



May 5, 2018

Pest Management

Three projects submitted by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) have been selected as recipients of USDA's specialty crop multi-state grant funding. The projects include:

- \$483,278--UC Western Institution for Food Safety and Security and Oregon State University for food safety, honeybee health through veterinary education;
- \$770,356--UC and Oregon State University for nematode use to mitigate for gastropods; and
- \$410,985--USDA-ARS, Washington State University, and UC Davis for esca trunk disease research impacting grape production;

Additional information on the projects can be found [here](#). *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

The Senate Agriculture Committee held an informational hearing to discuss the status of Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) and Huanglongbing (HLB) disease. Presenters included CDFA, California Citrus Mutual and members of the Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Program. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

Land Use

[SB 1029](#) (Mike McGuire, D-Del Norte), a bill reported on previously in the Friday Review, would dissolve the existing North Coast Rail Authority and transfer the rights for 300+ miles of rail line to the Sonoma-Marine Rail Transit District (mile post 0-142.5 in Willits) and to the newly create Great Redwoods Trail Agency (mile post 142.5-300.5) to create a hiking, biking, riding trail and potential transit lines. In addition to the bill, Senator McGuire has requested \$4.1 million in the 2018-19 budget to performed deferred maintenance on crossings, survey the Authority's existing right-of-way and initiate an environmental assessment. Farm Bureau has expressed concerns to the author and legislative committee staff regarding property rights, existing debt and contractual obligations of the Authority, and implementation issues. The bill is set to be heard in Senate Appropriations on May 14th and the budget request will be heard in Senate Budget Subcommittee at a date to be determined. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

Marketing

The California State Organic Program's (SOP's) Advisory Board, the California Organic Products Advisory Committee (COPAC) has announced committee vacancies. COPAC's obligation is to advise the SOP and CDFA regarding enforcement, education, outreach and technical assistance. Appointments stand for three years and members may serve two terms, for a total of six years. Current vacancies include:

- 1 technical representative
- 2 producer alternates

- 2 processor alternates
- 1 environmental alternate
- 2 technical alternates
- 1 consumer alternate

If you're interested in applying for these vacancies, please see the information required [here](#). *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

Many cities and counties have existing ordinances making sidewalk vending a criminal offense (misdemeanor or infraction). As a result of the criminality of such violations, concerns have arisen from Senator Ricardo Lara (D-Bell Gardens) that such activities could result in deportation of undocumented individuals. In response, [SB 946](#) would prohibit locals from regulating sidewalk vendors unless they had a specific program operating under restricted applications. Farm Bureau is working with the author's staff to ensure these restrictions would not have any ramifications on CSAs, farm stands and certified farmers' markets. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*

Nutrition

CDFA has awarded \$825,543 in grant funding from the California Nutrition Incentive Program to the following entities to match CalFresh (food stamp) recipients' purchases of California-grown produce at retail stores, CSAs, and Certified Farmers' Markets:

- Interfaith Sustainable Food Coalition
- Mandela Marketplace
- The Ecology Center
- Visalia Farmers' Market Association.

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Industrial Hemp/Cannabis

[SB 1409](#), a bill by Senator Scott Wilk (R-Antelope Valley) governing industrial hemp, has recently been amended to authorize a city or county to ban the cultivation or seed breeding of industrial hemp within their jurisdiction if the local jurisdiction makes a finding that hemp cultivation would threaten licensed cannabis cultivation from pollen drift. The bill is set to be heard in Senate Appropriations Committee at an unspecified future hearing. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, troschen@cfbf.com or 916-446-4647.*