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June 2019

USDA e-News

USDA



California Edition

United States Department of Agriculture

Welcome to USDA e-News, California Edition, a multi-agency newsletter providing California's producers and other interested parties with current information.

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Featured Item

California State and County Agricultural Profiles Available Now

With over 6 million data points available in the initial release of the 2017 Census of Agriculture, NASS created additional products to help tell the story of agriculture at the state and county level. Your [California State and County Profiles](#) were released May 30, 2019 and are online now. The profiles show ranked items within the U.S. and the State, as well as level changes from the 2012 Ag Census for select commodities. Also included are economic and producer characteristics. For assistance navigating the website or downloading your profile of interest, contact Jodi Letterman in the NASS Pacific Regional Office at 916-738-6609.

Updates

Sales Closing Date Nears for Crop Insurance Programs

USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA) reminds producers that the final dates to apply for crop insurance are approaching. **July 1, 2019** is the last day to buy or change your policy for Potatoes and Strawberries. Producers need to purchase, review, or modify their crop insurance

policies before these sales closing dates have passed. Crop insurance provides protection against crop production losses due to natural perils such as drought, hail, and excessive moisture. Crop insurance is sold and delivered solely through private crop insurance agents. In order to receive premium subsidies, the insured must certify that they meet [Highly Erodible Land Conservation and Wetland Conservation](#) requirements (AD-1026) with Farm Service Agency (FSA). For more information contact your agent or you can find an agent online at the RMA [Agent Locator](#).

Almond Marketing Order Updates

USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) announced three amendments to the almond marketing order were approved by almond producers in April. The changes apply specifically to nominations to the Almond Board of California, the administrative committee charged with administering the provisions of the marketing order, which is overseen by USDA.

The almond producers will vote again in late July and early August as part of a mandated continuance referendum. At that time, the producers will indicate whether they favor continuance of the marketing order. This continuance referendum is required every five years under the almond marketing order. For more information contact Peter Sommers at 559-538-1670.

Funding Opportunities

USDA to Help Cover Producers' Costs for Organic Certification

USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) announced that organic producers and handlers can apply for federal funds to assist with the cost of receiving and maintaining organic certification through the [Organic Certification Cost Share Program](#) (OCCSP). Applications for fiscal 2019 funding are due **Oct. 31, 2019**. Certified producers and handlers are eligible to receive reimbursement for up to 75 percent of certification costs each year, up to a maximum of \$750 per certification scope, including crops, livestock, wild crops, handling and state organic program fees. To learn more about organic certification cost share, please visit the OCCSP webpage, view the notice of funds availability on the Federal Register, or contact your FSA county office.

USDA Seeks Applications to Repair Housing in Rural Communities

USDA Rural Development is requesting applications for its [Housing Preservation Grant](#) program to help make housing repairs for low and very-low-income rural residents. Eligible applicants include municipalities, public agencies, federally recognized Indian tribes and nonprofit and faith-based organizations. Applications are due by **July 8, 2019**. For more information contact Debra Moretton at 530-217-6248 or debra.moretton@usda.gov.

NRCS Invites Proposals for 2019 Conservation Innovation Grants

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in California is now accepting proposals for its Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) program. Up to \$500,000 is available for one- to three-year grants. The maximum award amount for any project will not exceed \$75,000 in fiscal year 2019. Proposals are due by **June 10, 2019**. Applicants are encouraged to explore the full program announcement to better match their proposals to these needs. Please see www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ca/programs/financial/cig/ Eligible applicants include state and local government, nongovernment organizations, Tribal governments, eligible private

business and individuals. For more information applicants may contact Erik Beardsley at Erik.Beardsley@ca.usda.gov.

Other Activities and Events

Monarch Butterfly Conservation Field Day

NRCS California is hosting a Monarch Butterfly conservation field day at the Lockeford Plant Materials Center in Lockeford on **June 20**. The free workshop begins at 9:30 a.m. and wraps up at noon. The workshop will include general information on the monarch's biology and its precipitous decline, especially in the west. Biologists and agronomists from NRCS and Xerces will discuss strategies and plants that can be used by farmers and homeowners to assist the iconic pollinator. For more information call or email Shawn.Vue@usda.gov, 209-867-3110.

Reports and Publications

NASS Reports

[Raisin Grape](#) rescheduled for (06/06/19)

[Peach Freezer/Dehydrator](#) rescheduled for (06/14/19)

[Noncitrus Fruits and Nuts](#) (06/18/19)

[Congressional District Profiles & Rankings](#) (06/28/19)

[Olive Inventory](#) (06/28/19)

Are You in a NASS Survey This Month?

NASS conducts over 400 surveys every year in addition to the Census of Agriculture every 5 years. The following surveys are happening right now in California:

- June Area Survey – ends June 11
- Irrigation & Water Survey, *2017 Census of Ag follow-on* – due date extended to June 11
- Crops, Stocks – due June 12
- Cattle on Feed – monthly, due June 17
- Cash Rents – now through June 26

If you have any questions about NASS surveys, contact us at 1-916-738-6600 or nassrfopcr@nass.usda.gov.

Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS)

- [Find a Program](#)

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

- [When Disaster Strikes](#)
- [Managing Credit Needs](#)
- [Commodity Support](#)
- [Direct/Counter-Cyclical and Revenue Programs](#)

- [Energy](#)
- [Conservation](#)

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

- [Conservation](#)
- [Financial Assistance and Easement Programs](#)

National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS)

- [Census of Agriculture](#)
- [Agriculture Surveys](#)

Risk Management Agency (RMA)

- [Crop Insurance Programs](#)
- [Funding Opportunities](#)

Rural Development (RD)

- [Overview of Programs](#)

Contact Us

If you would like to receive a copy of future newsletters or if you have relevant information for California producers that you want to include in a future issue of this newsletter, please email one of the contacts listed below. Please be advised that not all activities may be published.

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