

February 13, 2014

CRMB Update



Raisin Industry News and the work of the California Raisin Marketing Board, by Gary Schulz, President and General Manager

Raisin Industry Statistics

For Industry Statistics, such as Deliveries to Handlers, Shipments, etc. please go to the RAC website: www.raisins.org

CRMB Meetings

Joint RAC/CRMB Personnel Subcommittee, Weds., March 5, 2 p.m.

Executive Committee, Weds., March 5, 2:30 p.m.

Budget Subcommittee, Weds., March 5, 3 p.m.

California Raisin Marketing Board, Weds., March 5, 3:30 p.m.

Fresno Area Weather Forecast may be found at:

<http://www.weather.com/weather/tenday/93710>

Congratulations, Rick Stark

Rick Stark of Sun-Maid was recently elected Chair of the National Wine and Grape Initiative, “a nationwide coalition representing all segments of the grape industry including: raisin, juice, fresh grape and wine.”

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Contact:

Office of Communications (202)720-4623

USDA Launches Effort to Assist California Producers Affected by Drought

*\$20 million available for agricultural conservation
enhancements on key agricultural lands*

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4, 2014 – Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced USDA will make \$20 million available for agricultural water conservation efforts throughout California to combat the effects of drought. Interested landowners and managers have until March 3, 2014 to apply for available funds.

"Working with our federal, state, and local partners,

we are doing everything within our power to support those farmers and ranchers affected by this intense drought." said Vilsack. "These funds will help get a suite of scientifically proven conservation techniques on the ground and helping producers. USDA has a long, successful history of helping farmers and ranchers plan for and employ conservation practices that conserve and protect and maximize every available drop of water."

This announcement is part of broader Obama Administration efforts to help those impacted by the drought. Through the National Drought Resilience Partnership, launched as part of President Obama's Climate Action Plan, federal agencies are working closely with state, local government, agriculture and other partners on a coordinated response.

USDA is announcing this additional funding through the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to help agricultural operators use water more efficiently, stabilize fallowed cropland, and protect their livelihoods for the future. Funds are available statewide to install a number of conservation practices including irrigation efficiency, cover crops, rehabilitation of existing spring developments, protection of grazing lands, and other supporting

components.

Funds will be divided between two specific funding pools: cropland and grazing lands. Cropland with a reduced water allocation of at least 85 percent will receive the highest priority. In order to be considered eligible for EQIP, the applicant must have a vested interest in agricultural production and meet other program eligibility requirements. For additional information, eligible landowners are encouraged to contact their local NRCS Service Center. Service center locations and more information on the drought initiative can be found at www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov.

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UPCOMING INDUSTRY EVENTS

Horne v. USDA

Hearing at the U.S. Ninth District Court of Appeals, San Francisco

Friday, Feb. 14, 10 a.m.

Ag Roundtable

Friday, February 28, 7 a.m., Marie Callendar's, Cedar and Shaw, Fresno

RAC-JDFIA/CRD Annual Meeting

March 18-20, Torrey Pines Resort, La Jolla, CA

For more information, contact Debbie Powell at Debbie@raisins.org

DFA of CA/Specialty Crop Trade Council Annual Meeting

April 1-3, Portola Hotel and Conference Center, Monterey, Ca

For information, go to www.agfoodsafety.org/conference/

Raisin Industry International Reps' Meetings

April 27 – 30, Fresno

CRMB Tour of Bread Contest Winners

July 22 - 27

Fresno Food Expo

July 24, 2014, Fresno, CA

www.fresnofoodexpo.com

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