

March 5, 2010



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32nd Annual CCA Steak and Eggs Legislative Breakfast set for March 23 - RSVP Deadline Approaching

CCA's annual Steak and Eggs Legislative Breakfast will be held March 23 at the Sutter Club in Sacramento at 6:45 a.m. This unique event offers you the opportunity to interact one-on-one with your elected leaders as well as hear from a slate of speakers about what your government officials and CCA are doing for you.

Following the breakfast, CCA staff will coordinate legislative office visits where you can personally meet with politicians from your area to share the importance of looking out for beef producers. Ag Day at the Capitol is also held on March 23, so you may also visit California commodity groups on the lawn of the capitol building to celebrate agriculture.

In addition, there will be a PAC-200 dinner held at Chops Steakhouse on March 22, the night prior to the breakfast. Attendees will hear from special guest speaker Assemblyman Martin Garrick (R-Solana Beach) about his plans for his new role as Assembly Republican Leader. For information on becoming a PAC-200 member, to RSVP for the dinner or breakfast or to sign up for legislative visits, contact Chaley Paulson in the CCA office at (916) 444-0845 or by e-mail at chaley@calcattlemen.org.

CCA Spring Tour in Full Swing: Talk with CCA Officers about Issues Concerning You

During the course of the fall and spring CCA officers and staff make rounds at local association meeting throughout the state and they want to talk to you! Your CCA officers and staff are currently traveling the state on their annual spring tour and may soon be at a local association meeting near you.

These meetings are beneficial to all beef producers because not only will you learn about the issues CCA is working on in Sacramento and Washington, D.C., but it is a great opportunity voice your concerns about issues impacting you. As the spring tour continues, visit the CCA Web site, www.calcattlemen.org to see when CCA is attending a local meeting near you. Next week, officers in staff will be at the following local cattlemen's association meetings:

- Inyo-Mono-Alpine Cattlemen's Association, Bishop, Tuesday, March 9, 5:30 p.m., Whiskey Creek Restaurant
- Kern County Cattlemen's Association, McFarland, Thursday, March 11, 6 p.m., Idle Spurs, Western Stockman's Market
- Tulare County Cattlemen's Association, Visalia, Friday, March 12, 6 p.m., Double LL Steakhouse
- Fresno-Kings and Madera County Cattlemen's Association, Fresno, Saturday, March 13, 6 p.m., Fresno State Livestock Pavilion

CCA Participates in Williamson Act Oversight Hearing

On Wednesday, CCA Treasurer and Lassen County Supervisor Jack Hanson emphasized the importance of the Williamson Act for ranchers during a legislative oversight hearing on the past, present and future role of the Williamson Act in California.

The Senate Committee on Local Government hearing, Chaired by Sen. Dave Cox (R-Fair Oaks), included participation from the Regional Council of Rural Counties, California State Association of Counties, California Department of Conservation, Sierra Club, California Farm Bureau Federation and others.

The consensus appeared to be that the Williamson Act has not outlived its usefulness, and participants appeared eager to find a solution to the lack of subvention funding. CCA

staff will be an active participant in future discussions regarding the subvention funding. And will share will members any news that results from those discussions.

Williamson Act Legislation Introduced

Assembly Bill 1965 by Assembly Member Mariko Yamada (D-Davis), as currently written, appropriates general fund dollars on a percentage basis to counties that participate in the Williamson Act. AB 2530, authored by Assembly Member Jim Nielsen (R-Biggs) proposes to allocate Williamson Act cancellation fees to the general fund for use as Williamson Act subvention funding.

CCA staff will remain engaged during the legislative process on all issues affecting the Williamson Act and update members as new developments arise. Should you have questions, please contact Dawn Clover at dawn@calcattlemen.org.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Will Not Formally List Sage Grouse

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced today that the government would not formally list the sage grouse under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) but would keep it on the candidate list for future action. CCA and other livestock groups welcome the news as they have adamantly opposed the listing of the sage grouse under ESA.

While the grouse will not be formally listed, remaining as a candidate species will require land management agencies to continue to work to protect the grouse and habitat. Bureau of Land Management Director Bob Abbey also announced today that his office would issue guidance to further more effective management of the grouse and its habitat.

During the listing process, CCA, the Public Lands Council and other western livestock organizations urged the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to acknowledge the voluntary work performed by ranchers to protect the grouse and its habitat and that formally listing the species would only hinder or prevent similar voluntary efforts in the future. Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks Tom Strickland noted that, "Voluntary conservation efforts on private lands, when combined with successful state and federal strategies, hold the key to the long-term survival of the greater sage-grouse."

On-Road Diesel Truck Rule Information from CCA

Producers wanting to take advantage of the special agriculture provisions CCA worked to enact in the On-Road Diesel Truck Rule must report to the California Air Resources Board by March 31, 2010.

A fact sheet on the agricultural provisions of the rule as well as the reporting form can be downloaded from the CCA Web site, www.calcattlemen.org, under the "Current Issues

Update” section. For more information on the truck rule, contact Justin Oldfield in the CCA office at (916) 444-0845 or e-mail justin@calcattlemen.org.

Updated Information: ARB Holds Truck Rule Workshops Throughout California

The California Air Resources Board (ARB) has scheduled a series of workshops throughout the state to better educated truck owners and operators about the statewide Truck and Bus Regulation. The workshops will focus on registering farm and ranch trucks under the CCA supported agricultural provisions and educate others on the various compliance options of the rule should truckers be ineligible to participate in the ag program.

CCA has proposed additional dates and locations to ensure all producers have the opportunity to attend workshops including sites on the Central Coast, Northern California and the Imperial Valley. Sites that are currently scheduled are:

Monday, March 8, 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.	Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District, Monterey
Thursday, March 11, 2 to 4:30 p.m.	UC Cooperative Extension, Napa
Monday, March 15, 1 to 3:30 p.m.	Imperial County Farm Bureau, El Centro
Tuesday, March 16, 1 to 3 p.m.	Hawthorne Equipment & Machinery, San Diego
Thursday, March 18, 9 a.m. to noon & 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.	Air Resources Board, Sacramento
Monday, March 22, 1:30 to 4 p.m.	Yuba County Government Center, Marysville
Tuesday, March 23, 1 to 3:30 p.m.	Colusa Industrial Properties, Colusa
Wednesday, March 24, 1:30 to 4 p.m.	Ventura County APCD, Venture
Thursday, March 25, 9 a.m. to 11:30 p.m.	Kern County Agricultural Commissioner Auditorium, Bakersfield
Friday, March 26, 1 to 3:30 p.m.	Fresno County Farm Bureau, Fresno

CCA and California Public Lands Council Support Increased Funding for USDA Wildlife Services

In a letter sent this week to the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development and Related Agencies, CCA and the California Public Lands Council voiced their support for increased funding for the USDA Wildlife Services. USDA Wildlife Services provides necessary predator control services for livestock producers. Nearly 150,000 cattle are lost each year due to predation and working to protect USDA Wildlife Service’s funding for the 2011 federal fiscal year is extremely important.

For more information on this topic, contact Justin Oldfield in the CCA office at (916) 444-0845 or Justin@calcattlemen.org.

Tehama County Cattlemen's Association Spring Field Day Set for March 27

The Annual Tehama County Cattlemen's Association Spring Field Day is scheduled for Saturday, March 27 at the Foor Ranch in Vina. This year's festivities include a stock dog trial, stockman's challenge, three-man calf branding and the Herman Daugherty Memorial Working Cow Horse Competition.

Registration for the events will begin at 9 a.m., with the stock dog trial to start at 9:30. Entry fees for the stock dog event are \$50 per contestant, with other contests being \$25 per entry. Belt buckles will be awarded to the winners of these events, with a \$1,000 award given to the winner of the stockhorse division. Contestants by be members of CCA to compete.

Lunch at the event will be provided by Vic Woolery of Vic's Branding Iron in Cottonwood. Lunch tickets are \$15 for New York Steak and \$10 for hamburgers. More information on this event can be found by [clicking here](#).

Cattle Fax Weekly Market Highlight March 5, 2010

The fed cattle market traded steady in the North at \$144 and \$145 dressed, elsewhere it was very quiet and at a standstill at press time. Boxed beef prices traded lower on the week with volumes remaining on the light side. Feeder cattle values were steady to \$2 higher and calves were steady to \$3 higher. Slaughter cows were uneven with instances of \$2 lower and \$1 higher. Demand remains strong for all classes of cattle. Corn values were slightly lower on the week.

Help Your Business and Your Industry by Joining CCA Today

Do you like what you see here? Are you interested in participating in these important efforts and receiving additional publications about California's beef cattle industry? If you're not yet a member, you can lend your support by joining the California Cattlemen's Association (CCA) today. CCA is the only membership organization in California dedicated solely to looking out for the interests of ranching families and California's cattle industry.

CCA staff and officers work every day to ensure that our members have a known voice in Sacramento and in Washington, D.C. CCA defends your private property rights; works towards preserving private and public rangeland; protects the health of California's cattle herd; and provides scholarships to help the next generation of ranchers remain in the industry.

Joining this critical effort is simple for cattle producers, landowners and supporters of the industry. Call Stevie in the CCA office at (916) 444-0845 or email requests for membership information to stevie@calcattlemen.org.

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