

# WHAT HAS CALIFORNIA GRAIN & FEED ASSOCIATION *done for us lately?*

California Grain and Feed Association (CGFA) continues efforts of promoting and supporting our industry's interests and we are committed to ensure the ongoing prosperity of our industry. CGFA works on finding solutions for every challenge and looks for opportunities that would benefit all members. CGFA is a strong united voice, together we educate and communicate legislative and regulatory issues affecting the grain & feed industry and take action when required to protect the interests of the industry. This document provides a few examples of areas that CGFA has tackled in 2025.

Government  
Advocacy

Education

Networking

## CGFA PROVIDES RESOURCES To Tackle Problems that Impact Our Industry.

### *In-Use Locomotive Regulation*

The California Grain and Feed Association (CGFA) played an active role in discussions with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) regarding the proposed "In-Use Locomotive Regulation" and the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation. Both regulations have since been repealed, but had they been implemented, they would have presented significant challenges to the grain and feed industry. Throughout the regulatory process, CGFA worked cooperatively with CARB staff and Board members to ensure the industry's voice was heard. As part of these efforts, CGFA facilitated tours for CARB's internal leads at two grain and feed operations, providing a first-hand look at how CGFA members receive and offload grain. The tours served to educate CARB staff on the industry's unique operational needs. Following the tours, CARB staff engaged further with CGFA members in a Zoom meeting to discuss the proposed regulations. During this session, several CGFA members participated, expressed their concerns, and offered constructive recommendations. While the regulations were ultimately repealed, CGFA's involvement ensured that industry perspectives were strongly represented throughout the process.

# CGFA HELPS OUR INDUSTRY

## Navigate New Regulations.

### CGFA Advocacy on Methane Reduction and Organic Waste Use

The California Grain and Feed Association (CGFA) continues to advocate for science-based, practical approaches to emerging issues such as methane-reducing feed additives and the use of organic waste in animal feed. CGFA has strongly supported keeping regulatory authority over feed and feed additives with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), opposing efforts to shift oversight to CalEPA. The Association has worked on this issue both in the Legislature and through active participation on CDFA's Feed Inspection Program Advisory Board. As a founding member of the CLEAR Center at UC Davis, CGFA also supports ongoing research and public outreach highlighting the role of animal feed in reducing methane emissions. The CLEAR Center has become a leading voice in both science and public education—through resources like this [FAQ on methane and livestock](#) and its [YouTube channel](#)—showcasing the value of innovation in animal agriculture. CGFA legislative advocates, including Dr. Frank Mitloehner from the Clear Center, have been directly involved in legislative work led by CGFA to address the use of organic waste materials in feed. Additionally, CGFA has worked to educate city governments and waste managers statewide on the continued demand for organic waste in feed, emphasizing that every ton diverted from landfills reduces the need to grow new feed—ultimately benefiting the climate. These efforts underscore CGFA's commitment to supporting environmental stewardship while protecting member interests and educating decision-makers on the vital role of the grain and feed industry.

# CGFA FINDS SOLUTIONS

## To Protect Our Businesses.

### Member Services That Matter: Disease Alerts, Supply Chain Help, and Regulatory Guidance

The California Grain & Feed Association (CGFA) keeps its members informed and supported on key operational and regulatory challenges. From timely updates on avian influenza and its impact on feed operations to navigating supply chain disruptions caused by rail delays, weather events, or road closures, CGFA ensures members have access to critical information and assistance. The Association works closely with CDFA, OES, and other agencies to help resolve logistics issues and prioritize feed delivery across the state. Additionally, CGFA provides personalized member services—troubleshooting complex regulatory matters such as sales tax exemptions, feed vs. pet food oversight, organic labeling, and more—helping members stay compliant and operational in a fast-changing environment.

# CGFA SPEAKS OUT

## On Our Behalf.

### It Takes a Network

Your membership in CGFA supports several important initiatives and projects that provide a voice for our industry and are critically important to the future of all our members businesses.

For example, your membership dollars help give a voice to Dr. Frank Mitloehner, of the UC Davis CLEAR Center. Mitloehner, is an effective and tireless advocate for the animal agriculture industry as they battle negative publicity surrounding their role in climate change. No one is doing a better job of getting this important information out to the public than Dr. Mitloehner.

Other important organizations CGFA supports or engages with include: Animal Agriculture Alliance, CDFA Commercial Feed Regulatory Program; CDFA Secretary's Feed Inspection Advisory Board, National Grain & Feed Association (NGFA) and American Feed Industry Association (AFIA).

Additionally, CGFA regularly meets with federal and state regulators and legislators to represent your businesses and the important contributions you make to feed the world.

# WHERE TO GO

## For Answers, Help or Input?

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT:** Paul Cramer  
Star Milling Co.  
paul\_cramer@starmilling.com

**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Matt Labriola  
Frontier Ag Co.  
mlabriola@frontieragco.com

**SECRETARY/TREASURER:** Anthony Georgouses  
EB Wakeman Co. LLC  
anthony@ebwakeman.com

**PAST PRESIDENT:** Kris Vander Maarl  
Western Milling LLC  
kvandermaarl@westernmilling.com

Marianne Adams  
Adams Grains  
marianne@adamsgroup.com

Jeremy Banducci  
R.A. Davis Commodities  
jbanducci@daviscommodities.com

Michael Lefever  
IWP a DENALI Company  
michael.lefever@denaliwater.com

Paul Quinn  
Penny-Newman Grain Co., Inc.  
pquinn@penny-newman.com

Shay Rambur  
JDH  
srambur@jdhco.com

Steve Riggs  
NuWest Milling LLC  
sriggs@nuwestmilling.com

Brian Toohill  
A.L. Gilbert Co.  
brian.toohill@algilbert.com

David Valdez  
Harris Feeding Co., Inc.  
david.valdez@harrisranchbeef.com

Ryan Taylor  
InterWest Insurance Services LLC  
rtaylor@iwins.com

# CGFA COMMITTEES

**Government Relations Committee**  
**Chair, Travis Taylor, Pinnacle Premix LLC**  
[ttaylor@pinnaclepremix.com](mailto:ttaylor@pinnaclepremix.com)

Monitors and develops positions on legislation impacting the grain & feed industry, reviews political candidates and PAC funding, communicates with legislators. A goal of this committee is to build strong, working relationships with potential and current elected leaders.

**Grain, Feed and Ingredients Committee**  
**Chair, John Austel, NuWest Milling LLC**  
[jaustel@nuwestmilling.com](mailto:jaustel@nuwestmilling.com)  
Serves as the forum on topics related to the production, delivery and marketing of grain, feed and feed ingredients. The committee deals with issues including but not limited to feed safety, quality, transportation and is the liaison with CDFA, FDA and USDA.

**Workforce Committee**  
**Chair, Randy Hultgren, Associated Feed & Supply**  
[rhultgren@associatedfeed.com](mailto:rhultgren@associatedfeed.com)

Serves as the forum on topics related to our workforce. The committee deals with issues including but not limited to worker health and safety, workforce development, training, wage orders, hours of service, industry-wide recruitment and retention.

**Environmental Committee**  
**Chair, Dan Rice, Western Milling LLC**  
[drice@westernmilling.com](mailto:drice@westernmilling.com)  
Serves as the forum on topics related to state environmental policy and regulation. The committee deals with issues including but not limited to state mobile and stationary source regulation, CARB, state-wide and regional water quality regulation, California Cap & Trade and monitor and cooperate with GEAPS, AFIA and NGFA.

# STAFF

Day-to-day operations and administration of CGFA is provide by Ag Association Management Services, Inc. Working on behalf of the association are many staff members, below are two first points of contact:

**Chris Zanobini**, Executive Vice President  
[chris@agamsi.com](mailto:chris@agamsi.com)

**Donna Boggs**, Associate Director  
[donna@agamsi.com](mailto:donna@agamsi.com)

# BENEFITS OF BELONGING TO

## California Grain & Feed Association

### *State and Federal Legislative and Regulatory Representation*



- Lobbyist and Regulatory Experts on Staff
- Member of Ag Lobbying Coalition
- Formal Board Support and Opposition to State Legislation
- Industry Advocacy Before Legislature and Local, State, and Federal Gov. Agencies
- Official Written Comment to Local, State, and Federal Regulations
- Staffing and Participation at State Dept. Industry Advisory Boards

### *Regular Communication Regarding Issues That Affect Your Business*



- Weekly Electronic Newsletter, Conveyor Currents
- Email Blasts to Members on Specific and Time-Sensitive Issues
- Reminders Regarding State and Federal Regulatory Milestones and Deadlines
- Active Social Media Presence (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)

### *Finding Solutions and Protecting Our Businesses*



- Grassroot Legislative Reform (e.g. Dairy Lien Law Change and Development of Dairy Feed Lien Packets for Members)
- Protecting and Representing Yours and Your Customers' Business Needs (e.g. Coalition, Study Group & Committee Participation re: VFD, FSMA, Organic Testing)
- Member Cost Saving Group Programs (e.g. Business Insurance)
- Member Real-World Training Opportunities (e.g. Crisis Management Training and Tools)
- Member Cost-Effective Group Environmental Compliance Programs (e.g. Storm Water Reporting)

### *Member Resources*



- Pacific Southwest Directory
- Daily Market Review
- Dairy Feed Lien Handbook
- Credit Manual

### *Networking and Outreach Opportunities*



- Annual Convention
- Grain & Feed Industry Conference
- California Animal Nutrition Conference
- District Meetings
- Educational Meetings and Safety Workshops
- Facility Tours to Expose Elected Officials to Key Regulatory Personnel to our Businesses

### *CGFA Member Resources – Stay Connected*



- Website and Social Media Tools: [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

