures; and
- Fall protection Overview – Identify fall protection systems, fall hazard assessment, and how to properly wear and use fall protection

COLLABORATING WITH OTHERS

During the 2019/20 FY, the Association continued to collaborate with other agricultural associations in positive advocacy efforts for the industry.

PRODUCE INDUSTRY TOWN HALL

California Fresh Fruit Association, California Citrus Mutual and United Fresh along with FMC and produce industry representatives co-hosted a town hall luncheon on March 3rd to discuss the issues and opportunities affecting produce industry businesses and operations. Other discussion topics include immigration, food safety and trade discussions that impact the industry.



ANNUAL GRAPE, NUT & TREE FRUIT EXPO

The Annual Grape, Nut & Tree Fruit Expo was held on November 19th at The Big Fresno Fair. CFFA President Ian LeMay provided an update on the state of the table grape and fresh fruit industries.

Attendees of the expo had the opportunity to earn four and half hours of PCA credits or five of CCA credits. The expo also featured an industry trade show along with a Market Facilitation Workshop with USDA Farm Service Agency representatives that were on-site to assist growers in signing up for eligible programs.



UNITED FRESH PRODUCE ASSOCIATION WASHINGTON CONFERENCE

California Fresh Fruit Association President, Ian LeMay; and Chairman Randy Giumarra traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in the United Fresh Produce



Association's Washington Public Policy Conference, held September 16th to 18th.

The conference covered a wide range of topics, including discussions about Trade, pending legislation dealing with Immigration Reform and reauthorization of the Childhood Nutrition Act.

The conference featured speeches from USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue, Congressman Jim McGovern (D-MA), Congressman James Comer (R-KY) and Congressman Glenn GT Thompson (R-PA). California Fresh Fruit Association President, Ian LeMay; and Chairman Randy Giumarra participated in meetings with the offices of: Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-California), Senator Kamala Harris (D-California), Congressman Kevin McCarthy (R-California), Congressman Devin Nunes (R-California), Congressman Jim Costa (D-California), Congressman Josh Harder (D-California), Congressman TJ Cox (D-California), USDA Undersecretary Greg Ibach and White House Public Liaison Chris Chaffee.



LABOR

FARM WORKFORCE MODERNIZATION ACT

BACKGROUND: For years, the produce industry and our agriculture sector partners have made an overwhelming case for legislation to reform our broken immigration system and help build a legal and reliable workforce. With the introduction of the bipartisan Farm Workforce Modernization Act in the House of Representatives, we now have the opportunity to achieve that reform.

This legislation marks an important first step in that process and it includes the basic principles of immigration reform that we have long advocated for. The bill provides legal status for the current workforce, reforms the current federal agriculture guest-worker program known as H-2A and ensures that we will have future access to a skilled, dedicated workforce. The bill also includes provisions to ensure the proper enforcement of our nation's immigration laws but is contingent upon including the reforms to the current and future workforce for which we have long advocated.

The Labor Committee continually monitors complex agricultural labor regulations, at both the state and federal levels, that agricultural employers must judiciously comply with. Some of the Labor Committee's issues include: federal and state OSHA regulations, California Agricultural Labor Relations Board actions, wage and hour regulations and immigration policy.

2019 AG LABOR SUMMIT

California Fresh Fruit Association, together with national and state based agricultural trade associations, coordinated an effort to develop and produce a panel discussion in Washington, D.C. on the labor needs of the U.S. agricultural sector, emphasizing labor challenges, scarcity, policy obstacles, and opportunities for near-term legislative and/or executive branch solutions. The timing of the discussion was designed to frame the debate early within the Congressional calendar, projecting a unified desire to work together towards reasonable policy outcomes.



SOCIAL SECURITY MISMATCH UPDATE

BACKGROUND: In early 2019 the Social Security Administration (SSA) sent “Mismatch” letters out to the business community notifying them when an employee’s information in the SSA’s records did not match the information on the W-2 the employers submitted for that employee. The letters directed the employers correct the discrepancies within 60 days of receiving the letter.

CURRENT: The Social Security Administration (SSA) changed course on its approach to the mismatch letters they sent to business leaders in early 2019. In response to an inquiry from Congressman Jim Costa, SSA clarified that if employers choose to not obtain the mismatched names and numbers and correct errors, SSA will not take any negative action against the employer. This is in direct conflict with the mismatch letters themselves, but this new clarification was welcomed. It also reaffirmed the prohibition against SSA sharing the mismatch information with other federal agencies, and employers can hopefully rely upon SSA adhering to that prohibition. If an employer is audited, by ICE for example, ICE is likely to ask if the ever obtained a mismatch letter, and the auditor would request to know what, if anything, the employer did in response to the mismatch letter. If the employer can say that they checked the names and numbers, corrected any errors, and otherwise followed up with the course of action previously proscribed, the employer will be able to show that it has done all it can do to ensure that it has accurate information. Likewise, because a mismatched Social Security number, by itself, is not enough to conclude a person is ineligible to work, using the online system does not create an argument that the employer was aware an employee was ineligible to work.



GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

CALIFORNIA FARMWORKER FOUNDATION ADVOCACY DAYS

August 2019 - California Farmworker Foundation (CFF) made its inaugural visit to Sacramento on August 26th and 27th, to discuss policies affecting their quality of life. CFF members had the opportunity to speak to a diverse group of representatives and administration officials regarding several issues affecting their day today life, which included: healthcare, housing, infrastructure, immigration, water and overtime.

February 2020 - On February 26th over three hundred members of CFF boarded buses in the early hours of the morning to travel to Sacramento to participate in their first outreach and education day. Upon arrival, members of the Foundation made



their way to the Sacramento Cathedral to receive their ashes for the observance of Ash Wednesday. After visiting the Cathedral, Foundation members held a resources fair on the north steps of the Capitol. They were joined by Senator Anna Caballero (D-Salinas) and Assemblyman Devon Mathis (R-Porterville), who welcomed them to Sacramento and encouraged them to share their stories throughout the halls of the legislature.

All three hundred participants filled the halls of the Capitol, dropping literature about the Foundation in each office. A smaller group of 30 representatives participated in personal meetings with fifteen different legislative offices.



ANNUAL FRUIT DELIVERY

CFFA President Ian LeMay, and Director of Member Services and Communications, Courtney Razor, traveled to Sacramento on Tuesday, September 10th for the California Fresh Fruit Association's Annual Fruit Delivery, a yearly program, which provides legislators, regulators and legislative staff with a reminder of the value of our fresh grape and deciduous tree fruit communities.

For 2019, state leaders were presented with a newly designed Association lunch pail, delicately packed with delicious fruit. More than 150 fruit deliveries were made, covering the Capitol and various regulatory agencies, including the California Department of Food & Agriculture, California Department of Natural Resources, Labor and Workforce Development and the California Environmental Protection Agency.

We would like to extend a special thank you to our Association members who donated produce for our Annual Fruit Delivery – Harold McClarty (**HMC Farms**), David Jackson (**Family Tree Farms**), Mike Jackson (**Kingsburg Orchards**) and Mike Thurlow (**Mountain View Fruit Sales, Inc.**), Louis Pandol (**Pandol Bros., Inc.**), Marko S. Zaninovich (**Sunview Vineyards**), Jon P. Zaninovich (**Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.**) and Kevin Herman (**The Specialty Crop Company**).



Pictures left to right: 2019 CFFA Annual Fruit Delivery Lunch Pail and fresh fruit that was included in the delivery pack.



CALIFORNIA
FRESH FRUIT
ASSOCIATION

MARKETING & TRADE

UNITED STATES-MEXICO-CANADA (USMCA)

BACKGROUND: The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) established a free-trade zone in North America; was signed in 1992 by Canada, Mexico, and the United States and took effect on Jan. 1, 1994. NAFTA immediately lifted tariffs on the majority of goods produced by the signatory nations. It also called for the gradual elimination, over a period of 15 years, of most remaining barriers to cross-border investment and to the movement of goods and services among the three countries.

NAFTA eliminated tariffs and resulted in more year-round availability for the U.S. consumer. Consumers were given healthier eating options, with U.S. per capita consumption of fresh fruit and vegetables reaching 145.1 pound per year, a 14% increase from the 126.8 pounds per year in 1993 before NAFTA was enacted.

The total value of agricultural trade (exports and imports) among all three NAFTA countries reached about \$82.0 billion in 2013, compared with \$16.7 billion in 1993 (the year before NAFTA's implementation). Phenomenal agriculture growth coming out of Mexico since NAFTA can also be attributed to the millions of dollars invested in technology and growing innovations. Many investors include those within our membership with production within Mexico and/or offshore and counter seasonal imports to maintain supply.

CURRENT: The White House in late May 2019 sent a draft "Statement of Administrative Action" (SAA) to Congress, triggering a process that allows President Trump to submit the U.S.-Mexico-Canada (USMCA) trade deal for approval within 30 days. The document outlines the U.S. laws that will change in order for USMCA to go into effect.

In general, U.S. agriculture strongly supports USMCA ratification. The SAA begins a 30-day period after which the administration may submit implementing legislation for the USMCA to be considered by Congress. It is an important step toward a vote on the agreement.

The House Speaker designated a group of nine Democrats as part of the working group. That group has been negotiating with U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer to get stronger enforcement for labor provisions as well as environmental protections in the agreement. Pelosi also says they are on a path to "yes" for USMCA, but are just not there yet.

And the clock is ticking, the U.S. Congress has a handful of working days left on the calendar this year. If the agreement isn't approved before the end of 2019, it would be considered during an election year, which could make passage more difficult.

USMCA was ultimately approved by the House of Representatives in December 2019 and signed by President Trump in January 2020.

Market access and competitiveness at the domestic and international levels are both of the utmost importance to growers, shippers and marketers of California fresh fruit. The Marketing & Trade Committee focuses on issues that could affect this aspect of the membership's operations, including the Farm Bill, Mexico Stone Fruit Export Program, phytosanitary measures, PACA regulations, produce traceability initiative (PTI) and foreign trade issues, including MRLs. The Committee also handles transportation issues, including interstate commerce commission regulations, railroad operating practices, loading rules and claim procedures.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA) TRADE MITIGATION SUPPORT

BACKGROUND: On Thursday, May 23, 2019 USDA Secretary Perdue announced that support would continue in assisting growers confronted with the prolonged trade disruption between the U.S. and China. As the Administration continues to communicate a commitment by promoting reciprocal trade agreements, expanding markets to ensure that growers remain competitive, it has authorized the USDA to provide up to \$16 billion to align with the estimated impacts of the unjustified tariffs on U.S. agricultural goods. :

CURRENT: In July 2019 U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced further details of the \$16 billion package aimed at supporting American agricultural producers while the Administration continues to work on free, fair, and reciprocal trade deals.

On October 11, 2019 the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced plans to purchase \$30 million in fresh table grapes for distribution under the Section 32 program which is in addition to the trade mitigation program noted below. Solicitations will be issued soon. Fresh plums were also included within the Section 32 program which supplemented the 2020 allocation under the trade mitigation program with the goal that both commodities will continue under Section 32 when the trade mitigation program ends. Fresh plums under the trade mitigation program have delivery dates of July - September 2020 and October - December 2020.

Details of USDA's Market Facilitation Program (MFP)

MFP signups are conducted at local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices and ran from Monday, July 29 through Friday, December 6, 2019.



Payments are made by the FSA under the authority of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Charter Act to producers of alfalfa hay, barley, canola, corn, crambe, dried beans, dry peas, extra-long staple cotton, flaxseed, lentils, long grain and medium grain rice, millet, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, rapeseed, rye, safflower, sesame seed, small and large chickpeas, sorghum, soybeans, sunflower seed, temperate japonica rice, triticale, upland cotton, and wheat. MFP assistance for those non-specialty crops is based on a single county payment rate multiplied by a farm's total plantings of MFP-eligible crops in aggregate in 2019. Those per-acre payments are not dependent on which of those crops are planted in 2019. A producer's total payment-eligible plantings cannot exceed total 2018 plantings. County payment rates range from \$15 to \$150 per acre, depending on the impact of unjustified trade retaliation in that county.

Dairy producers who were in business as of June 1, 2019, could receive a per hundredweight payment on production history, and hog producers were eligible to receive a payment based on the number of live hogs owned on a day selected by the producer between April 1 and May 15, 2019.

MFP payments were also be made to producers of almonds, cranberries, cultivated ginseng, fresh grapes, fresh sweet cherries, hazelnuts, macadamia nuts, pecans, pistachios, and walnuts. Each specialty crop could receive a payment based on 2019 acres of fruit or nut bearing plants, or in the case of ginseng, based on harvested acres in 2019.

The MFP rule and a related Notice of Funding Availability was published in the Federal Register on July 29, 2019, as signups began at local FSA offices. Per-acre non-specialty crop county payment rates, specialty crop payment rates, and livestock payment rates are all currently available on farmers.gov.

MFP payments can be made in up-to three tranches, with the second and third tranches evaluated as market conditions and trade opportunities dictate. If conditions warrant, the second and third tranches could be made in November and early January, respectively. The first tranche was comprised of the higher of either 50 percent of a producer's calculated payment or \$15 per acre, which could have reduced potential payments made in tranches two or three. USDA made the first tranche payments in mid-to-late August.

Details of USDA's Food Purchase and Distribution Program (FPDP):

Additionally, CCC Charter Act authority was used to implement an up to \$1.4 billion FPDP through the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) to purchase surplus commodities affected by trade retaliation such as fruits, vegetables, some processed foods, beef, pork, lamb, poultry, and milk for distribution by the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to food banks, schools, and other outlets serving low-income individuals.

Purchasing:

AMS purchased affected products in four phases, starting after October 1, 2019 with deliveries beginning in January 2020. The products purchased could be adjusted between phases to accommodate changes due to: growing conditions; product availability; market conditions; trade negotiation status; and program capacity. AMS purchased known commodities first. By purchasing in phases, procurements for commodities that were sourced in the past could be purchased more quickly and included in the first phase.

Vendor Outreach:

To expand the AMS vendor pool and the ability to purchase new and existing products, AMS ramped up its vendor outreach and registration efforts. AMS also developed flyers on how the process works and how to become a vendor for distribution to industry groups and interested parties. Additionally, AMS continued to host a series of free webinars describing the steps required to become a vendor. Stakeholders had the opportunity to submit questions to be answered during the webinar. Recorded webinars were available to review by potential vendors, and staff also hosted periodic Question and Answer teleconferences to better explain the process.

Distribution:

AMS coordinated with FNS, industry representatives, and other agency partners to determine necessary logistics for the purchase and distribution of each commodity, including trucking, inspection and audit requirements, and agency staffing.

Details of USDA's Agricultural Trade Promotion Program (ATP):

USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) administered the ATP under authorities of the CCC. The ATP provided cost-share assistance to eligible U.S. organizations for activities such as consumer advertising, public relations, point-of-sale demonstrations, participation in trade fairs and exhibits, market research, and technical assistance. The 48 recipients were among the cooperator organizations that applied for \$200 million in ATP funds in 2018 that were awarded in early 2019.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

2019 WATER RESOURCES PLANNING COALITION

BACKGROUND: The Blueprint was organized with the purpose of identifying mitigating actions to the potential long-term impacts of the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). While first conceived and brought together primarily by agricultural interests, the organizers of the Blueprint recognized immediately, that to have meaningful influence in Sacramento, the Blueprint could not be an ag-centric effort. Disadvantaged Communities, Non-Governmental Organizations including legal and environmental groups, the business community, academia and local governments have all invited to the table. The coalition meets once a month at the California Fresh Fruit Association (CFFA) office to discuss a meaningful path forward.

SAFE AND AFFORDABLE DRINKING WATER

BACKGROUND: In his initial budget proposal released January 10, 2019 Governor Newsom proposed to include funding within his budget for clean drinking water for disadvantaged communities.

Safe and affordable drinking water issues are a top priority for Governor Newsom. The Newsom plan for a “safe and affordable drinking water fund,” included in the new governor’s first budget proposal, attempts to revive an idea that died in the Legislature last year. That proposal would have taxed residential customers 95 cents a month, to raise about \$110 million a year. About \$30 million in fees, generated from the dairy and agricultural industry would have been added to the total for an annual fund of \$140 million. Some within the agricultural industry, including the California Fresh Fruit Association supported last year’s legislative effort, which provided some relief from disciplinary action as long as the industry followed “best practices” to limit nitrate from leaching into drinking water.

The Environmental Resources Committee is one of the most active CFFA groups, due to the intense regulatory pressure that exists in California. Some of the issues targeted include: regulation of air quality, Food Safety Modernization Act and water quality regulations (i.e. Irrigated Lands Program), water discussions, energy issues and pesticide use.

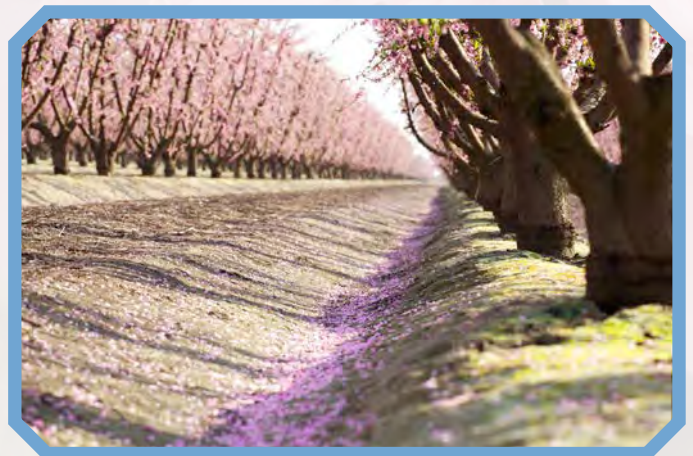
In the meantime, a settlement agreement has been reached between three coalitions (Kings, Kaweah, Tule) and the State Water Board. In summary, the coalitions have agreed to develop 8 regional fill stations through-out the three coalition areas in exchange for all coalition members (not just the targeted landowners) receiving protection from Clean Up and Abatement Orders (CAO) from the State Water Board.



Please note that this applies only to CAOs and replacement water orders, and actions by the State Water Board.

CURRENT: On June 9, 2019 a Budget Committee compromise relating to Safe and Affordable Drinking Water was struck. The proposal provides \$100 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, \$30 million from the General Fund, and \$3.4 million to the State Water Resources Control Board from the General Fund for administrative start-up costs. This funding will accompany a yet-to-be-determined Trailer Bill that sets up the framework of the Safe Drinking Water Program and Fund. Additionally, the Trailer Bill will specify that five percent of the GGRF is continuously appropriated beginning 2020 with an annual cap of \$130 million. The General Fund will act as a backstop in the event that the Safe Drinking Water Fund falls short. The funding will sunset in 2030.

Agriculture has worked tirelessly on this issue for the past three years and believes this solution addresses the critical needs of people living without safe and affordable drinking water.



9TH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS TO CANCEL ALL REGISTRATIONS FOR CHLORPYRIFOS

BACKGROUND: In March of 2017, the EPA issued an order denying the activist petition to revoke the tolerances for Chlorpyrifos. But in June, the activists filed formal objections to the decision with the EPA and seven state Attorneys General filed objections. The activists also filed a Petition for Review of the EPA denial in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.



The U.S. government then filed a motion to dismiss the Petition for Review in August 2017, claiming that because EPA has not decided the activists' objections, the Court lacks jurisdiction over the Petition for Review. But, the 9th Circuit denied the government's motion to dismiss the activists' Petition for Review on December 29, 2017.

On August 9th, the 9th Circuit released its opinion regarding Chlorpyrifos and the challenge that had been filed to former Administrator Pruitt's Order that had denied the petition of several environmental NGOs to revoke the tolerances and cancel the Chlorpyrifos registrations. The court ruled 2-1 in favor of the petitioners. It ordered that "Accordingly, we GRANT the petition for review. The EPA's 2017 Order maintaining Chlorpyrifos is VACATED, and the case is remanded to the EPA with directions to revoke all tolerances and cancel all registrations for Chlorpyrifos within 60 days."

The next possible steps for the government would appear to be filing a motion requesting a review en banc by the entire 9th circuit, appealing to the US Supreme Court, or having the Agency move forward with the tolerance and registration cancellation actions.

As CFFA members are extremely interested in the registration, reregistration and safe use of pest management tools including crop protection chemicals we have remained actively engaged through our membership in the Minor Crop Farmer Alliance (MCFA) executive and technical committees. Organizations involved with public health pesticides.

MCFA is an alliance of approximately 30 national and regional organizations and individuals representing growers, shippers, packers, handlers and processors of various agricultural commodities, including food, fiber, turf grass, nursery and landscape crops, and organizations involved with public health pesticides.

CURRENT: A petition was filed by the Justice Department and EPA with the 9th Circuit requesting a rehearing en banc or, alternatively, by the original 3 judge panel of the panel's decision granting the petition for review of EPA's order entitled "Chlorpyrifos: Order Denying PANNA and NRDC's Petition to Revoke Tolerances," 82 Fed. Reg. 16,581 (Apr. 5, 2017) resulting in the 9th Circuit ordering EPA to revoke tolerances and cancel Chlorpyrifos registrations within 60 days.

The DOJ/EPA petition "stays" the Ninth Circuit decision that would have forced EPA to eliminate Chlorpyrifos. Grower and user groups are rallied behind DOJ/EPA to guard against court driven decisions that remove EPA's authority to carefully evaluate crop protection products based on scientifically defensible information and in accordance with public comment requirements under current law. Registrants and legal counsel have communicated the government did an excellent job in its petition. Now we wait to see if the court grants the petition.

In the interim, the previous 9th Circuit decision is not final. Discussed within the recent Minor Crop Farmer Alliance (MCFA) meeting, in technical terms, the "mandate" has not issued.

The mandate is the means by which an appellate court closes an appeal. The mandate will issue 7 days after denial of the petition, or if the petition is granted, then we will need to await the outcome from such rehearing.

CFFA proposed and received unanimous support from our Executive Committee that we join other grower and user groups on an amicus brief to support the Department of Justice and EPA petition of September 24th for a rehearing of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals August 9th decision to "cancel all tolerances and registrations for Chlorpyrifos" within 60 days. The court's decision was made in response to a petition from activist groups to overturn the EPA decision in 2017 to enable the continued use of Chlorpyrifos by following the current reregistration process.

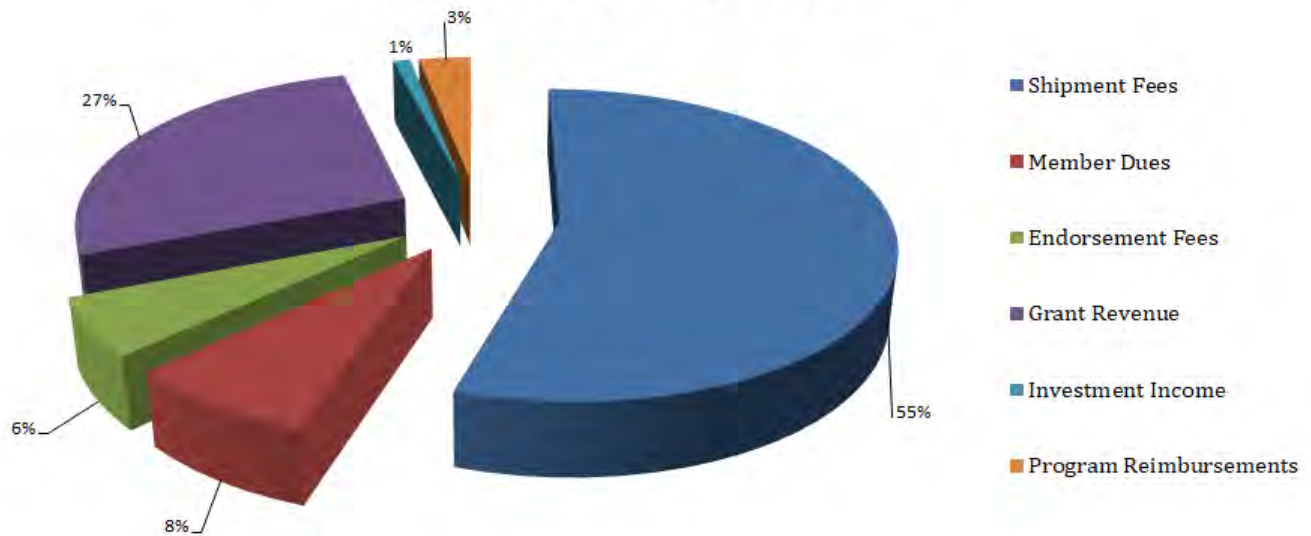
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The California Fresh Fruit Association's financial footing remained strong for the 2019/20 fiscal year.

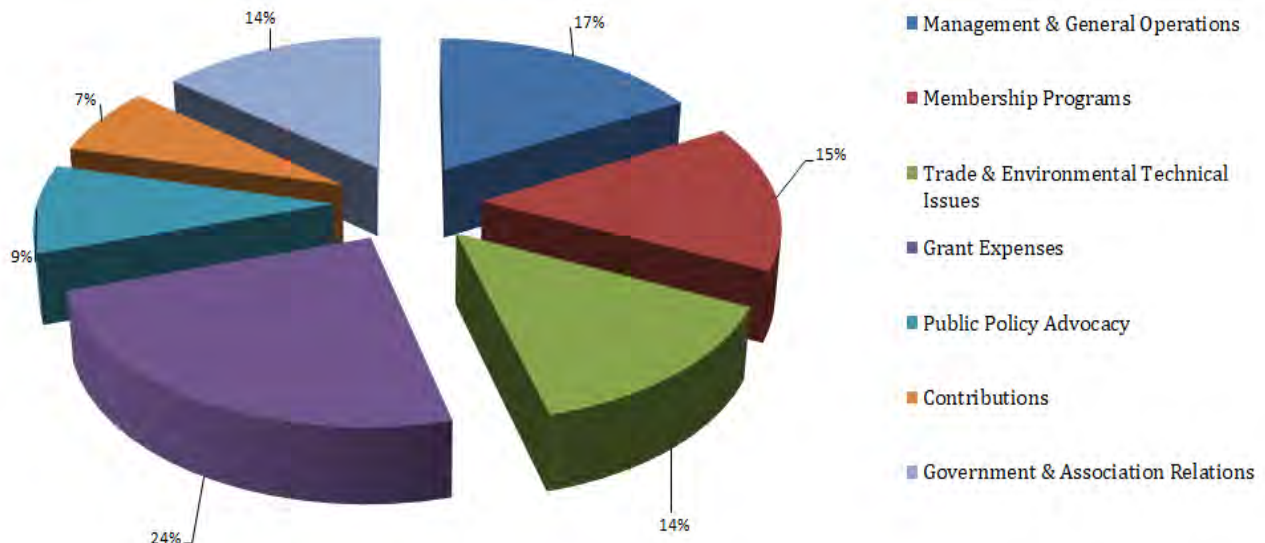
The Association is truly fortunate to have a hands-on Secretary-Treasurer, Louis Pandol, who is actively involved in the financial management and oversight for the organization. Along with the Board of Directors, Executive Committee and staff, a network of tight fiscal control over expenditures is maintained, as is the consistent effort to add new members and revenues, so the Association can fulfill its mission.

The following represents the Association's revenue and expenditures for the 2019/20 fiscal year:

2019/20 FY CFFA Revenue



2019/20 FY CFFA Expenses



FRUITPAC

FruitPAC is the Association's Political Action Committee, which generates its support from member participation at three annual events—the Harvest Event in the fall, the Annual Meeting Raffle in the spring and the positive check-off program. All contributions are authorized by FruitPAC's Board of Directors.



CHAIRMAN

KEVIN HERMAN, **THE SPECIALTY CROP COMPANY**

VICE CHAIRMAN

MOE DiBUDUO, **DiBUDUO FRUIT COMPANY**

SECRETARY

MELISSA FRANK, **WONDERFUL ORCHARDS**



BOARD MEMBERS

Mike Bozick, **R. Bagdasarian, Inc.**

David Jackson, **Family Tree Farms**

Herbert Kaprielian, **CRJ Farming Co. LP**

Louis Pandol, **Pandol Bros., Inc.**

John D. Zaninovich, **Merritt Farms**

FRUITPAC HARVEST EVENT

90 guests were in attendance at the 40th Annual Harvest and Event Reverse Raffle Drawing held at the Vintage Press Restaurant in Visalia on Friday, October 25th.

Kelly Ansaldo (**Coldwell Solar**), George Soares (**Kahn, Soares & Conway**), Petri Van Der Merwe (**Sun World Innovations**) and **C.H. Robinson**, chose to split the \$5,000 grand prize and George Soares generously donated his portion of the winnings back to FruitPAC. Kelly, Petri & C.H. Robinson donated another \$1,000 of their winnings to the PAC. Cree Mueller (**The Specialty Crop Company**) was the lucky winner of the \$1,000 consolation prize.

In total, a dozen terrific prizes were awarded and the Harvest Event was a huge success, largely due to the generosity and participation of the Association members who purchased tickets. The staff at the Vintage Press, under the direction of David and Greg Vartanian, provided great service throughout the reception and dinner.

A special thank you to the Associate members who helped to make this year's event possible through their generous support:

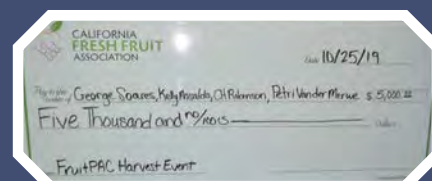
Gold Sponsors:

M. Der Manouel Insurance, Pickett Solar, Rehrig Pacific Company, Snowden Enterprises, Inc., Syngenta Crop Protection, Trinity Fruit, Valent and The Zenith Insurance Company

Silver Sponsors:

C.H. Robinson, The Greenspan Co., Pan American - A Relation Company, Paramoun Exclusive Insurance Services, and Styrotek, Inc.

FruitPAC also offers sincere gratitude to gift donors, Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa.



YEAR IN REVIEW



Top Left: CFFA members at Annual FruitPAC Harvest event at The Vintage Press in Visalia.

Top Right: CFFA members with Department of Pesticide Regulation Secretary Val Dolcini.

Middle Top Right: CFFA President Ian LeMay with United Fresh Produce Association CEO Tom Stenzel and California Citrus Mutual President Casey Creamer.

Bottom Top Left: CFFA President Ian LeMay and members of the United Fresh Produce Association Government Relations Council meeting with Congressman Jim Costa and Congressman Jimmy Panetta.

Bottom Left: The Elliot Family (**David J. Elliot & Son**) with Assemblywoman Susan Eggman.

Bottom Right: Justin Parnagian (**Fowler Packing**) with Senator Steve Glazer and Senator Bob Wiekowski.





Top Left: Alex Kettle (**DJ Forry**), Peter Baldwin (**Alliant Insurance**), John Attwood (**PPS Packaging**), and Alex Marriott (**Giumarra Vineyards Corp.**) winners of the CFFA Annual Golf Tournament.

Top Right: Members of the California Legislature tour **HMC Farms**.

Middle Right: CFFA member Bryan Keavy (**Kingsburg Orchards**) testifying before the Senate Ag Committee in Washington, D.C.

Bottom Right: Members of the **California Farmworker Foundation** meeting with members of the California Legislature during their Sacramento Advocacy Day,

Bottom Left: USDA Under Secretary Ibach meets with John McClarty, Harold McClarty and Drew Ketelsen at **HMC Farms**.



LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES:

AB 1080 (Gonzalez): Solid Waste: Packaging and Products; WATCH

AB 1080 would enact the California Circular Economy and Pollution Reduction Act, which would impose a comprehensive regulatory scheme on producers, retailers, and wholesalers of single-use packaging and priority single-use products to be administered by CalRecycle. As part of that regulatory scheme, the bill would require CalRecycle, before January 1, 2024, to adopt regulations that require producers (1) to source reduce, to the maximum extent feasible, single-use packaging and priority single-use products, and (2) to ensure that all single-use packaging and priority single-use products that are manufactured on or after January 1, 2030, and that are offered for sale, sold, distributed, or imported in or into California are recyclable or compostable.

Outcome: Held on the Senate floor.

SB 1 (Atkins): California Environmental, Public Health, and Workers Defense Act of 2019; OPPOSE

SB 1 would require specified agencies to monitor federal action and adopt federal regulatory standards through emergency regulations that existed before January 19, 2017 if a change at the federal level resulted in a less stringent standard. Would apply the California Endangered Species Act to the operations of the Central Valley Project.

Outcome: Passed out of the Assembly 48-22; Passed out of the Senate 26-14. Vetoed by the Governor.

SB 200 (Monning): Drinking Water; SUPPORT

The bill would authorize the state board to provide for the deposit into the fund of certain moneys and would continuously appropriate the moneys in the fund to the state board for grants, loans, contracts, or services to assist eligible recipients. The bill would require the state board, in consultation with the Department of Finance, to adopt a fund expenditure plan with specified contents and would require, on and after July 1, 2020, expenditures of the fund to be consistent with the plan. The bill would require, by January 1, 2021, the state board, in consultation with local health officers and other relevant stakeholders, to make publicly available, as specified, a map of aquifers that are used or likely to be used as a source of drinking water that are at high risk of containing contaminants that exceed safe drinking water standards. For purposes of the map, the bill would require local health officers and other relevant local agencies to provide all results of, and data associated with, water quality testing performed by certified laboratories to the state board, as specified. By imposing additional duties on local health officers and local agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Outcome: Passed the Assembly 68-0; Passed the Senate 38-1; Signed by the Governor July 24, 2019.

LABOR:

AB 5 (Gonzalez): Worker Status: Employees and Independent Contractors; OPPOSE

AB 5 would provide that for purposes of the provisions of the Labor Code, the Unemployment Insurance Code, and the wage orders of the Industrial Welfare Commission, a person providing labor or services for remuneration shall be considered an employee rather than an independent contractor unless the hiring entity demonstrates that the person is free from the control and direction of the hiring entity in connection with the performance of the work, the person performs work that is outside the usual course of the hiring entity's business, and the person is customarily engaged in an independently established trade, occupation or business.

Outcome: Passed out of the Assembly 61-16; Passed the Senate 29-11. Signed by the Governor on September 18, 2019.

AB 555 (Gonzalez): Paid Sick Leave; OPPOSE

AB 555 would modify a employer's alternate sick leave accrual method to require that an employee have no less than 40 hours of accrued sick leave or paid time off by the 200th calendar day of employment or each calendar year, or in each 12-month period. The bill would modify that satisfaction provision to authorize an employer to satisfy accrual requirements by providing not less than 40 hours or 5 days of paid sick leave that is available to the employee to use by the completion of the employee's 200th calendar day of employment. The bill would also provide that an employer is under no obligation to allow an employee's total accrual of paid sick leave to exceed 80 hours or 10 days, as specified.

Outcome: Held in the Assembly.

SB 468 (Jackson): Re-Run Election; WATCH

SB 468 would establish in state government the California Tax Expenditure Review Board as an independent advisory body to comprehensively assess major tax expenditures, as defined, and make recommendations to the Legislature. The bill would require the board to be composed of five members, as specified, who would serve without compensation.

Outcome: Passed the Assembly 53-21; Passed the Senate 28-10; Vetoed by the Governor.



**This is only a partial list of bills supported and opposed during 2019/20. For a full list, please contact the Association office.*

CFFA PARTNERSHIPS

The Association employs a collaborative approach to maximize its effectiveness by working together with other agricultural organizations and associations on issues that affect our members. Below are the group efforts in which the Association participated during the 2019/20 FY.

CENTER FOR PRODUCE SAFETY

Description: An effort to support best practices and food safety research.
2019/20 Contribution: \$100,000

AGRICULTURAL PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL

Description: To coordinate public policy issues among California agricultural associations and commissions.
2019/20 Contribution: Included in the Association's regular government relations expenses

AGRICULTURAL COALITION FOR IMMIGRATION REFORM

Description: To serve as a leading advocate, seeking legislative reform addressing the short and long-term labor needs of the nation's agricultural interests.
2019/20 Contribution: \$10,000

AIR COALITION TEAM

Description: Agricultural organizations that work together on issues related to air-quality litigation.
2019/20 Contribution: \$5,000

MINOR CROP FARMER ALLIANCE

Description: An alliance of agricultural organizations dedicated to addressing pesticide registrations.
2019/20 Contribution: \$10,000

CROP PROTECTION COALITION

Description: Coalition of national, regional and local agricultural organizations, seeking to obtain critical-use exemptions for methyl bromide, as well as funding for alternative research.
2019/20 Contribution: \$5,000

ALLIANCE FOR FOOD & FARMING

Description: Works in the areas of public relations, messaging and outreach related to food safety and pesticide-use related issues.
2019/20 Contribution: \$10,000

OTHER COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

California Farm Water Coalition; California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom; California Women for Agriculture; The Maddy Institute; National Council of Ag Employers; Pacific Legal Foundation; and Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance



CFFA PAST CHAIRMEN

1936/43 A. Setrakian	1957/58 Julio Perelli-Minetti	1971/72 Howard A. Hall	1987/88 Micky George	2001/02 Jim Simonian
1943/45 L. R. Hamilton	1958/59 J. A. DiGiorgio	1972/74 David J. Elliot, Jr.	1988/89 Louis S. Caric	2002/03 Jon P. Zaninovich
1945/46 J. M. Prentice	1959/60 Leonard LeBlanc	1974/75 Allan Corrin	1989/90 Sarkis Sarabian	2003/04 David Elliot III
1946/47 Robert Taylor	1960/61 M. A. Nielson	1975/76 Franklin Debuskey	1990/91 Craig Rasmussen	2004/05 Tony Fazio
1947/48 E. L. Barr, Sr.	1961/62 Franklin Gindick	1976/77 Dean Morrison	1991/92 Doug Hemly	2005/07 Louis Pandol
1948/49 Harold Butcher	1962/63 Edward M. Zeller	1977/78 Milan Caratan	1992/93 Dennis Parnagian	2007/08 Jerry DiBuduo
1949/50 John J. Kovacevich	1963/64 Jack Pandol, Sr.	1978/79 Tony Tranel	1993/94 Kent Stephens	2008/09 John D. Zaninovich
1950/51 David J. Elliot, Sr.	1964/65 Grove E. Dye	1979/80 Lucille Tidwell	1994/95 Wayne Brandt	2009/10 Marko S. Zaninovich
1951/52 William A. Hamilton	1965/66 George Sadoian	1980/81 John Giumarra, Jr.	1995/96 Cliff Sadoian	2010/11 David O. Marguleas
1952/53 William A. Lambert	1966/67 Marion P. Newton	1981/82 James Ruby	1996/97 Steve Biswell	2011/12 Steve Hash
1953/54 Virgil E. Rasmussen	1967/68 Nick Buratovich, Sr.	1982/83 Howard Mason	1997/98 Rick Widhalm	2012/14 Ryan Zaninovich
1954/55 W. C. "Jerry" Day	1968/69 E. L. Barr, Jr.	1983/85 Jack G. Zaninovich	1998/99 Ken Enns	2014/16 David Jackson
1955/56 Martin Zaninovich	1969/70 R. K. Sanderson	1985/86 Darrel Fulmer	1999/00 Nicholas Bozick	2016/18 Harold McClarty
1956/57 Alfred Tisch	1970/71 Robert A. Grant	1986/87 Verne Crookshanks	2000/01 Fred Berry	

CFFA STAFF



Ian LeMay, President
Adam Borchard, Director, Government & Public Policy
Courtney Razor, Director, Member Services & Communications
Caroline Stringer, Director, Trade
Allyson Calderon, Office Manager
Mary Williams, Bookkeeper
Perla Chavarria, Office and Programs Assistant

7647 N. Fresno Street, Suite 103
Fresno, CA 93720
P: (559) 226-6330
F: (559) 222-8326
www.cafreshfruit.com
cffa@cafreshfruit.com
www.facebook.com/calfreshfruit
www.twitter.com/calfreshfruit

"To fulfill the needs of its membership while serving as the primary public policy organization advocating on behalf of fresh fruit growers and shippers in California."

- California Fresh Fruit Association Mission Statement

COMMITTEE SERVICE

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Paul Giboney (Hronis Inc.) Committee Chair; George Nikolich (Prima Wawona) Committee Vice Chair; Jack Brandt (Brandt Farms, Inc.); Brett Britz (Sunwest Fruit Company, Inc.); Dave Bryan (Etchegaray Farms, LLC); Jim Bryan (Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.); Carol Chandler (Chandler Farms, LP); Nasser Dean (Crop Science, a division of Bayer); Moe DiBuduo (DiBuduo Fruit Co.); David Fenn (Sun World International, Inc.); Mike Forry (DJ Forry Co., Inc.); Steve Hash (Hashwood Farms); Virginia Hemly Chhabra (Greene and Hemly, Inc.); Dennis Kelly (Syngenta Crop Protection); Richard Machado (Agrian Inc.); Andrew J. Pandol (Pandol Bros., Inc.); Melissa Frank (Wonderful Orchards); Pat Ricchiuti (P-R Farms, Inc.); John D. Zaninovich (Merritt Farms); Judy Zaninovich (CCV Table Grape Pest & Disease Control District).

LABOR COMMITTEE

Dan Gallegos (Marko Zaninovich, Inc.) Committee Chair; David Aquino (Giumarra Vineyards Corporation); Ron Barsamian (Barsamian & Moody, Attorneys at Law); Nicholas Bozick (R. Bagdasarian, Inc.); Brett Britz (Sunwest Fruit Company, Inc.); Bill Chandler (Chandler Farms, LP); David Clyde (Grapeman Farms dba Stevco); Joe Garcia (Jaguar Labor Contracting); Bob Greiner (HMC Farms); Mike Forry (DJ Forry Co., Inc.); Kevin Herman (The Specialty Crop Company); Nelda Lewis (Pan American Insurance Agency – an Ascension Company); Rick Milton (Rick Milton); Pat Ricchiuti (P-R Farms, Inc.); Cliff Rolland (Abe-El Produce); David Ysusi (DiBuduo & DeFendis Insurance Brokers, LLC); John D. Zaninovich (Merritt Farms).

MARKETING & TRADE COMMITTEE

George Nikolich (Prima Wawona) Committee Chair; Justin Bedwell (Bari Produce LLC); Jason Bills (Dayka & Hackett, LLC); Scott Boyajian (Marko Zaninovich, Inc.); Brett Britz (Sunwest Fruit Company, Inc.); Dave Bryan (Etchegaray Farms, LLC); Jim Bryan (Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.); Eric Champion (Maxco Supply Inc.); Randy Giumarra (Giumarra Vineyards Corporation); Kathleen Nave (California Table Grape Commission); John Pandol (Pandol Bros., Inc.); John Rast (Rast Produce Company, Inc.); Michael Reimer (Brandt Farms, Inc.); David Silva (Dayka & Hackett, LLC); Francisco Valenzuela (Sun Fresh International LLC).

INSURANCE & FINANCIAL BENEFITS COMMITTEE

Louis Pandol (Pandol Bros., Inc.) Committee Chair; Craig Gonzales (Rain and Hail Insurance Service, L.L.C.); Nelda Lewis (Pan American Insurance Agency – an Ascension Company); Marcia Shafer (Shafer Family Farm); Scott Schoenborn (Zenith Agribusiness); Brent Swanson (Buckman-Mitchell, Inc.).

MEMBERSHIP & COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Wayde Kirschenman (Kirschenman Enterprises) Committee Chair; David Clyde (Grapeman Farms dba Stevco); Verne Crookshanks (Venida Packing, Inc.); Moe DiBuduo (DiBuduo Fruit Co.); Richard Elliot (David J. Elliot & Son); Ron Frauenheim (Ron Frauenheim Farms); Randy Giumarra (Giumarra Vineyards Corporation); Steve Hash (Hashwood Farms); Kevin Herman (The Specialty Crop Company); Herb Kaprielian (CRJ Farming Co. LP); Gabrielle Kirkland (Zenith Insurance Company); Harold McClarty (HMC Farms); Louis Pandol (Pandol Bros., Inc.); Scott Schoenborn (Zenith Agribusiness Solutions); Dean Thonesen (Sunwest Fruit Company, Inc.); John Tos (Tos Farms, Inc.); Marko S. Zaninovich (Marko Zaninovich, Inc.).

STANDARDS & PACKAGING COMMITTEE

Louis Pandol (Pandol Bros., Inc.) Committee Chair; Jim Bryan (Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.) Committee Vice Chair; Jason Bills (Dayka & Hackett, LLC); Scott Boyajian (Marko Zaninovich, Inc.); Nicholas Bozick (R. Bagdasarian, Inc.); Jack Brandt (Brandt Farms, Inc.); Dave Bryan (Etchegaray Farms, LLC); David Clyde (Grapeman Farms dba Stevco); Stan Cosart (W.F. Cosart Packing Co.); Jerry DiBuduo (SunValley Farms); David Silva (Dayka & Hackett, LLC); Sam Stewart (IFCO Systems); Walt Tindell (Calpine Containers, Inc.).



CALIFORNIA
FRESH FRUIT
ASSOCIATION



CALIFORNIA
FRESH FRUIT
ASSOCIATION

7647 N. Fresno Street, Suite 103

Fresno, CA 93720

P: (559) 226-6330

F: (559) 222-8326

www.cafreshfruit.com

cffa@cafreshfruit.com

www.facebook.com/calfreshfruit

www.twitter.com/calfreshfruit