



Newsletter

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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 restricting watering during the hottest time of the day and limited to two days per week.

NABC TO HOST BLUEBERRY SUMMIT

Don't miss the Blueberry Summit this fall! The Blueberry Summit being held October 5-7 in Nashville. Join your fellow California Blueberry Commission members in person to learn, network and kick up your heels in one of the most exciting cities in the U.S.! Registering just takes a few minutes, and we'd sure love to see you in Nashville. [\[REGISTER NOW\]](#)



BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS

On June 6, 2022 Nomination Elections Forms were mailed out for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year. Following the nomination process, the names of all eligible producers and handlers will be placed on an election ballot and mailed to the industry. Those nominees receiving the highest number of votes will be elected as members to the board. All growers should be on the lookout for their Election Ballot Letter and Ballot Form that will be mailed out on July 8, 2022.

CBC TO REPRESENT INDUSTRY IN SOUTH EAST ASIA TRADE EVENTS

Representatives of the California Blueberry Commission will travel to Manila, Philippines from July 17-21 to participate in a USDA-led Agribusiness Trade Mission. This trade mission presents opportunities for the Commission to conduct retail site visits, engage with importers, retailers, distributors, etc. in the Philippine market, and interact with other U.S. companies, cooperators, and government officials. In addition to the trade mission, the CBC will also participate in a California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)-sponsored Taste of California event in Manila and Singapore. This event will feature various California commodities in a trade show format and will consist of educational activities for in-country trading partners, such as cooking demonstrations, etc. For more information on these events, please do not hesitate to contact Elizabeth Carranza at the CBC office (ecarranza@calblueberry.org).

AB 710 AND AB 778 UPDATE

The CBC 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, CBC 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.

OCEAN SHIPPING REFORM ACT 2022

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **USDA Agribusiness Trade Mission Taste of California Trade Event to the Philippines/Singapore**
 - July 18-23
- **OFFICE CLOSED- Labor Day**
- September 5, 2022



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FARM BILL DISCUSSION

The 2023 Farm Bill is currently being drafted. If you have any concerns about the drafting of the Farm Bill or topic areas of interest, please contact the CBC for more information. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our office at (559) 221-1800.

RECIPES CORNER: BLUEBERRY BRIE TOAST



Ingredients:

- 2 cups fresh California blueberries
- 6-8 ounces California brie cheese
- 4 thick slices of bread preferably sourdough
- 1 cup California walnuts
- 2 tablespoons California olive oil
- 2 tablespoons California honey
- 4 sprigs fresh thyme

Directions:

- Preheat oven to 425°F. Rinse blueberries and pat dry.
- Add bread to a baking sheet, drizzled with oil and walnuts in an even layer in the corner of the sheet. Bake for 5 minutes.
- Top toast with brie cut into 1/4-1/2 inch slices and bake again for 5 minutes.
- Crumble and top the toast with walnuts pieces and blueberries. Drizzle with honey and sprinkle with thyme.

Recipe from Californiagrown.org.



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