



CALIFORNIA
Blueberry
COMMISSION

*Wishing you a Merry Christmas, and
Happy New Year from the CBC!*

NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 12

November/December 2016

DRAFT BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES & GUIDANCE DOCS NOW AVAILABLE



The Department of Water Resources has released its first publication of Best Management Practices as required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. DWR has elected to

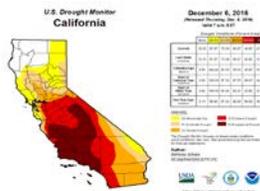
publish two categories of information that can be beneficial to Groundwater Sustainability Agencies with developing Groundwater Sustainability Plans. DWR has created a draft of Best Management Practices and Guidance Documents addressing sustainability management of ground water. BMPs are intended to provide clarification, guidance, and examples to help GSAs develop the essential elements of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Draft Best Management Practice topics include the following:

1: Monitoring Protocols, Standards, and Sites, 2: Monitoring Networks and Identification of Data Gaps, 3: Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model, 4: Water Budget, and 5: Modeling. Guidance Documents provide suggestions, with supporting graphics, for developing certain GSP components where no established practices in the water management industry exist. Draft Guidance Documents include the following: 1.Preparation Checklist for GSP Submittal, 2.GSP Annotated Outline, 3.Establishing Sustainable Management Criteria, 4.Engagement with Tribal Governments, and 5.Stakeholder Engagement and Communications. To read more about this information, please visit: water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/bmps.cfm.

REGISTRATION FOR PHYTOSANITARY IRRADIATION WORKSHOP NOW OPEN

Registration for the 7th annual Chapman University Phytosanitary Irradiation Forum is now open. The forum is organized in cooperation with the USDA and the Joint program

of the FAO/IAEA. The objective of the forum is to increase use and knowledge on irradiation as a means of phytosanitary treatment, which in turn will increase global trade and prevent invasive pests. The forum will be held March 21st-22nd, 2017 at Chapman University. Topics for the forum include efficacy, technology and consumer acceptance, global use, logistical challenges, regulatory agency perspectives, export certification and import regulations, and market access and trade. There is a registration fee of \$100 per guest. For information on how to register for this forum, please visit chapman.edu or contact the Commission office.



CALIFORNIA DROUGHT UPDATE

According to the California Drought Monitor, 43% of the state remains in extreme drought, but some major changes have occurred in the northwestern parts of California as of November 1, 2016. Areas affected by moderate-to-severe drought conditions have declined from 41% to 32% of the state over the past month. About 12% of the state is now identified as drought-free, namely Del Norte, Humboldt, Siskiyou, and most of Trinity and Shasta counties. To read more about this article, visit californiadrought.org.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION UPDATE

On Friday December 9th, 2016 the Senate voted to continue legislation on (H.R. 2028) that included a FY 17 continuing resolution (CR) that funds the federal government through April 28, 2017. The CR funding is provided at the level agreed to in last year's budget agreement. If you have any questions, please contact the Commission office.

CBC MEETS WITH GEORGIA BLUEBERRY GROWERS

On December 1, 2016, Executive Director, Alex Ott, met with over 100 Georgia blueberry growers to discuss the California Blueberry Commission's Blueberry Market Information

Resource Center (BMRIC). Currently, several states have viewed California's BMRIC system and have favorable comments on the information being provided by the electronic system. Ott presented the history of the program and how the Commission has adapted the system to assist in getting a better picture of the California market. The Commission will continue to work and collaborate with other states to see if a nationwide BMRIC system is doable or if several state programs can share information throughout the season.

CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT IMPROVEMENT ACT UPDATE

A California drought package was approved by the House and the Senate after being included in the \$10 billion Water Infrastructure Improvement for the Nation Act. The package was created by Republican House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy and Democratic Senator Dianne Feinstein. The California-related provisions will increase the amount of water pumping from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for farming and other purposes in central and southern California. The bill also directs \$558 million to desalination, water recycling, and water storage projects, among other proposals. This legislation marks a significant shift in the federal policy established in 1992 under the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA), which focused on the protection of the Delta and endangered species. The Water Infrastructure Improvement Act passed with a 360-61 vote by the House and a 78-21 vote by the Senate and was signed by President Barack Obama. To read more about this article, please visit <http://www.mcclatchydc.com>.

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BLUEBERRY BITES

Blueberry Biscotti

3 cups unbleached all-purpose flour	1-1/2 sticks unsalted butter, slightly softened, cut into 20 pieces
1/2 cup sugar	2 teaspoons finely grated lemon zest
1 teaspoon baking powder	1-1/4 cups dried California blueberries
1/2 teaspoon salt	3 large eggs, lightly beaten
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon	

Preheat oven to 350°F. Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper; set aside. In the bowl of a stand mixer, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, salt and cinnamon. Mixing on lowest speed, add the butter a few pieces at a time just until absorbed. Add lemon zest, blueberries and eggs; continue to mix on lowest speed until dough masses around the beater. Scrape dough to a floured work surface and gently knead into a smooth cylinder. Cut the dough in half and roll each to a cylinder about 15 inches long. Arrange the dough on the pan, gently flatten. Bake until golden and firm, about 30 minutes. Cool thoroughly; slice each loaf diagonally into 1/2-inch biscotti. Arrange on the cookie sheet and return to the oven to toast briefly to a light golden. Recipe courtesy of: <http://www.blueberrycouncil.org>.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Public Policy Meeting**
-Date: January 23-26, 2017
-Washington, DC
- **Fruit Logistica**
-Date: February 8-10, 2017
-Berlin, Germany



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