



Riverside County AGRICULTURE

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

Our 78th Year of Publication: Volume LXXVIII, Number 8, August 2024.

Save the Date



Come celebrate with the
Riverside County Farm Bureau

107th Annual Dinner Meeting

November 10, 2024 🍷 **5:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

Desert Falls Country Club
1111 Desert Falls Parkway
Palm Desert, CA 92211

The cost of the Dinner is \$85.00 Per Person

For reservations, please call the Riverside County Farm Bureau at (951) 684-6732.
There will be a No-Host Bar that accepts cash only.

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Welcome New Members

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

California's Minimum Wage is Increasing Again in 2025

By Barsamian & Moody

On August 1, 2024, California's Department of Finance Director officially certified that beginning January 1, 2025, California's minimum wage will increase from \$16 per hour to \$16.50 per hour for all employers, regardless of size. There is also a pending ballot measure that could increase the minimum wage if it passes. Either way, the minimum wage is going up again.

Per the Labor Code, the California Director of Finance must determine on or before August 1 of each year whether to adjust the minimum wage for inflation and, if so, must calculate the increase. The Director calculates the increase by applying whichever of the following two options would result in the smaller increase: (1) a 3.5 percent increase; or (2) the actual rate of change per the U.S. Consumer Price Index ("CPI"). The department's calculations showed the CPI increased by 3.18 percent, meaning the minimum wage will increase by 3.18% to \$16.50 per hour.

This hourly increase also affects the minimum salary requirements for full-time exempt employees, which currently is \$66,560 per year (\$5,546.67 per month). Beginning January 1, 2025, the minimum salary for a full-time employee to qualify for the exemption from overtime will be \$68,640 per year (\$5,720 per month).

Employers should take note, however, that Proposition 32 is on the November 2024 ballot and is proposing a \$2 increase to the state's current minimum wage. Should the proposition pass, the minimum wage will increase to \$17 per hour for the remainder of 2024 and \$18 per hour starting in January 2025 for large employers. Small businesses with 25 or less employees would be required to start paying \$17 per hour in 2025 and \$18 per hour starting January 1, 2026. Then starting in 2027, the minimum wage would be adjusted according to inflation, using the currently set formula.

What This Means for Employers: Proposition 32 will be decided on November 5, 2024, if passed large employers will have to immediately implement a change in employees' wages. If the proposition fails to gain majority support, California's minimum wage will increase by fifty-cents to \$16.50 per hour for all employers beginning January 1, 2025.

The goal of this article is to provide employers with current labor and employment law information. The contents should neither be interpreted as, nor construed as legal advice or opinion. The reader should consult with Barsamian & Moody at (559) 248-2360 for individual responses to questions or concerns regarding any given situation.

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Riverside County Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Program in Temecula Valley

For more than 15 years Temecula Valley has been part of an area-wide control program to suppress and monitor glassy-winged sharpshooter (GWSS) populations. The sizeable increase in GWSS activity seen in Temecula in 2017 prompted concerns of a chronic resurgence in GWSS populations as has occurred in other areas of California over the last few years. Lower counts for 2018 seem to suggest that the results from 2017 could represent an acute spike in activity. Even so, the driver of the high numbers in 2017 is not known definitively, and there is clearly potential for substantial interannual variability in GWSS abundance in the region. Temecula grape growers are encouraged to remain vigilant with GWSS and Pierce's disease monitoring and management activities.

Principal Researcher: Matt Daugherty, Department of Entomology, UC Riverside



EXPANDED HLB QUARANTINE IN THE WOODCREST AREA OF RIVERSIDE CO.



Recently, additional residential citrus trees in Riverside have been confirmed Huanglongbing (HLB) positive, bringing the total HLB tree count in Riverside Co. to 369 and a statewide total of 8,431 trees. **As a result of the latest detections, the existing Riverside HLB quarantine has expanded slightly in the Woodcrest area. All citrus growers with 25 or more citrus or commercial growers will be notified** if your property is in the new HLB quarantine expansion area. CDFA will also contact those citrus growers to set up a new HLB Compliance Agreement. Stay up to date on quarantine changes by signing up for CDFA ACP/HLB regulatory updates here at <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/citrus>.

To determine if your location is in the HLB quarantine, visit the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Interactive HLB Quarantine Map for the most updated quarantine boundaries. You can also check for the latest HLB detection map and numbers here, updated weekly on Fridays. For updated regulatory requirements to move citrus impacted by an HLB quarantine, visit Information for Citrus Growers/Grove Managers (regulations for moving citrus).

CONFIRMED CLAS-POSITIVE ACP ADULT FOUND IN HEMET

An adult Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) sample from a residential property in the San Jacinto Valley area of Riverside County has tested positive for *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus* (CLAs), the bacteria that causes Huanglongbing (HLB). The positive sample was collected as part of the Multi-Pest Risk Survey on a residential property in Hemet and confirmed positive for CLAs on July 17 by the Citrus Research Board's Jerry Dimitman Laboratory. Nymphs were also collected from the property and tested negative for CLAs. This is the first confirmed CLAs-positive adult ACP found in the San Jacinto Valley area.

An HLB quarantine zone will not be established as a result of this CLAs-positive ACP detection. However, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) staff are swiftly conducting surveys and collecting samples from the property and all HLB host plants that are located within a 250-meter radius around the find, per the ACP/HLB Action Plan.

If you need a pest control or tree removal referral, please contact me, Sandra Zwaal szwaal2@gmail.com.

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FARM BUREAU AT WORK

State Legislative and Government Affairs Updates

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SWRCB STATEWIDE WINERY ORDER

The State Water Resources Control Board is now in the implementation phase of the Statewide Winery Order. The Winery Order was adopted in 2021 and replaces Regional Water Board permits for wineries. The State Water Board is holding public webinars on enrollment, technical requirements, specific implementation considerations, and role of the local regional boards. Additional general information and webinars can be found at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/waste_discharge_requirements/winery_order.html. Staff: Kari Fisher; fisher@cfbf.com

NOTE: Winery Order Webinar – REGION 9 San Diego Regional Water Board, Thursday, September 12, 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM.

LABOR

On July 24, the Department of Industrial Relations announced the controversial Indoor Heat Illness Prevention Standard (General Industry Safety Orders, or GISO, Title 8 §3396) which officially became effective the prior day, July 23. After the Cal/OSHA Standards Board passed the Indoor Heat standard on June 20 and requested expedited approval by the Office of Administrative Law, little more was heard from OAL until DIR announced the approval of the regulation on July 23. Cal/OSHA has published compliance assistance materials that affected employers can refer to. You can find these materials at Employer Resources from FELS: Heat Illness Prevention. Staff: Bryan Little; blittle@cfbf.com



End of the Oriental Fruit Fly Quarantine

Effective August 11, 2024 the Department is removing the Oriental Fruit Fly quarantine located in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, Redlands and Yucaipa Areas. Maps of any remaining Oriental Fruit Fly quarantine boundaries can be found at: www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/off/regulation.html#maps

Regulated articles and conditions for intrastate movement under the quarantine can be found at Title 3 California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 3423. Pursuant to Title 3 CCR Section 3423 any interested party or local entity may appeal a quarantine area designation.

Process to Appeal the Proposed Reduced Boundary

The appeal must be submitted to the Department in writing and supported by clear and convincing evidence. The appeal must be filed no later than ten (10) working days from the date of this notification. During the pending of the appeal, the designated Quarantine Boundary under appeal shall remain in effect.

Mail Appeals to:

CDFA - Pest Exclusion
1220 N Street, Room 221
Sacramento, CA 95814

Electronic Notification of Boundary Changes

California Code of Regulation allows interested parties to be notified of quarantine area boundary changes, as well as the opportunity to submit quarantine boundary appeals. If interested in receiving notifications, please sign up for regulatory updates through the email notification list at: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CADFA/subscriber/new>

For questions regarding the regulations or map, please email Dayna Napolillo at dayna.napolillo@cdfa.ca.gov or call 916.654.0312.

CARB PHASES OUT FORKLIFTS

On June 27, California Air Resources Board (CARB) approved a forklift rule that phases out most forklifts. As of 2026, new propane and natural gas forklifts will be unavailable, and other older models will be phased out by 2038. In-field, rough terrain forklifts are exempt from this rule, but internal combustion engine with cushion tires and pneumatic tires will have to comply. Farm Bureau submitted comments in June on the proposed rule and spoke at the June 27 CARB board meeting asking for a timeline that gives more users a stretched-out timeframe to phase out their forklifts. Under this scenario, owners of large fleets would have until 2038 instead of 2034 to fully replace their fleet. In the end, CARB did not agree to this change, and they adopted the regulation as is. Staff: Steven Fenaroli, sfenaroli@cfbf.com

CDFA ACCEPTING GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR DAIRY AND LIVESTOCK METHANE

California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) is now accepting grant applications from commercial dairies and livestock operations for the installation of equipment and implementation of practices that result in long-term methane emissions reductions and maximize environmental co-benefits. <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/grants>
The deadline to apply is October 18.

- \$8M for Dairy Digester Research and Development Program (DDRDP)
- \$17.4M Alternative Manure Management program (AMMP)
- \$58M in Dairy PLUS Program

Staff: Steven Fenaroli, sfenaroli@cfbf.com

Suppress farm fires with EnforcerOne: A success story

The following information is provided by Nationwide®, the #1 farm and ranch insurer in the U.S.*

"It was just another day on the farm, baling hay under the summer sun," begins Wesley, recounting the harrowing experience that unfolded on his family's Montana farm in late July 2022. "Suddenly, my father-in-law saw flames in the field behind him. Without hesitation, he dumped the hay from the baler and turned the tractor around to fight the blaze."

The fire caught up to his baler quickly, threatening to consume it. "My father-in-law, a lifelong farmer, had never used the Enforcer® 10 before. I had only shown him how it worked once after we installed it," Wesley continued. "But in that critical moment, he remembered everything. He rushed to the front of the tractor, activated the Enforcer 10, and within seconds, the fire on the baler was out."

Fighting fire with foam

Mounted on the front of his tractor, the Enforcer 10 utilizes high energy compressed air foam technology to produce 200 gallons of FIREBULL® firefighting foam that can be discharged from a distance of up to 45 feet.

It not only saved the tractor and baler, but also helped Wesley's father-in-law create a safe zone amidst a blazing field. "He used the remaining foam to fend off the ground fire around him, buying just enough time to drive himself and the equipment to safety," Wesley said.

The aftermath was a testament to the effectiveness of the Enforcer 10. "My father was amazed. When he pulled the trigger, the fire went out and stayed out. Not a single flame reignited on the baler or the ground where the FIREBULL foam had been applied," the son marvels.

Nationwide and EnforcerOne join forces to protect agriculture customers

With an estimated 20,000 agricultural fires each year, the need for fire safety awareness and planning has never been greater. EnforcerOne and Nationwide recently announced a new partnership to help.

Through the partnership, Nationwide's agriculture customers can receive a 20% discount on a suite of EnforcerOne and FIREBULL products, including the Enforcer 10.

"This partnership with EnforcerOne is more than just about business; it's a commitment to safeguarding the lives and livelihoods of our customers everywhere," said Brad Liggett, president of Agribusiness at Nationwide. "We're thrilled to add these state-of-the-art fire suppression devices to our array of tools and resources customers and agents can use to arm themselves against the unpredictable threat of fire."

As neighbors and volunteer fire departments arrived to help with the fire, they too were impressed by the Enforcer 10's performance. "Many marveled at its simplicity and power. It's clear to us now; without the Enforcer 10, we would have lost much more than hay that day," Wesley added.

"EnforcerOne has a long history of providing unique fire suppression offerings for fire departments," said Ron Thames, president of EnforcerOne. "By getting these easy-to-use firefighting tools directly into the hands of customers to quickly extinguish fires in their incipient stage, we can help better protect customers and get them back to work safely and quickly."

Don't let a fire define your legacy. Visit **EnforcerOne.com** to discover how you can integrate these vital fire suppression solutions into your farm and protect what matters most. Visit **AgInsightCenter.com** for more resources and expert tips to help you run a successful business and maintain the safety of your operation.

*A.M. Best Market Share Report 2023.

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Support Our Youth – Donate to the Farm Bureau Buyers Auction Support Fund!

Save the date for one of the most exciting events of the year! The Southern California Fair is coming to town from October 10 to 13, 2024, with the highly anticipated Jr. Livestock Auction taking place on the 12th.

This year, we're expecting over 1,000 animals to cross the auction block, showcasing the hard work and dedication of our local youth. These young entrepreneurs, involved in 4-H, FFA, and Grange programs, have invested countless hours in raising and preparing their animals, and now it's our turn to show our support.

By participating in the auction, you have a unique opportunity to fill your freezer with top-quality, locally grown meat while supporting these exceptional young people. Your involvement not only provides valuable resources for their future but also fosters a sense of community and mentorship that is vital to their growth and development.

Our local youth programs are more than just about agriculture; they offer invaluable lessons in entrepreneurship, public speaking, teamwork, financial management, critical thinking, organization, and leadership. These young individuals are our future leaders, business owners, managers, and elected officials, and the skills they acquire through these programs are instrumental in shaping their futures.

If you cannot be there in person the Farm Bureau Buyers Auction Support Fund plays a crucial role in supporting these youth by purchasing their animal projects or providing add-ons at the Southern California Fair, Riverside County Fair & National Date Festival, and the Colorado River Fair. Your donations to this fund directly impact these young exhibitors and help them gain the recognition and financial support they deserve.

We invite community members, business owners, and supporters to contribute to this important cause. Please fill out the donation form below to make a difference in the lives of these promising young leaders.

Together, we can ensure that their hard work is rewarded and help them continue to thrive. Thank you for your support and commitment to our future generation!

Attention all Farm Bureau Members - We need your Help!

Over the course of many years, the Farm Bureau has contributed to the Junior Livestock Auction and a large portion of that comes from members like you.

Your money that is donated to the Auction Support Fund will go directly towards the purchasing of animals at the Riverside County Fair and National Date Festival, Southern California Fair and Colorado River Fair. These animals are entered into the Junior Livestock Auction by the members of the Future Farmers of America (FFA), 4-H, and Grange students.

With all of the choices children have today, the FFA, 4-H, and Grange are wonderful activities worth supporting. These organizations teach young people important life skills, including time management, financial responsibility, and the importance of caring for others.

FFA, 4-H, and Grange students that profit from these auction sales use the funds to start their next animal project and to start saving for college.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Any amount that you can contribute will be greatly appreciated.

Contribution: \$50 \$100 \$1000 Other _____

**Donations are not tax deductible as charitable contributions but may be deductible as ordinary business expenses. Consult your tax preparer for information.*

Please make check payable to: Riverside County Farm Bureau
Memo Line: Auction Support Fund
Riverside County Farm Bureau
21160 Box Springs Rd, #102, Moreno Valley, CA 92557



Thank You

Your commitment to quality and sustainable growing practices has not gone unnoticed. Thank you for your tireless efforts from planting to harvest. Your passion and dedication are appreciated and helped make the 2024 season a success.



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2024 Train-the-Trainer Refresher

Review required annual training topics for fieldworkers and handlers

Actualización de Entrenamiento

Repasa los requisitos de capacitación anual trabajadores de campo y manipuladores

COST: \$100

Dates/Fechas	English	Español
Sep 17	9 am – 12 pm	1 pm – 4pm
Oct 15	9 am – 12 pm	1 pm – 4pm
Nov 19	9 am – 12 pm	1 pm – 4pm

[Click to register](#) [Regístrate aquí](#)

<https://surveys.ucanr.edu/survey.cfm?surveynumber=43186>

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[UC IPM Events Page Website](#)

<https://ipm.ucanr.edu/events>



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Integrated Pest Management Program



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



September 11, 2024 ~ 5:30 PM, Riverside County Farm Bureau Board of Directors meeting. In person at Farm Bureau office and via Zoom Conference. Please call our office at (951) 684-6732 for more information.

Food and Farm News

Courtesy of CFBF

State pesticide regulators get funding infusion from new mill tax

Guided by a plan that prioritizes new pest management approaches and a goal to eliminate high-risk pesticides by 2050, state Department of Pesticide Regulation Director Julie Henderson outlined priorities now being supported by a \$34 million revenue boost from raising the mill assessment on pesticide sales. Annual increases in the mill assessment—a fee that farmers pay when they purchase pesticides—went into effect in July. Henderson said the mill assessment increase will support Sustainable Pest Management initiatives and add 117 new positions.

Planned state pesticide notification program stirs debate

The California Department of Pesticide Regulation moved closer to finalizing a new regulation that would provide advance public notice of restricted-use pesticide applications on farms. The new regulation would create an online map of planned applications, drawing the data from the notices of intent farmers submit to county agricultural commissioners before they are permitted to apply restricted-use pesticides. Growers and farm advocates have complained the rule unfairly targets agriculture while exempting other sectors that use pesticides.

New California Farm Bureau Podcast airs 'Voice of Agriculture'

A new podcast produced by the California Farm Bureau is giving a voice to the state's farmers and ranchers. The "Voice of California Agriculture," hosted by longtime Farm Bureau field representative Gary Sack, was launched in March to keep listeners informed about the latest news affecting Golden State agriculture. Sack, who works with farmers and ranchers in 15 counties on a daily basis, brings to the news program more than a decade of radio experience, reclaiming a role he took on when he first joined the Farm Bureau 45 years ago.

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