

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

World Ag Expo Preview – USDA Secretary Planned Visit

Audio with International Agri-Center Marketing and Sponsorship Manager Jennifer Fawkes (FOX)

The world's largest farm equipment expo opens its gates next Tuesday in Central California. Jennifer Fawkes (FOX), Marketing and Sponsorship Manager at the International Agri-Center, says a special guest will be holding a town hall meeting on the showgrounds on opening day...tape

Cut #1 :12 OC:...“on opening day.”

The World Ag Expo runs for three days and attracts more than 100,000 visitors. About 1,500 exhibitors will display the latest agricultural technology and equipment on more than two and a half million square feet of exhibit space.

To help you navigate the grounds, there is a special app for your smart device...tape

Cut #2 :45 OC:...“at the show.”

That's Jennifer Fawkes (FOX), Marketing and Sponsorship Manager at the International Agri Center. The World Ag Expo opens next Tuesday morning in Tulare (To-Larry), California for its three-day run.

SACRAMENTO – The 2017 grape crush totaled 4,233,288 tons, up less than half of a percent from the 2016 crush of 4,217,154 tons. Red wine varieties accounted for the largest share of all grapes crushed, at 2,242,984 tons, down 1.6 percent from 2016. The 2017 white wine variety crush totaled 1,764,152 tons, up .7 percent from 2016. Tons crushed of raisin type varieties totaled 94,268, up 4.6 percent from 2016, and tons crushed of table type varieties totaled 131,884, up 38.2 percent from 2016.

The 2017 average price of all varieties was \$775.09, up 1.5 percent from 2016. Average prices for the 2017 crop by type were as follows: red wine grapes, \$961.76, up 4.6 percent from 2016; white wine grapes, \$586.73, down 2.0 percent from 2016; raisin grapes, \$252.86, up 18.4 percent; and table grapes, \$178.37, up 16.5 percent.

In 2017, Chardonnay continued to account for the largest percentage of the total crush volume with 14.5 percent. Cabernet Sauvignon accounted for the second leading percentage of crush with 14.2 percent. Thompson Seedless, the leading raisin grape variety crushed for 2017, held less than 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 1,403,292 tons. The average price per ton in District 13 was \$304.47.

Grapes produced in District 4 (Napa County) received the highest average price of \$5,204.98 per ton, up 11.0 percent from 2016. District 3 (Sonoma and Marin counties) received the second highest return of \$2,803.52, up 8.2 percent from 2016. The 2017 Chardonnay price of \$921.77 was up 4.0 percent from 2016, and the Cabernet Sauvignon price of \$1,547.94 was up 5.3 percent from 2016. The 2017 average price for Zinfandel was \$589.82, down 2.4 percent from 2016, while the French Colombard average price was up 2.5 percent from 2016 at \$267.39 per ton.

The [entire Grape Crush Report](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ca) is available online at www.nass.usda.gov/ca. The Final Grape Crush 2017 Report will be published March 9, 2018.

Wolf Designated OR-54 Takes Up Residence in California

According to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), on approximately January 24, a gray wolf designated OR-54 crossed Oregon's southern border into eastern Siskiyou County, where it has remained since.

OR-54 hails from Oregon's Rogue Pack and was sired by OR-7, the dispersing wolf whose forays between southern Oregon and northern California beginning in 2011 sparked efforts to create a California Wolf Conservation Plan and to establish the gray wolf as an endangered species in California. CDFW believes that OR-54 may be dispersing from the Rogue Pack in search of a mate.

While the presence of yet another gray wolf in California will certainly not be welcome news for California's ranchers, there is perhaps a small silver lining: OR-54 was captured by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and fitted with a GPS collar that allows ODFW to track the whereabouts of the animal, which ODFW has been sharing with CDFW while the wolf is in California.

That said, a radio collar on the female breeding wolf of California's other known wolf population, the Lassen Pack, has not spared Lassen County ranchers the headaches associated with wolf presence, including numerous probable or possible and one confirmed wolf depredation upon livestock. And OR-54's presence isn't likely to ease those depredation fears: using OR-54's radio collar, ODFW biologists pinned three livestock kills on the Rogue Pack during the last month that OR-54 remained within

Oregon.

Aside from the Lassen Pack and OR-54, no other wolves are currently confirmed by CDFW to be present within California: the current status of the Shasta Pack is unknown, with no confirmed sightings of any Shasta Pack wolves in California since May of 2016, and OR-25, which passed into Modoc County on numerous occasions, was killed in Oregon on October 29, 2017.

Livestock Handling and Animal Behavior with Temple Grandin

Join the Tehama, Glenn and Colusa Counties UC Cooperative Extension and internationally renowned author and speaker, Dr. Temple Grandin as she address livestock handling and animal behavior. Tickets are \$15 and breakfast by the world famous Vic Woolery is included!

Friday, February 23, 7-9am
Tehama District Fairgrounds
650 Antelope Blvd, Red Bluff, CA

For more information, contact the extension office at (530) 527-3101 or by email at jsdavy@ucanr.edu.

Winter Animal Health Meetings

February 16, join the Shasta and Tehama County Cooperative Extensions for free animal health meetings in two locations.

ORLAND

Orland Livestock Auction Yard
3877 Co. Rd. 99W, Orland, CA
11am-2pm

COTTONWOOD

Shasta Livestock Auction Yard
3917 Main St, Cottonwood, CA
5pm-8pm

For more information or to view the meeting agenda, click [here](#). RSVP by February 14 to Tehama County UCCE at (530) 527-3101 or to Shasta County UCCE at (530) 224-4900 to reserve your seat and no cost lunch in Orland or dinner in Cottonwood.

CCA's Steak and Eggs Legislative Breakfast Scheduled for March 14

Save the date and come celebrate the 40th Annual CCA Steak and Eggs Legislative Breakfast. Once again held at the historic Sutter Club and followed by legislative

visits at the California State Capitol, you won't want to miss this great opportunity to meet your representatives and advocate on behalf of cattle ranching in the Golden State.

To RSVP for the Steak and Eggs Legislative Breakfast and legislative visits, please contact Katie Roberti by calling the CCA office, or by email at katier@calcattlemen.org.

Knocking Out Noxious Weeds on Rangelands Workshop

Join the fight to reduce noxious weeds on rangelands and get the latest management tools at the final Knocking Out Noxious Weeds Workshop set for February 20 at the Radisson Hotel in Santa Maria. The workshop is designed for ranchers and land managers, featuring a dynamic list of speakers covering a range of land management topics associated with invasive species.

The workshops will showcase effective strategies to manage invasive species, highlight cost-effective approaches that maximize success, feature reduced-risk practices while promoting biodiversity and discuss the economic losses caused by invasive species on rangelands.

For a complete agenda and to register please click [here](#).

For questions please contact Matthew Shapero, UC Cooperative Extension Livestock & Range advisor serving Ventura and Santa Barbara counties at 805-645-1475 or at mkwshapero@ucanr.edu.

LAST CHANCE: Public Lands Council Conference Scholarships Now Available

The Public Lands Council is offering two Nick Theos scholarships of \$250, complimentary hotel accommodations on Capitol Hill and complimentary conference registration to attend the annual Spring Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., April 10-12.

In an effort to get more college students involved with PLC issues and provide them with an unforgettable learning experience, PLC offers this chance to meet members of Congress and their staff, attend meetings with agency officials and hear from the leading experts and influencers in the industry. Scholars will be able to actively participate in our efforts to promote and support public lands grazing in our nation's capital.

Applicants should have a demonstrated interest in public lands ranching. PLC will provide hotel rooms and registration fees. Sponsorships to help cover travel costs are encouraged. If selected, applicants should be prepared to give short remarks to attendees during lunch on Tuesday, March 24.

For questions or to apply, fill out the online application [here](#) by February 9, or contact Allie Nelson, 406-231-3328, anelson@beef.org.