

## **April 24 Update**

**USDA Dates for Informational Meetings on California federal milk marketing order proposal:** CDC urges dairy producers to participate in these upcoming meetings to learn more about how a California milk marketing order would work. To participate, dairy producers are advised to register at the USDA web site online at <a href="http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.o/CAOutreach">http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSv1.o/CAOutreach</a>. The dates of the meetings:

Tuesday, May 5, 2015
California State University, Chico
Bell Memorial Student Union, Room 203
Corner of West 2nd and Chestnut Streets, Chico, CA 95927
Wednesday, May 6, 2015
Piccadilly Inn Airport
5115 E. McKinley Avenue, Fresno, CA 93727
Thursday, May 7, 2015
Los Angeles County Farm Bureau, 41228 12th Street West, Palmdale, CA

Rep. Valadao Passes Legislation to Increase Water Infrastructure Throughout California:

Congressman David G. Valadao (CA-21), a Member of the House Appropriations Committee, offered an amendment to the *FY 2016 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill which* instructs the Bureau of Reclamation to finish and submit feasibility studies for three dam expansion projects and two dam creation proposals. The Valadao Amendment passed the full Appropriations Committee with unanimous consent. The amendment calls for the completion of feasibility studies for Shasta expansion and Temperance Flat dam by December 31, 2015; Los Vaqueros expansion and Sites dam by November 30, 2016; and the San Luis dam expansion by December 31, 2017. Rep. Valadao stated, "Each of the five studies was authorized by Congress over a decade ago. If California had some of these dams or expansions in place, we wouldn't be in the disastrous situation we are in today." He continued, "In fact, these dams, if completed, could deliver as much as 79% of the mandated 1.5 million AF of water restrictions recently implemented by Governor Brown."

CDC Supports Bill To Mitigate Impacts of Water Board Decisions on Groundwater Basins:

Authored by Merced Assembly Member Adam Gray, AB 1242 would require that the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) mitigate the impact of its decisions on groundwater basins. In a letter to the Committee on Natural Resources, CDC stated, "California dairy farmers continue to endure tremendous hardship due to the ongoing statewide drought. We urge your support for AB 1242 because it would ensure that when decisions about water flows are made by the state water board, the impacts of these decisions on farmers and other water users in the Central Valley are mitigated."

NFU Urges Congress to Maintain Constitutional Authority by Rejecting TPA; Says TPA Fails to Address Currency Manipulation, Balance Trade Deficit - WASHINGTON (April 22, 2015) - National Farmers Union (NFU) President Roger Johnson today submitted testimony to both the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance and the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means, urging Congress to reject Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) legislation that does not address the United States' massive trade deficit or currency manipulation. "Trade Promotion Authority for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) fails to address our nation's massive and growing trade deficit or currency manipulation in member countries of TPP negotiations," said Johnson. "Congress should maintain its constitutional authority to address these concerns by rejecting TPA legislation that removes it." Johnson noted that American agriculture's good fortune to fair relatively well in trade is overshadowed by a massive overall trade deficit that represents a roughly three percent drag on the U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Call your member of Congress and urge them to Oppose TPA at 202-225-3121.

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