



# Newsletter

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## CA APPLE COMMISSION APPLIES FOR 2022 CDFA SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANT

Each year, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) conducts the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP). The notice of funding for the 2022 SCBGP was distributed in early October, with proposals due at the end of the month. Grant awards range from \$100,000 to \$500,000 per project and projects may last for up to two and a half years. The CAC applied for two proposals in the 2022 program: *The Exclusively Fresh Campaign: Promoting California Apple Growers and the High Quality, Fresh Apples They Produce* and *Evaluating Effectiveness of Various Calcium Fertilizers to Prevent Bitter Pit in Apples*. The CAC should be notified whether the applications made it through to Phase 2 later this year. If you have any questions regarding the grant program, please do not hesitate to contact the CAC office.

## GOVERNOR NEWSOM EXPANDS DROUGHT EMERGENCY STATEWIDE AND URGES CALIFORNIANS TO REDOUBLE WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS

As California faces potentially a third year of drought, Governor Newsom issued a proclamation extending drought emergency statewide. The record low storage in California's largest reservoirs and record high temperatures experienced in August 2021 are forcing difficult decisions to be made. The proclamation requires local water suppliers to implement water shortage contingency plans and prepare for a third dry year. The proclamation also authorizes the Governor's Office of Emergency Services to provide assistance and funding under the California Disaster Assistance Act to support the emergency response and delivery of drinking water and water for public health and safety. Lastly, the Governor's California Comeback Plan invests \$5.2 billion over three years to support immediate drought response and long-term water resilience. To view the full proclamation click [here](#).

## CA APPLE COMMISSION ATTENDS UNITED FRESH PRODUCE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

In late September, the CAC traveled to Washington, DC to participate in the annual United Fresh Produce Association Conference. The purpose of this event is to unite fresh produce industry members in order to address some of the most pressing public policy matters impacting these industries. The CAC was able to meet with many Members of Congress to discuss issues impacting the California apple industry. If you have any questions regarding this event, please do not hesitate to contact the CAC office.

Below the CAC staff is picture with Congressman Costa, one of the Members CAC met with during their visit to Washington D.C.



## NOSB DENIES KASUGAMYCIN PETITION

On October 20, 2021, the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) voted unanimously to not add kasugamycin to the National List of approved products. The final recommendations and official transcripts will be posted to the NOSB website in the coming weeks. Given that the NOSB has voted to remove other antibiotics in the same family, such as streptomycin, from the National List, the Crops Subcommittee found that kasugamycin, is not compatible with a system of sustainable agriculture under OPFA criteria. CAC staff is currently looking into a possible appeals process and other research opportunities to support a new petition. Please reach out to CAC staff with questions regarding the NOSB's decision.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Produce Marketing Association (PMA) Fresh Summit, New Orleans, LA**
  - October 28-30, 2021- CANCELLED
- **OFFICE CLOSED- Veterans Day**
  - November 11, 2021
- **OFFICE CLOSED- Thanksgiving**
  - November 25-26, 2021
- **Fruit Logistica, Berlin, Germany**
  - February 9-11, 2022

*Some events are being held virtually. Please contact the CAC office for more information.*

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## APPLE BITES



### Caramelized Onion, Cheddar, Apple, And Blueberry Grilled Cheese

#### Ingredients:

- 2 slices of crusty French bread
- cheddar cheese
- caramelized balsamic onions
- California blueberries
- California apples, sliced

#### Directions:

- Over medium heat preheat your indoor griddle/skillet. Place a slice of cheese over the bread. Top with the caramelized onions, California blueberries, and California apple slices. Top with another slice of cheese if desired.
  - Top with the remainder bread slices and grill sandwiches until cheese is melted, flipping once.
- Enjoy!

*Recipe courtesy of [www.thefeedfeed.com](http://www.thefeedfeed.com) and @Lastcookie\_ca*

