

Division of Measurement Standards
8500 Fruitridge Road
Sacramento, California 95826

DMS Notice
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March 20, 2001

Discard: 03/02

TO WEIGHTS AND MEASURES OFFICIALS

SUBJECT: Weights and Measures Week Press Release

Attached for your reference is a copy of the Press Release, which was issued by CDFA during Weights and Measures Week, March 1-7, 2001. This event is celebrated at the same time (March 1-7) every year.

If you have any questions regarding this notice, please contact Dennis Johannes at (916) 229-3006.

Sincerely,

Mike Cleary
Director
(916) 229-3000

Attachment



News Release

Find out more about California agriculture! www.cdfa.ca.gov

Email: cdfapublicaffairs@cdfa.ca.gov

For Immediate Release
March 2, 2001
Release #CDFA01-019

Contact: Steve Lyle
Adrian Woodfork
916/654-0462

NATIONAL WEIGHTS AND MEASURES WEEK SPOTLIGHTS CONSUMER PROTECTIONS

SACRAMENTO-Have you ever wondered if you are getting the octane you pay for when it comes to gasoline?

A recent survey conducted by the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Division of Measurement Standards determined that, in California, you will 99.3% of the time.

The United States General Accounting Office analyzed nationwide compliance rates for engine fuel octane in 1990. In states with no testing or enforcement program, the compliance rate was 47% to 78%. The compliance rate in states with fuel testing and compliance enforcement programs averaged 97.3%.

Octane testing is only one of the many valuable consumer protection programs and services provided by both county and state weights and measures in California.

March 1 through 7, 2001, has been proclaimed National Weights and Measures Week, in recognition of the 202nd anniversary of the signing of the first weights and measures law in the United States on March 2, 1799.

The week recognizes the important service to the community performed by over 3,000 state and local weights and measures officials across the nation. These men and women help ensure that consumers get what they pay for and that businesses do not give products away as a result of inaccurate measuring equipment. The officials also make sure that individuals who sell products and services by weight or measure follow federal, state, and local laws.

Because U.S. sales of products and services impacted by weights and measures laws total over \$4.5 trillion annually, the work of the weights and measures office has a significant impact on our communities and our nation. It is vital to maintaining consumer confidence in the marketplace, promoting fair competition among businesses, and ensuring a strong national economy.

FLEX YOUR POWER. To meet California's energy challenge, CDFFA urges businesses and consumers to conserve. For a list of simple ways that you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Web site @www.cdfa.ca.gov.