

QUARTERLY QUIPS

DIVISION OF INSPECTION SERVICES

BY: FIONA L. MATTSO



The Office of Farm to Fork Update

At the end of September, the Office of Farm to Fork completed its initial Interagency Agreement with the California Department of Education and the California Department of Public Health. Several of the resulting tools and reports are now

available on the Farm to Fork website (www.cafarmtofork.com). The tools and reports help support Farm to School programs and Career and Technical Education Programs throughout California.

The Office of Farm to Fork is also piloting their new interactive database, The California Farmer Marketplace, which will help connect school districts directly to farmers and ranchers.

FREP 2015 Request for Proposals & Nitrogen Management Training

This year, the Fertilizer Research and Education Program (FREP) is running two requests for proposals (RFPs) for grants: regular and special. The special request is open for proposals until March 3, 2015. FREP's competitive grant program funds research that advances the environmentally

safe and agronomically sound use of fertilizing materials. For more information, see <http://www.cdafa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/frep/competitivegrantprogram.html>.

In addition, FREP and the University of California's Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UCANR) are offer-

ing nitrogen management training for certified crop advisers (CCAs). The 2-day training sessions take place in Fresno, San Luis Obispo, and Sacramento between January and March. More information and registration is available at: <https://capcaed.com>.

California Department of Food and Agriculture 25 Year Club

The 25 Year Club, which started in 1949, promotes the interest of the career workers in the agricultural regulatory or service work. This club also recognizes the distinguished careers and meritorious services of the members, as well as, stimulates and encourages the goodwill among associates in the organization.

Eligible employees are those with twenty-five years or more of state

service, at least half of which is with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). This club meets once a quarter for lunch and to conduct business as well as to celebrate and have fun.

To join, please complete and submit the application form, which can be found on the CDFA portal under resources: <https://main.cdafa.ca.gov/Resources/Pages/default.aspx>

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the officers:

- Steve Mauch, President - jjmauch@hotmail.com
- Ed Hunter, Vice President - eddiehunter@gmail.com
- Jack Carmany, Treasurer - jcarmany@msn.com
- Jana Cortez, Secretary - jana.cortez@sbcglobal.net

Division of Inspection Services

Recipe Books on Sale!

1 book for \$10 or 2 books for \$15

Please see Fiona Mattson if you would like to purchase one.

Proceeds go towards the Farm to Fork Demonstration Garden

Farm to Fork

Demonstration Garden

Want to see a certain crop grown in the Farm to Fork Demonstration Garden this spring? E-mail your ideas to Fiona Mattson at fiona.mattson@cdafa.ca.gov





What kind of vegetable is jealous?

A green bean!

Which vegetable can't you take on a boat?

Leeks.

What is a kayaker's favorite kind of lettuce?

Row-maine!

Welcome Our New Staff to the Division of Inspection Services!

Carrie Black-Farm to Fork

Anna Carrasquillo-I&C

Kelsey Hogue-FFLDRS

Natalie Jacuzzi-FFDLRS

Megan Kavanaugh-FFLDRS

Kate Lincoln-FFLDRS

Inspection & Compliance Updates

Cold Nights

In December temperatures were cold enough to worry Central Valley citrus growers. Utilizing its recently committee approved citrus protocols, the Citrus Program notified counties of the necessity to read their thermographs to determine areas most likely to sustain damage. In addition fruit was removed from the orchards and held for 72 hours then cut and an internal examination was performed. This is necessary

because freeze damage often takes several days before the edible portion becomes affected. Fortunately damage was minimal.

Surprisingly, the avocado industry was hit harder due to the freak snow storm in Western Riverside County. Overall approximately 500 acres sustained some damage with around 5% of the fruit being affected.

American National Standards Institute (ANSI)

Shipping Point Inspection's Food

Safety Unit was recently granted accreditation as a Conformity Assessment Body by ANSI. This allows the unit to apply to various scheme holders under the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI). Once contractual agreements are in place, the unit may audit to various metrics approved by GFSI. This is important as most large produce buyers require growers and/or packers to be certified under a GFSI approved audit such as Primus or Global Gap.

Visitors at the Center of Analytical Chemistry

San Joaquin Valley Pesticide Use Enforcement Group

On October 15, 2014 the Center for Analytical Chemistry (CAC) hosted a group of Deputy Commissioners from the San Joaquin Valley Pesticide Use Enforcement group. The CAC provided a presentation to the commissioners to help them better understand the functions of our laboratory, and what role they play in the enforcement process with CDPR. The commissioners were also

provided with a tour of the lab. CAC is hoping that these types of visits will promote open communication between the agencies to ensure good case development and successful action.

Delegation from China

The CAC was asked by their partner, The California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR), to host a delegation from China in early December. These government officials

were from the Guangzhou Food and Drug Administration and from the Institute for Drug Control. The purpose of their trip was to have a comprehensive understanding of the California Food Safety Surveillance program. CDPR and CAC gave a joint PowerPoint presentation on the State Pesticide Residue Monitoring program. The delegation had the chance to tour the laboratories at the Center as well.

