



# Newsletter

Issue No. 150

May/ June 2022

## BEEHERO SEEKS CALIFORNIA APPLE INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION

At the annual Board of Directors meeting, representatives from BeeHero, a data-driven tech company who is working to redefine pollination in commercial agriculture, provided an update on their planned work in the CA apple industry during the 2023 pollination cycle. BeeHero use advanced data analytics, artificial intelligence, and low-cost IoT sensors to bring transparency and efficiency to the complex logistics of commercial crop pollination. Much of their precision pollination efforts to date have been focused on almonds. In 2023, they will launch a research project to properly assess the pollination requirements of apples. By tradition, Apple growers tend to have their own "rule of thumb" for the number of hives per acre.

They want to assess apple pollination to see if they can determine how many bees are really needed to optimize yield. They are looking for a few apple growers to provide orchard acreage for gratis installation of our hive monitoring technology-sensors to provide data on the foraging activity of the beehives.

If you are interested in learning more about BeeHero, please contact Elise Oliver at [eliver@calapple.org](mailto:eliver@calapple.org)

## CALIFORNIA APPLE PACKET

To all California Apple handlers, Apple Packets for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year will be mailed out July 8, 2022. Included in the Apple Packet are the following, Assessment Invoice Forms, reflecting the new assessment amount of \$0.004375 mils per pound or \$0.175 cents per 40-lb. standard box of fresh apples, Destinations Report Form, and Growers List. Forms are due with each monthly assessment report and payment. Should you have any questions, please contact the Commission office.

## CAC ASSESSMENT RATE ESTABLISHED

At the annual California Apple Commission meeting held on June 15, 2022, the Board of Directors voted to reduce the assessment rate of the Commission. After discussing the upcoming season and budgetary requirements, the Board concluded that reducing the assessment rate was in the best interest of the California Apple industry and that the Commission could accomplish the same goals and objectives at a lower rate. The reduced income will be offset by using some of the Commission reserve and the utilization of income from current management contracts. Beginning July 1, 2022, the assessment rate for the 2022-2023 fiscal year for the California Apple Commission will now be 17.5 cents per 40lb box. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the Commission office.

## 2022-2023 RESEARCH UPDATE

At the annual CAC Board of Directors Meeting held on June 15, 2022, the Board approved the following research projects for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year:

Researcher	Project	Amount
Dr. Jim Adaskaveg	Evaluation of New Bactericides for Controls of Fire Blight of Apples Caused by <i>Erwinia Amylovora</i> and Evaluation of New Postharvest Fungicides for Pome Fruits	\$21,200
Dr. Anu	Postharvest Quality and Physiology of 'Gala', 'Granny Smith', and 'Fuji' Apples Subjected to Phytosanitary Irradiation	\$1,500
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$22,700</b>

These two research projects are all a continuation of prior research from the previous fiscal year. If you would like a copy of the 2021-2022 Final Report for these projects, please email Program Supervisor Elise Oliver at [eliver@calapple.org](mailto:eliver@calapple.org).

## OCEAN SHIPPING REFORM ACT

On Thursday, June 16, President Biden signed the Ocean Shipping Reform Act into law. This bill was introduced by Senator Amy Klobuchar from Minnesota in February 2022 and passed through the senate in March with strong bipartisan support. The Ocean Shipping Reform Act increases the authority of the Federal Maritime Commission to investigate complaints about detentions and Demurrage charges (i.e. late fees) charged by ocean carriers, determine whether these charges are reasonable, and order refunds for unreasonable charges. The Ocean Shipping Reform Act also prohibits ocean carriers, marine terminal operators, ocean transportation intermediaries from unreasonably refusing cargo space when available or resorting to discriminatory methods. The commission has been a supporter of this effort and will continue to monitor its progress. If you have any questions, please contact our office.

## FARM BILL

The 2023 Farm Bill is currently being drafted. If you have any concerns or topics of interest about the drafting of the Farm Bill, please contact the office for more information. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office.

## DROUGHT UPDATE

Governor Newsom's California Blueprint proposed to invest \$2 billion for drought response, including \$100 million along with the prior investment of \$16 million during the current fiscal year. During the public meeting of the State Water Board, regulations were adopted that will require implementation of local water supplier's level 2 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plans. For those without a plan they are required limit outdoor water use by banning ornamental grass irrigation on commercial properties and businesses. It also restricts watering during the hottest time of the day and limited to two days per week.



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## AB 710 AND AB 778 UPDATES

The CAC Board of Directors voted to support AB 710 and AB 778 which are moving through the California legislature. AB 710 prohibits the sale of listed agricultural products that does not meet California's pesticide and labor regulations, and AB 778 requires state institutions to purchase California grown produce when available. As both bills have been moving through various Committees, CAC staff has provided Letters of Support along the way. AB 778 is set to be heard in the Senate Agriculture Committee shortly. AB 710 fell one vote short of passing through the Senate Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee, but bill author, Assemblyman Garcia is currently pushing for a reconsideration.

## APPLE REFRESHER

### Ingredients

- 1 California apple, sliced
- 1 California pomegranate, arils removed
- 1/4 cup fresh basil leaves, about 10-12 large
- 48 oz. apple juice
- 12 oz. pomegranate juice
- 12 o. lemon-lime soda
- ice

### Instructions

- Place the apples, pomegranate arils and basil leaves in the bottom of the pitcher. Fill the pitcher with ice up to a little over half way.
- Pour in the apple juice, pomegranate juice and soda. Stir to mix well.
- Serve and enjoy!



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **CAC in D.C.**
  - July 11-15, 2022
- **USAEDC 2022 Attaché Seminar**
  - July 13-14, 2022
- **U.S. Apple Export Council Meeting**
  - August 17, 2022
- **U.S. Apple Outlook 2022**
  - August 18-19, 2022

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