

Today is _____, _____ the _____. This is Ken Morgan's Northcoast Ag Report, our lead story is about _____ when we return

U.S. Lacking in Organic Meat Processors

A report from the Organic Farming Research Foundation says the United States lacks enough organic meat processors. In the National Organic Research Agenda Report, the group concluded that although sales of U.S.-produced organic food exceed \$6 billion annually, federal funding into organic production has not kept pace. The report says the reason for the funding gap is unclear, according to meat industry publication Meatingplace. Additional needs cited by the more than 1,000 organic farmers who participated in the survey include the need for research into how to get the best marbled meat through genetics. Forty-one percent of farmers who responded to the National Organic Farmer Survey produced animal products, with the most commonly produced animal product being beef followed by poultry and dairy. The National Organic Research Foundation is a non-profit organic advocacy group based in California.

Save the Date! CCA's 39th Annual Steak and Eggs Legislative Breakfast March 22

Join CCA for the 39th annual Steak and Eggs Legislative Breakfast March 22 in Sacramento at the Sutter Club downtown at 8 a.m. Following the breakfast, CCA members will head for the Capitol where California Ag Day at the Capitol will be taking place and then visit with legislators to talk about important issues facing the beef industry.

Please RSVP by March 10 to Jenna Chandler in the CCA office by emailing her at jenna@calcattlemen.org or calling (916) 444-0845.

Rustici Rangeland Science Symposium March 23-24

You are invited to the 4th Rustici Rangeland Science Symposium in Davis, California on March 23-24

. The goal of this event is to engage ranchers, land managers, researchers, and policymakers in co-developing actionable science, policy, and management to sustain rangelands.

The symposium will focus on partnerships surrounding a variety of topics, including: sustaining water resources; coping with drought; habitat conservation; and enhancing ranch profitability.

If you are a past participant in Rustici Rangeland Science Symposiums, you will be provided an opportunity for early registration for this popular event. Attendance will be capped at 200 attendees, and will fill up fast!

Symposium highlights are available [here](#).

Register [here](#).

Learn more [here](#).

UC Davis Calls for Applicants for Assistant/Associate Specialist in Cooperative Extension for Beef Cattle Herd Health and Production

The University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, a statewide program with local delivery, in collaboration with the School of Veterinary Medicine, UC Davis, are seeking a full time Assistant/Associate Specialist in Cooperative Extension (100%) in the area of beef cattle herd health and production for California's extensive beef cattle industry that ranges from cow-calf and stocker operations in our foothill and coastal regions to large feedlots in southern and central California. The candidate will collaborate closely with colleagues in the School, across the University, and within the network of UC Cooperative Extension who work on the health and productivity of beef cattle, pre-harvest food safety and beef quality assurance, and adoption of sustainable livestock production practices. The successful candidate will be in residence at either UC Davis or the Veterinary Medicine Teaching and Research Center, Tulare, CA.

See qualifications, responsibilities and application process [here](#).

UC ANR Seeks Cooperative Extension Advisor

The University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources is seeking a Cooperative Extension Advisor who will serve UCCE Placer-Nevada and Sutter-Yuba Counties with headquarters in Auburn, CA. Please help spread the word about this position that will focus on integrating livestock, natural resources, food systems and economics.

A minimum of a master's degree is required, though other advanced degrees are

encouraged, in disciplines such as animal science, rangeland management or other closely related fields. Incumbent is required to become a Certified Rangeland Manager within five years of date of hire; see [here](#).

Excellent written, oral, and interpersonal communication skills are required. The ability to build partnerships and to work with multidisciplinary teams to address production and environmental challenges is required. Experience in applied research and extension is preferred.

SUBMIT BY date for full consideration is Monday March 13, 2017. It is position #AP16-20. Learn more [here](#).

Please forward the below web link for access to the full position announcement and required academic application form as well as the attached documents to possible interested parties such as graduate and/or doctoral degree candidates and holders as well as their academic mentors and your colleagues. Questions about this recruitment may be directed to Karen Ellsworth: Phone: 530 750-1284; kaellsworth@ucanr.edu

CALIFORNIA FINAL GRAPE CRUSH REPORT

SACRAMENTO – The 2016 crush totaled 4,227,110 tons, up 9.3 percent from the 2015 crush of 3,868,459 tons. Red wine varieties accounted for the largest share of all grapes crushed, at 2,278,593 tons, up 11.6 percent from 2015. The 2016 white wine variety crush totaled 1,752,554 tons, up 5.3 percent from 2015. Tons crushed of raisin type varieties totaled 98,205, up 6.2 percent from 2015, and tons crushed of table type varieties totaled 97,759, up 38.3 percent from 2015.

The 2016 average price of all varieties was \$762.84, up 13.6 percent from 2015. Average prices for the 2016 crop by type were as follows: red wine grapes, \$918.34, up 16.3 percent from 2015; white wine grapes, \$598.07, up 10.7 percent from 2015; raisin grapes, \$213.64, down 13.7 percent; and table grapes, \$153.05, down 39.4 percent

In 2016, Chardonnay continued to account for the largest percentage of the total crush volume with 16.0 percent. Cabernet Sauvignon accounted for the second leading percentage of crush with 13.4 percent. Thompson Seedless, the leading raisin grape variety crushed for 2016, held 2.0 percent of the total crush.

District 13, (Madera, Fresno, Alpine, Mono, Inyo Counties; and Kings and Tulare Counties north of Nevada Avenue (Avenue 192)), had the largest share of the State's crush, at 1,331,936 tons. The average price per ton in District 13 was \$301.85.

Grapes produced in District 4 (Napa County) received the highest average price of \$4,685.58 per ton, up 7.8 percent from 2015. District 3 (Sonoma and Marin counties) received the second highest return of \$2,590.23, up 6.1 percent from 2015. The 2016 Chardonnay price of \$886.00 was up 12.4 percent from 2015, and the Cabernet Sauvignon price of \$1,468.34 was up 11.5 percent from 2015. The 2016 average price for Zinfandel was \$604.52, up 5.1 percent from 2015, while the French Colombard average price was up 3.4 percent from 2015 at \$260.82 per ton.

The [entire Grape Crush Report](#) is available online at www.nass.usda.gov/ca.

WEEK ENDING: March 12, 2017

RELEASED: March 13, 2017

WEATHER

Temperatures warmed up last week between 10 and 20 degrees, with a drier pattern taking hold over much of the State. Rainfall was largely confined to the northern one third of the State, with generally light rains falling along the central/northern valley, central/northern coast, and snow into the central/northern Sierras on Monday through Wednesday.

Mountain snowpack decreased for the first time since last fall. Although snow showers fell on the central/northern Sierras early in the week with up to three inches of new snow accumulation, warm temperatures helped produce an overall decrease in snowpack by about one to two feet. Very heavy snowpacks continued in the mountains, with Lodgepole in the southern Sierras still reported over four feet of snow on the ground. Deeper snowcover was seen in the central and northern Sierras.

Temperature highs were in the 40s to 60s in the mountains, 60s to 70s in the valley and along the coast, and 70s to 90s in the desert. The temperature lows were in the 20s to 40s in the mountains, 30s to 50s in the valley, 30s to 60s in the desert, and 40s to 50s along the coast.

FIELD CROPS

Alfalfa broke dormancy but growth was slow. Alfalfa fields continued to be sprayed for weeds. Growers started preparing ground for the upcoming cotton season by tilling, making furrows, and applying herbicides.

FRUIT CROPS

Pruning, discing, weed control, and pre-bloom spraying continued. **Olive** groves were pruned. Herbicides were applied to some vineyards to combat the increase in weeds after an exceptionally wet winter. Early varieties of stone fruit, including **cherries, apricots, and plums**, were blooming in the San Joaquin Valley. Harvest of Cara Cara and Navel **oranges, lemons, and mandarins** continued. Fungicide applications were made to some citrus orchards. Recent rains impacted the overall quality of the citrus. Orange groves were hedge-rowed and skirted. A few seedless **tangerine** groves were netted to prevent cross pollination during the pending bloom.

NUT CROPS

As field conditions permitted, walnut and pistachio orchard pruning resumed. Almond bloom was progressing up the state with some areas nearing completion. Fungicides were applied in some almond orchards.

VEGETABLE CROPS

In Colusa County, harvest began on **asparagus**. In San Joaquin County, sunshine and warm weather allowed farmers and growers back into the fields. In Fresno County, spring **carrots** were harvested and beds were prepared for summer carrots. Winter crops of **broccoli, cabbages, and cauliflower** were harvested and sold in local markets. **Garlic** and **onions** around the county were growing well and had herbicides applied. Growers planted **tomatoes** and prepared fields

for **eggplant**. In Tulare County, **squash** was planted in hot tunnels. New fields were prepared for spring planting. Previously planted onions continued to progress well.

LIVESTOCK

Warming spring conditions and plentiful precipitation promoted lush forb and grass development. Non-irrigated pasture and rangeland continued to improve with much of the state's range reported to be in excellent to fair condition. Supplemental feeding of livestock continued to diminish as range conditions improved. **Calving was ongoing in Shasta County.** Bees were active in almond and early stone fruit orchards. Lambing season in Fresno County was underway. Sheep grazed stubble fields, idle cropland and dormant alfalfa.