

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

Farm Bill May Have Enough Votes in House for Passage

The farm bill may have enough votes in the House of Representatives for passage. Politico reports that as the bill is expected to be brought to the House floor this week for consideration, some senior Republicans think House Agriculture Chairman Mike Conaway has the votes to pass the bill. That comes as Democrats in the House have been urged to vote against the legislation by Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi. Democrats remain opposed to the stricter work requirements in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program as part of the Republican-drafted farm bill. The bill must first pass through the House Rules Committee which will be considering some 100 amendments to the farm bill. The Rules Committee is scheduled to meet Tuesday evening. Conaway met with President Trump last week, and Conaway says the President "supports his efforts," despite some concern that the President would veto the bill, titled the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018.

- [Perdue Calls for Improved Program To Deal with Farm Worker Issues](#)

Broadcast Date:

Mon, May 14, 2018

The Agriculture Secretary says there's needs to be a better system for connecting farm operators with the workers they need. (Gary Crawford and Sec'y Sonny Perdue)

WEEK ENDING: May 13, 2018

RELEASED: May 14, 2018

WEATHER

The passage of a weak frontal system brought showers over northern California on Tuesday. A weak high pressure system moved through the Pacific Northwest, which brought about dry and warm weather for the remainder of the week.

Temperature highs for the week ranged in the 60s to 80s along the coast, 70s to 80s in the mountains, 80s to 90s in the valley, and 90s to 100s in the desert. Temperature lows for the week ranged 30s to 40s in the mountains, 40s to 50s along the coast, 40s to 60s in the valley, and 40s to 60s in the desert region.

FIELD CROPS

Rice was being planted in Sacramento County, though strong winds slowed planting. Sunflowers for oil were progressing well in Imperial County. Alfalfa fields continued to mature and were harvested. Wheat and oats for hay, were cut, dried, and baled.

FRUIT CROPS

Vineyards continued to leaf out. Leaf removal was ongoing in some vineyards. Stone fruit bloom was drawing to a close. Immature fruit on early stone fruit varieties were thinned. New orchards were being planted. Cherries were harvested. Pomegranates, persimmons, olives and kiwis were blooming. Valencia oranges were harvested. Seedless tangerine groves remained netted for the bloom. Some citrus trees were being planted.

NUT CROPS

Almonds were developing well. Almond and walnuts were irrigated. Pesticides and fungicides were applied to some almond groves. Weed control continued.

VEGETABLE CROPS

Lettuce and strawberries were harvested in Monterey County, and farmers began their second planting. Leeks and peas were harvested in San Mateo County, and brussel sprouts were fumigated. Onions for dehydration were harvested in Imperial County. Greenhouse vegetables continued to be harvested.

LIVESTOCK

Rangeland and non-irrigated pasture continued to dry out. Sheep grazed on retired crop land. Bees were active in citrus and olive groves.

May 14, 2018

This Week In Sacramento (and Beyond)

- **Thursday, May 17, 9:00am** Senate General Session *CCA
*Sponsored SB 965 (McGuire) likely to be taken up**

California legislative hearings can be viewed online [here](#)

From Headquarters

House Appropriations bill addresses fake meat regulation

Last week, the House Appropriations Agriculture Subcommittee considered the 2019 Agriculture Appropriations bill. Section 736 of the bill directs the

Secretary of Agriculture to regulate lab-grown fake meat products and issue regulations to ensure the product is safe and accurately labeled. The inclusion of the provision is due to efforts from NCBA, aligned with the request that the USDA (specifically the Food Safety Inspection Service, known as FSIS) assert regulatory jurisdiction over lab-grown fake meat products.

NCBA is advocating for USDA-FSIS oversight for the following reasons:

- 1.) USDA-FSIS possesses the technical expertise and regulatory infrastructure to ensure perishable meat food products are safe for consumers. Lab-grown meat must comply with the same stringent food safety standards as all other meat products.
- 2.) USDA-FSIS labeling standards provide greater protection against false and misleading marketing claims. Unlike the FDA, USDA-FSIS requires pre-approval of all labels before products hit the marketplace. This will ensure consistent labeling practices across all products, preventing misleading marketing labels such as "clean meat."

While it is early in the appropriations cycle, the inclusion of this language is the first step in USDA-FSIS fake meat oversight.

U.S. House to Consider 2018 Farm Bill

On Thursday, April 12, the House Agriculture Committee released its version of the 2018 Farm Bill, H.R. 2 (Conaway – TX): the Agriculture & Nutrition Act of 2018. The House Agriculture Committee immediately held a hearing to debate and revise the bill, ultimately passing it with two additional amendments on a partisan vote of 26 – 20.

The bill is set to be debated and voted by the full House this week. 106

amendments have been submitted by the House Rules Committee for potential consideration but the committee has not announced which amendments will be considered and which will not.

Stay tuned for updates in subsequent Legislative Bulletin articles and check out the May issue of Hot Irons for a more in depth look at some of the 2018 Farm Bill provisions that are of special interest to ranchers.

For any questions, contact Justin in the CCA office.

BLM Accepting Public Input on Greater Sage Grouse Resource Management Plan

On May 4, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) released a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Nevada and Northeastern California Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan (RMP) amendment.

BLM has opened a 90-day comment period for the RMP amendment, ending on August 2. The Draft RMP amendment and DEIS can be accessed [here](#) by clicking “Documents and Reports” on the left-hand panel.

CCA members are encouraged to review the RMP amendment and to share any comments or concerns with CCA staff, and to submit individual comments to BLM prior to August 2.

The Presidents of the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, the Public Lands Council and the American Sheep Industry Association recently issued a letter stressing the importance of rancher participation in the public comment process. The livestock association leaders wrote “The goal is

simple: Provide decision-makers at the Department of Interior with the data they need to finalize and implement state-focused management plans that protect the sage grouse and rural economies. Each and every producer's voice matters in the process. All of us understand the diversity across operations in our industry, and we know all too well the need for outcome-based land management plans in our states. Now we all need to do our part to ensure these realities are reflected in federal policies.”

The industry leaders continued, “we are asking you to take step up and be counted in this process. Talk to your county, state, and national organizations, get up to speed on the biggest issues in your state, and get your comments on the record. Make sure your comments reflect your involvement in this issue (e.g. “I am a rancher with federal grazing permits and sage grouse habitat, and this is how the plans impact my operation...”) and make sure your neighbors do the same. This time of year, we always have more pressing issues to attend to on our operations, but we promise that the time you spend making your voice heard will pay dividends for your ranch for years to come.”

CCA previously provided input on the proposed RMP amendment during the scoping phase, submitting scoping comments to the BLM on November 30, 2017. CCA staff will carefully review the RMP amendment and DEIS prior to the August 2 deadline and submit detailed scoping comments on the amendment.

Registration Now Open for CCA Midyear Meeting

Mark your calendar and pack your bags for the 2018 CCA Midyear Meeting. Get ready to explore a new location this year, at the Win-River Casino in Redding, California as you take in everything the meeting has to offer!

This year's event includes a Wednesday kick-off dinner and dance, featuring

a live auction, prime rib dinner, full, hosted bar, dancing and music by the one and only, Buck Ford! Thursday it's down to business, including a full breakfast and policy meetings, featuring guest speakers and updates on important industry topics.

Can't attend the entire Midyear Meeting but don't want to miss the dinner dance? Tickets to the dance are included with your midyear registration and can also be purchased individually for \$75.

Click [here](#) to register now!

For room reservations, contact the Win River Casino at (530) 243-3377. Mention the California Cattlemen's Association Midyear Meeting for a group room discount!

USDA Seeks Nominations to Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board

Interested in getting more involved or know someone who you think should?

The USDA is seeking nominees for 3 vacant positions in the Southwest Region (CA,NV) of the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board and CCA needs your nomination suggestions.

The board is comprised of 99 members and exists to provide a framework for the industry to pool resources, combine efforts to develop new markets, strengthen existing markets and conduct research and promotion activities.

The deadline for nominations is June 8, and any United States beef

producer who owns cattle is eligible. Producers must be nominated by a USDA certified producer organization (CCA).

CCA is currently seeking nomination suggestions. If you have any questions or if you or someone you know is interested in serving, please contact Jenna in the CCA office at jenna@calcattlemen.org or 916-444-0845 as soon as possible for details and application information.

CDFA Reminds Producers/Haulers of Official ID Required for Cattle Entering and Moving Within California

Effective *April 1, 2017*, the law requires official identification for the following cattle entering California.

- Female dairy cattle of any age
- Male dairy cattle born after March 11, 2013, including steers
- Sexually intact beef breed male cattle and bison 18 months of age or over
- Sexually intact beef breed female cattle and bison six (6) months of age and over
- Cattle and bison of any age used for rodeo, recreational, show, or exhibition purposes
- Mexico origin cattle regardless of age or sex
- Exceptions here.

Effective *April 1, 2017*, the law requires official identification for the following cattle moving within California.

- Dairy cattle born in California after January 1, 2017, prior to leaving their birth premises
- Dairy cattle on change of ownership
- Non-virgin sexually intact male cattle less than 18 months of age and

sexually intact male cattle 18 months of age and over, prior to change of ownership

- Exceptions here.

For more information, visit CDFA's website here. You may also call the main Animal Health Branch office at 916-900-5002 or your local district office (Redding: 530-225-2140; Modesto: 209-491-9350; Tulare: 559-685-3500; Ontario: 909-947-4462) with any questions.

May 31 Irrigated Pasture and Annual Rangeland Management Workshop at Chico State

The complexities associated with rangeland management are increasing due to a growing body scientific research, an expanding public stakeholder base and evolving government policies. The morning session of this workshop will equip ranchers, land managers, technical resource providers, agency staff and students with scientifically based management practices, resources and networking to support sustainable livestock grazing enterprises on California's rangelands. The second half of the workshop will focus on California's irrigated pasturelands that account for nearly 500,000 acres across the state and rank third among agricultural water users. The workshop will focus on pasture establishment and management for water scarcity invasive species and nitrogen management to maximize productivity while balancing natural resource objectives.

For more information, click here or contact Tracy Schohr at 916-716-2643, tkchohr@ucanr.edu.

UCCE to Hold Prescribed Fire Workshops

The University of California Cooperative Extension will be hosting two, two-day workshops in May designed for landowners and land managers wanting

to gain skills in prescribed fire planning and implementation. University of California Cooperative Extension, CAL FIRE, and air quality staff will cover the nuts and bolts of using prescribed fire on private lands. Click [here](#) for registration information and costs. The registration deadline for both events is May 7.

- Mixed-Conifer Forest focus:
 - May 14 and 15
 - UC Berkeley's Blodgett Research Forest, 4501 Blodgett Forest Road, Georgetown, CA
 - Field trip and fire in mixed-conifer forests
 - For more info, contact Susie Kocher at 530-542-2571 or sdkocher@ucanr.edu
- Rangeland and Oak Woodland focus:
 - May 16 and 17
 - UC Sierra Foothill Research and Extension Center, 8279 Scott Forbes Road, Browns Valley, CA
 - Field trip and prescribed fire in oak woodlands and rangelands
 - For more info, contact Kate Wilkin at 530-822-7515 or kwilkin@ucanr.edu

Workshop topics include:

- Local fire history
- Using prescribed fire to manage California rangelands and forests
- Options for burning on private lands
- Prescribed fire permitting and legal considerations
- Air quality and smoke management Fire weather: forecasting and online tools
- Fire terms and fire behavior
- Burn planning: developing a prescription, environmental

considerations

- Burn unit preparation: techniques, firebreaks, equipment
- Tools and equipment for the day of burn
- Mop up and patrol

And a prescribed fire training burn and/or field tour on the second day (weather permitting)!

2018 UC Davis Beef Field Day Scheduled for May 17

The Field Day will feature presentations and demonstrations of fence system design and installation, use of cattle to manage native grasslands, mineral supplementation for California beef cattle and more.

There will also be a UC commercial bred heifer sale of a select number of UC Davis Animal Science born and bred commercial replacement heifers. Females will be confirmed pregnant with most having fetal calf sex identified. The Angus/Hereford cross heifers will be available for inspection with detailed information on sires used and due dates.

There is no cost for registration or attendance, all expenses are covered by the sponsors.

For more information, contact Dr. Jim Oltjen at jwoltjen@ucdavis.edu

Last Chance to Register for the 2018 CA/AZ Cattle Feeders Meeting

Don't forget to register for the CA/AZ Cattle Feeders Meeting at the Marriott Marquis, San Diego, May 23-25. Registration includes two breakfasts, lunch, refreshments throughout the event and an exclusive dinner aboard the USS Midway aircraft carrier.

Registration is just \$300. Click [here](#) to register now!

CCA In the News

California looks to create Cattle Council *Western Livestock Journal*

"The California Cattlemen's Association (CCA) and many of its members are in favor of a bill making its way through the California Legislature that would allow the creation of the California Cattle Council. SB965 would allow a referendum where cattle producers could decide to create the new council, funded by a \$1-per-head assessment on all cattle sold.." To continue reading, click [here](#).

Industry News

Court action ahead of new WOTUS rule *Western Livestock*

Journal "Attorneys general in 10 states and the District of Columbia are asking the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York to issue a summary judgment in a lawsuit they filed on Feb. 6 of this year. The lawsuit alleged a recent final rule suspending the 2015 WOTUS rule, sometimes called the Clean Water Rule, was unlawful.." To continue reading, click [here](#).

Can dirt save the earth? *New York Times Magazine* "The cows beat back the encroaching brush. Within weeks of their arrival, new and different kinds of grass began sprouting. Shallow-rooted annuals, which die once they're chewed on, gave way to deep-rooted perennials, which can recover after moderate grazing [...] The land seemed richer than before, the grass

lusher. Meadowlarks and other animals were more abundant.” To continue reading, click [here](#).

CattleFax Update May 11, 2018

Fed cattle trade in the North and South was mostly limited to deferred delivery as of press time, from \$119 to \$121 live and \$188 to \$192 dressed. An active trade is expected and the underlying market tone is softer. Trade last week was mostly \$125 to \$126 live and \$195 to \$200 dressed. Boxed beef was mostly higher this week as short-bought buyers found most product was already sold out-front. Feeder cattle were steady to \$3 lower for the week. Calves traded mixed from \$2 higher to \$4 lower. Market cows were mixed by region from \$3 lower to \$1 higher compared to last week.

Corn was 8 cents lower this week.

Upcoming Events

CA/AZ Cattle Feeders Meeting 5/23-5/25/2018

San Diego, CA

CCA Midyear Meeting 6/20-6/22/2018

Redding, CA