

Napa County



Farm Bureau

Hotsheet

Working for Permanent Protection of Agriculture and its Resources

August 2008

Measure P — the initiative to "Save Measure J" — is gaining momentum!

You can help - visit: www.yesmeasurep.com

Napa Valley is one of the finest grape growing regions in the world. But our agricultural and watershed lands can be threatened by uncontrolled urban growth that could destroy not only our economy, but the special quality of life we enjoy. Measure P will extend Measure J's protections of agricultural and watershed lands through the year 2058.

Measure P has been endorsed by the Napa County Board of Supervisors; the City Councils of American Canyon, Calistoga, Napa, St. Helena, and the Town Council of Yountville; U.S. Rep. Mike Thompson; Napa County Park and Open Space District directors, Myrna Abramowicz, David Finigan, Guy Kay, Harold Kelly, and, Tony Norris; Get A Grip On Growth; Greenbelt Alliance; Napa County Farm Bureau; Napa Valley Vintners; and, Napa Grape-growers Association, plus many, many more individuals.

Visit the website at www.yesmeasurep.com to view the list of endorsements. While you're there, add your name endorsing the passage of Measure P. And, you can get involved by signing up at the website to help the campaign in a variety of ways: providing a sign location; delivering / putting up signs; sending postcards or e-mails to friends; phoning from home; hosting a fundraiser; or, volunteering at campaign headquarters. Contributions to support the campaign are also welcome at the website.

Most importantly, Vote Yes on Measure P this November!

Heat Stress Prevention in Agriculture

To reduce heat stress injuries in California, the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal OSHA), the California Department of Industrial Relations (DIR), and several California agricultural organizations offered a workshop in Napa to ensure that all Farm Labor Contractors understand the regulations and the urgency of training their crew bosses about heat stress prevention and its dangers. A summary of the workshop is now available at www.napafarmbureau.org

Cal/OSHA Consultation Service provides safety and health assistance to employers and is separate from Cal/OSHA enforcement. If your company needs to help prevent occupational injuries and illnesses, contact Esther Santiago at 916.263.0704.

More information is also available at <http://www.dir.ca.gov>

2008 Disaster Programs requires Crop Insurance or NAP Eligibility "Buy-In" Deadline is September 16, 2008

Napa County Farm Bureau encourages all growers to carry at least the basic level of insurance.

The recently enacted Farm Bill creates new crop disaster programs covering losses to crops, trees/vines/bushes, forage, and other losses due to adverse weather. These programs require the crops you planted, grew, produced or were prevented from planting to have been covered by federal crop insurance or FSA's Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP). All of your crops on all of your acreage must be covered, not only those acres that suffered losses.

Due to the late passage of the Farm Bill in May, you will be given an opportunity to "buy-in" to the disaster program by paying a \$100/crop catastrophic crop insurance or NAP service fee for any 2008 crops that are not already covered by crop insurance or NAP.

This eligibility "buy-in" must be completed by September 16, 2008 at your FSA Office to satisfy the requirement for total CI / NAP coverage. Note that it does not provide you with crop insurance indemnities or NAP benefits. Once this requirement is met, you may be eligible for one or more of the following programs:

- Supplemental Revenue Program (SURE): Covers crop revenue losses from quantity or quality deficiencies in disaster declared counties, contiguous counties, or in cases where the overall production loss exceeds 50%
- Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP): Compensates livestock owners for forage losses due to drought. Additionally, losses due to wildfire will be covered on public lands.
- Tree Assistance Program (TAP): Provides for partial reimbursement for replanting, salvage, pruning, debris removal and land preparation for orchardists and nursery tree growers if losses exceed 15%.
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (EALHF): Emergency relief to producers of livestock (including horses), honey bees, and farm-raised fish. Covers losses from disasters such as adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires not adequately covered by any other disaster program. This program is authorized at the discretion of the Secretary.

To be eligible for Disaster Programs in 2008, you must pay the fees for the eligibility buy-in at your FSA Office by September 16, 2008. For more information contact the Dixon Farm Service Agency at 707-944-0622.

NCFB testifies at water rights hearing

NCFB President Peter Nissen recently testified before the joint state legislature's Water Committee hearing, presenting info on the flaws in the current draft Instream Flow Guidelines policy and encouraging a reasonable alternative that will sustain agriculture and improve fish habitat. The draft policy is unworkable in our watershed and does nothing to remedy the backlog of pending permits going back 20 years. NCFB supports sustainable ag and wants to devise a more sustainable alternative that meets the needs of both fish and farms. We thank Sen. Wiggins and Assemblymember Evans for holding the hearing and helping to create a more reasonable policy.

Over the next several months, the state Water Board will work with stakeholders to amend the regulations affecting water diversion in the North Coast. NCFB encourages all members who have a pending water right to get involved and contact our office or Jim Lincoln, NCFB Natural Resources Chairman. Members are also invited to the next Natural Resources meeting on September 3, 2008 at NCFB's office.

The draft Instream Flow Guidelines and the Substitute Environmental document can be found at:

http://www.waterrights.ca.gov/HTML/instreamflow_nccs.html

Leadership Farm Bureau 2009

LFB is a training program developed by Farm Bureau to assist members in reaching their full leadership potential. Members receive over 250 hours of training in seven sessions on a variety of topics including personal development, governmental affairs, and California agriculture.

Farm Bureau members who are interested in learning more about the organization and developing the skills and expertise needed to lead Farm Bureau and the agriculture industry into the future are invited to apply online at www.cfbf.com by October 1, 2008.



Volunteers needed

Help us plan a successful second annual Barn Dance on November 1st at the Chardonnay Hall! Join the next planning meeting on Wed. August 27th at 4:00 pm at NCFB's office.

Alternatives in Financing Your Wine Business Webinar

On June 25th, the Wine Industry Team from Farella Braun + Martel and guests Bacchus Capital Management, Global Wine Partners, Silicon Valley Bank and Vinum Capital Management, LLC held the "Alternatives in Financing Your Wine Business: Expand or Exit - Four Options for Success" conference at the Carneros Inn. The conference was broadcasted as a live webinar and can be viewed at: <http://www.fbm.com/winefinancwebinar/>

UPCOMING EVENTS & MEETINGS

Visit napafarmbureau.org for a complete list

AUGUST

- 9 – Young Farmers & Ranchers meeting 224-5403
- 11 - Land Use meeting 224-5403
- 12 – Community & Member Outreach meeting 224-5403
- 20 – Board of Directors meeting 224-5403
- 22 – Save Measure P meeting 224-5403
- 27 – Barn Dance meeting 224-5403
- 29 – Slow Food Nation – www.slowfoodnation.org

SEPTEMBER

- 2 – Young Farmers & Ranchers meeting 224-5403
- 3 - Natural Resources meeting 224-5403
- 8 - Land Use meeting 224-5403
- 9 – Community & Member Outreach meeting 224-5403
- 17 – Board of Directors meeting 224-5403

Save the date!

- November 1st— NCFB Annual Barn Dance, 224-5403
- December 4th— NCFB Holiday Reception, 224-5403

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California employers are required to take these four steps to prevent heat illness



1. Training

Train all employees and supervisors about heat illness prevention.

2. Water

Provide enough fresh water so that each employee can drink at least 1 quart per hour, *and encourage them to do so.*

3. Shade

Provide access to shade for at least 5 minutes of rest when an employee believes he or she needs a preventative recovery period. *They should not wait until they feel sick to do so.*

4. Planning

Develop and implement written procedures for complying with the Cal/OSHA Heat Illness Prevention Standard.