



Newsletter

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VIETNAM GRANTS FRESH MARKET ACCESS FOR U.S. BLUEBERRIES

After many years of working along side the Oregon Blueberry Commission, Washington Blueberry Commission, Bryant Christie, Inc., and the U.S. Highbush Blueberry Council, to coordinate with U.S. and Vietnamese officials, the California Blueberry Commission is happy to report that Vietnam has granted market access for fresh blueberry imports from the U.S., beginning officially on February 15, 2019. This announcement comes just in time for the California blueberry industry to take advantage of during the 2019 season. The CBC is happy to support the industry in any way possible in order to begin shipping to Vietnam. We wish to congratulate the California blueberry industry on this achievement and instill a reminder that the California Blueberry Commission is here to assist with exports to Vietnam in any way possible. For more information regarding this announcement, please do not hesitate to contact the CBC office at 559-221-1800, or email Elizabeth Carranza directly at ecarranza@calblueberry.org.

COMMISSION ATTENDS FRUIT LOGISTICA

On February 7-9, 2018, the California Blueberry Commission participated in the Fruit Logistica located in Berlin, Germany. Fruit Logistica is the largest fresh fruit trade show in the world, it covers the fresh produce business and offers a complete picture of the latest innovations, products, and services in the international supply chain. This trade show provides the Commission the unique opportunity to reach a vast audience of retailers and importers from around the world. If you would like more information, please contact the Commission office.

COMMISSION TO VISIT GUADALAJARA, MEXICO FOR ANTAD EXPO

From March 4-8, 2019, the Commission will travel to Guadalajara, Mexico to conduct market visits, meet with key retailers, importers, and distributors, and attend the annual Expo ANTAD. This event features over 25,000 visitors and nearly 2,300 exhibitors each year. The event is aimed at the retail sector and features opportunities for the entire food industry. The Commission will participate in meetings to establish new relationships and explore new business opportunities for the California blueberry industry. Please contact the Commission office for more information.

COMMISSION APPLIES FOR TWO SPECIALITY CROP BLOCK GRANTS

The Commission has submitted two proposals for the Specialty Crop Block Grant program through the California Department of Agriculture, titled "Testing the feasibility of frost monitoring technology to reduce California blueberry crop loss" and "Identifying solutions to reduce the waste of California blueberry culls." The Commission is happy to report that both of these proposals were invited back to Phase 2, and we anticipate receiving a funding decision in the fall of 2019. If funded, the grant programs would begin in November 2019. The CDFA SCBG review committee will make a final decision and announce funding results later in spring 2019. The CBC will provide updates as they are received. For any questions regarding these grant proposals, please contact the Commission office.

COMMISSION TO ATTEND CAPITOL HILL DAY

The California Blueberry Commission plans to visit Washington, D.C. on March 12-15, 2019. The purpose of this visit is to meet with members of Congress to provide information on some of the current successes and issues facing the California blueberry industry. Such topics will include water, labor, tariffs and export issues, and more. If you would like more information about the upcoming visit, please contact the Commission office.

eDISCLOSURE FOR e-FILING FORM 700 REMINDER

As outlined by CDFA and the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), all Board of Directors must complete the necessary Form 700. Board members are now eligible to submit their Form 700s electronically through eDisclosure. To access the eDisclosure system and complete e-filing Form 700, please log on to <https://form700.fppc.ca.gov/>. Upon logging in, you will see a list of positions that you are required to file a Form 700 for. Once completed, your Form 700 will be save in your online-filing cabinet under "Previous Filings" menu. **As a reminder, the Form 700 is due April 2, 2019.** Should you have any problems accessing or completing your eDisclosure Form 700, please contact your assigned FPPS filing officer, Christine Chen at (916)324-7602 or via email at Form700@fppc.ca.gov. As always, the Commission can help you file your Form 700. Please contact the Commission office for assistance.

HEAT ILLNESS PREVENTION TRAINING

The Department of Industrial Relations, Cal/OSHA Consultation and Agricultural Organizations are hosting a free heat illness prevention training session. The training will be hosted on Friday, April 12, 2019 in both Spanish and English. The 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. session will be held in Spanish, and the 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. session will be held in English. Upon completion, certificates will be distributed to attendees. If you have any questions, please contact the CBC office. The training will be held at:

C.P.D.E.S. Portuguese Hall
172 W. Jefferson Ave. Easton, CA 93706

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **ANTAD Mexico**
 - Date: March 5-7, 2019
 - Location: Guadalajara, Mexico
- **NABC/USHBC Meeting**
 - Date: March 6-8, 2019
 - Location: San Diego, CA
- **Capitol Hill Day**
 - Date: March 13, 2019
 - Location: Washington, D.C.
- **Japan Market Visit**
 - Date: March 31-April 5, 2019
 - Location: Tokyo, Japan

Blueberry Bites Blueberry Drop Cookies



Ingredients:

2 cups all-purpose flour	1 egg
2 teaspoons baking powder	1 cup sugar
1/2 teaspoons salt	1 teaspoon almond extract
1/2 cup shortening	1 1/2 teaspoon lemon zest
1/4 cup milk	1 cup California blueberries

Directions:

1. In a large mixing bowl, cream the shortening, sugar, egg, milk, almond extract and lemon zest. Mix well after the addition of each ingredient. Combine the flour, baking powder and salt; blend into the sugar mixture. Fold in the blueberries. Cover and chill for 4 hours.
2. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. Drop dough by teaspoonfuls onto ungreased cookie sheets, about 1 1/2 inches apart.
3. Bake 12 to 15 minutes in the preheated oven. Let the cookies cool on the baking sheets for a few minutes before transferring to wire racks to cool completely.

Recipe courtesy of www.allrecipes.com.

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