



# Newsletter

Issue No. 38

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## **CA BLUEBERRY COMMISSION APPLIES FOR THE 2022 CDFA SPECIALTY CROP BLOCK GRANT**

Each year, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) conducts the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP). The notice of funding for the 2022 SCBGP was distributed in early October, with proposals due at the end of the month. Grant awards range from \$100,000 to \$500,000 per project and projects may last for up to two and a half years. The CBC applied for one proposal in the 2022 program: *Developing a Cost Effective and Environmentally Friendly Method to Combat Drosophila Suzikii in CA Blueberries and Cherries*. The CBC should be notified whether the application made it through to Phase 2 later this year. If you have any questions regarding the grant program, please do not hesitate to contact the CBC office.

## **GOVERNOR NEWSOM EXPANDS DROUGHT EMERGENCY STATEWIDE AND URGES CALIFORNIANS TO REDOUBLE WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS**

As California faces potentially a third year of drought, Governor Newsom issued a proclamation extending drought emergency statewide. The record low storage in California's largest reservoirs and record high temperatures experienced in August 2021 are forcing difficult decisions to be made. The proclamation requires local water suppliers to implement water shortage contingency plans and prepare for a third dry year. The proclamation also authorizes the Governor's Office of Emergency Services to provide assistance and funding under the California Disaster Assistance Act to support the emergency response and delivery of drinking water and water for public health and safety. Lastly, the Governor's California Comeback Plan invests \$5.2 billion over three years to support immediate drought response and long-term water resilience. To view the full proclamation click [here](#).

## **CA BLUEBERRY COMMISSION ATTENDS UNITED FRESH PRODUCE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**

In late September, the CBC traveled to Washington, DC to participate in the annual United Fresh Produce Association Conference. The purpose of this event is to unite fresh produce industry members in order to address some of the most pressing public policy matters impacting these industries. The CBC was able to meet with many Members of Congress to discuss issues impacting the California blueberry industry. If you have any questions regarding this event, please do not hesitate to contact the CBC office.

Below the CBC staff is picture with Congressman Costa, one of the Members CBC met with during their visit to Washington D.C.



## CA BLUEBERRY COMMISSION ATTENDS USHBC TECH SYMPOSIUM & FALL MEETING VIRTUALLY

The U.S. Highbush Blueberry Council hosted their annual Fall meeting from September 27-October 1st. This year's meeting was held in a hybrid format, both virtually via an online platform and in-person in Salem, OR. As members of the Export Committee and Trade Task Force, CBC employees were able to participate in general session activities as well as Committee meetings virtually. The CBC would like to thank the U.S. Highbush Blueberry Council for once again putting on such a useful event this year.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Produce Marketing Association (PMA) Fresh Summit, New Orleans, LA**
  - October 28-30, 2021- CANCELLED
- **OFFICE CLOSED- Veterans Day**
  - November 11, 2021
- **OFFICE CLOSED- Thanksgiving**
  - November 25-26, 2021
- **Fruit Logistica, Berlin, Germany**
  - February 9-11, 2022

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

Find us on social media!



#calblueberry @calblueberries @calblueberry



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## Blueberry Bites



*Caramelized Onion, Cheddar, Apple, And  
Blueberry Grilled Cheese*

### Ingredients:

- 2 slices of crusty French bread
- cheddar cheese
- caramelized balsamic onions
- California blueberries
- California apples, sliced

### Directions:

- Over medium heat preheat your indoor griddle/skillet. Place a slice of cheese over the bread. Top with the caramelized onions, California blueberries, and California apple slices. Top with another slice of cheese if desired.
- Top with the remainder bread slices and grill sandwiches until cheese is melted, flipping once. Enjoy!

*Recipe courtesy of [www.thefeedfeed.com](http://www.thefeedfeed.com) and @Lastcookie\_ca*

