



Newsletter

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CAC SWITCHING TO VIRTUAL NEWSLETTERS

In an effort to save paper and resources, the CAC has decided to switch to an entirely virtual format for our bimonthly newsletters. To remain on the newsletter list, please enter your email in the newsletter subscription box on our website, calapple.org, email intern@calapple.org, or call 559-225-3000 requesting to be added to the CAC newsletter email list. Be sure to subscribe to receive the next newsletter in your email inbox!

CALIFORNIA DROUGHT UPDATE

On April 21, 2021, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a drought emergency in two Northern California counties in response to arid conditions affecting much of the state and west coast. The declaration included Mendocino and Sonoma counties, where drought conditions are especially bad. It's likely that a broader drought declaration will come as conditions change. The Commission office will provide more information as the situation progresses.

CA LEGISLATURE PASSES TAX RELIEF BILL FOR PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM RECIPIENTS

On April 26, 2021, the California Legislature sent the Governor AB 80, which seeks to "provide assistance to small businesses operating in the state that have been harmed economically by the COVID-19 pandemic." Specifically, the bill will:

- Allow eligible entities to deduct business expenses that were paid for using forgiven Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) or Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) funds.
- Allow loans forgiven as an "advance grant amount" under the EIDL program to be excluded from income for California taxpayers.
- Not require eligible entities to adjust their tax attributes as a result of forgiven PPP or EIDL funds.

AB 80 defines an "ineligible entity" as a taxpayer that either:

1. Is a publicly-traded company, as described in the Federal Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (Public Law 116-260).
2. Does not meet the reduction in gross receipts of 25 percent or more in 2020 as compared to the same time period in 2019, as defined in the Federal Consolidated

Appropriations Act of 2021 (Public Law 116-260).

The 25 percent reduction in gross receipts was an eligibility requirement for the second round of PPP loans. Unfortunately, the Legislature and Governor extended this requirement to all businesses that received a PPP loan for purposes of business deduction which means many essential sectors will not be eligible because they have been operating throughout the pandemic.

The language of the bill can be found [here](#).

APPLE RESEARCH PROJECTS

ProTone- Organic Apple Thinner

The CAC is currently working with Valent to conduct trials on California apples to obtain efficacy data for use of ProTone as an organic apple thinner with the intent of pursuing a Section-3 registration with the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (CDPR). ProTone currently has a Section-3 federal registration label issue by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Additionally, ProTone has a Section-3 registration in California for use on table grapes as a color enhancer as well as a Section-3 registration in the state of Washington for apple thinning. ProTone contains the active ingredient S-abscisic acid or S-ABA which is already naturally occurring in table grapes and is responsible for the development of pigments within the fruit skin. Trials on California apples are currently taking place on the following varieties: Granny Smith, Pink Lady, Gala, and Modi. Efficacy data along with a final report can be expected in the Winter of 2022. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the CAC office with any questions regarding this research project.

Sterile Codling Moth Releases

The CAC, in conjunction with M3 Agriculture Technologies, is conducting sterile codling moth releases on 100 acres of California apples. Sterile Insect Technology (SIT) is an emerging way to control pests and is both advantageous for conventional and organic growers. M3 conducted their first sterile release on April 26th using drones to deploy 800 sterile Codling Moths per acre. This technique is meant to demonstrate greater control over the Codling Moth population over time. M3 will be analyzing existing trapping regimes to evaluate the reduction of non-sterile Codling Moths and assessing damage control by establishing a Control block. This project can be expected to conclude by the Fall of this year, at which time CAC staff will send out to the industry a final report. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the CAC with any questions regarding this research project.

USAPPLE "CORE CONNECT"

This May, the US Apple Association is hosting their second **USApple Core Connect**: a one-on-one appointment event to help members efficiently evaluate products and services. If your company is in the market for any product or service this year, then Core Connect can be of value to you. All you have to do is register (a 5-minute process) and take at least one vendor meeting (20 minutes in length): *(Continued to the right)*

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Did you know you can receive an e-newsletter instead of the snail mail version? If you would like to sign up, please email intern@calapple.org

1. Visit US Apple Core Connect (<https://usapple.converve.io/index.html>), click "Register Now" at the top of the screen to create your account and set your calendar availability for appointments on May 20, 21, and 26.
2. Once registration closes in early May, you'll be able to view vendor profiles, request appointments, and respond to inbound appointment requests.
3. The 20-minute appointments take place within the platform on a video conference platform similar to Zoom. That's it!

To make meeting even more rewarding, for every appointment you complete, you'll be entered into a drawing to win one of three \$100 Amazon gift cards!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **OFFICE CLOSED- Memorial Day**
 - May 31, 2021
- **CAC Annual Meeting**
 - June, Date TBD
- **USApple Annual Meeting**
 - August, Date TBD
- **United Fresh Washington Conference, Washington, DC**
 - September 20-22, 2021
- **Produce Marketing Association (PMA) Fresh Summit, New Orleans, LA**
 - October 28-30, 2021

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



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