

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



In This Issue

November 2009

[Climate & Ag Summit](#)

[State Policy Update](#)

[Federal Policy Update](#)

[Science News: Food Safety & Climate](#)

[California Adaptation Report](#)

Quick Links

[About CalCAN](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

The California Climate & Agriculture Network newsletter includes updates on CalCAN activities, gives you ways to get involved on issues related to sustainable agriculture and climate change, and alerts you to relevant scientific and political developments.

We are sending you this newsletter because you have expressed an interest in sustainable agriculture and climate change. If you prefer to not receive the CalCAN newsletter, please [email](#) us with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.

Climate & Agriculture Summit

CalCAN hosted a summit at UC Davis on October 1, 2009. It was attended by 150 farmers, scientists, sustainable agriculture advocates, environmental organizations, and legislative staff.



The Summit covered a wide range of topics including climate and agriculture policy, soil carbon sequestration, innovative on-farm practices, renewable energy, water conservation, farm labor issues, farmland protection, and more.

Powerpoint presentations and video are now available to download at www.calclimateag.org.

State Policy Update

California is moving forward with regulating greenhouse gas emissions under AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. AB 32 requires that a California cap-and-trade system that regulates GHG emissions be up and running by 2012.

This month, California Air Resources Board (CARB) staff will release a draft report for public comment that outlines their early recommendations on design of the program. This will be the first in series of CARB reports leading to final action on the cap-and-trade program likely by the end of next 2010.



It is easy for the cap-and-trade to get wonky fast, but it is important to understand that there are big implications for sustainable agriculture. The Economic and Allocation Advisory Committee of CARB, a group of economists and policy experts, will release its draft set of recommendations in December. Among the issues the committee is grappling with are whether or not the state should auction off the cap-and-trade allowances (i.e., permits to pollute) and how the state should use the revenue generated from the auction. CalCAN will be weighing in, seeking resources to support research and demonstration, technical assistance and incentives for agricultural practices that reduce GHG emissions, sequester carbon and provide environmental co-benefits.

Federal Policy Update

The Senate Agriculture Committee recently released its climate legislation. Several members of the committee, lead by Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), introduced the Clean Energy Partnership Act to address the role of agriculture in mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. The bill would create a domestic agricultural offsets program that would allow farmers and ranchers to participate in the carbon market. The bill would also fund a new USDA program to provide financial incentives for agricultural producers to use practices that reduce GHG emissions. In coordination with our partners at the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, CalCAN is working to ensure that sustainable agriculture priorities are included in the legislation.

So what is likely to happen with the federal climate legislation? Senate leaders are now looking to pass a climate bill next year (the House has already passed a climate bill). The big question is whether or not the bill will pass before or after the mid-term elections, which is anyone's guess right now. An important provision in the Boxer-Kerry climate bill is

that should a federal cap-and-trade program be delayed in its implementation past March 2011, state and regional cap-and-trade programs can go forward and operate up until 9 months after the federal cap-and-trade system is up and running (in contrast to the House bill, Waxman-Markey, would prevent state and regional cap-and-trade systems from operating from 2012-2017). This will have important implications for California as it proceeds in developing its cap-and-trade program.

Science News

Climate Change: Implications for Food Safety: A new FAO report finds that rising temperatures and changes in humidity will increase food-borne pathogens like E. coli and Samonella.

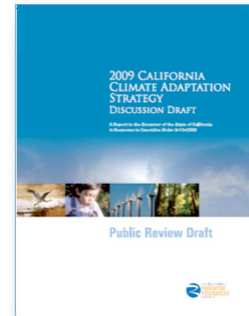
<ftp://ftp.fao.org/docrep/fao/010/i0195e/i0195e00.pdf>

Resources & Events

California Adaptation Report

This summer, the Natural Resources Agency released its draft California Climate Adaptation Strategy report. The report details how climate change is already affecting the state and proposes climate change adaptation strategies, including how agriculture might respond to rising temperatures, reduced water resources and increased pest and disease pressures.

<http://www.climatechange.ca.gov/adaptation/index.html>



Want more information about climate change and sustainable agriculture?

Check out a recent report by the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition. It makes the case for sustainable farming solutions to climate change.

<http://sustainableagriculture.net/publications/>

[Forward email](#)

✉ **SafeUnsubscribe®**

This email was sent to info@calclimateag.org by info@calclimateag.org.
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



CalCAN | 15290 Coleman Valley Rd. | Occidental | CA | 95465