

California Pepper Commission

531-D North Alta Ave ~ Dinuba, CA 93618, Phone (559) 591-3925 Fax (559) 591-5744

-November 2025-

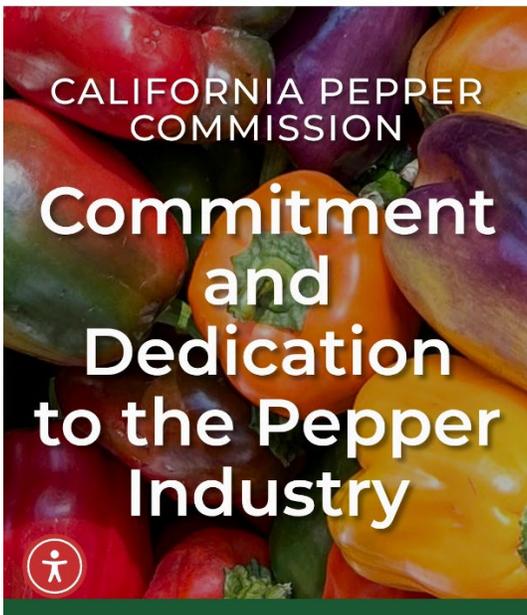
Chairman, California Pepper Commission
Matthew Terra, Eckert Cold Storage

The California Pepper Commission focuses its efforts on improving the chemical, disease and pest issues that concern the pepper industry. The Commission met earlier this year with the purpose of discussing any current and future issues along with research projects that can improve the California Pepper industry. Consisting of five producers, five processors and one public representative, these members are nominated by the industry to represent their interests on the Commission.

The Pepper Commission recently revamped its website <http://www.calpeppers.com>. While the site is far from complete, you can now view several years of research funded by the Commission over the years. The Commission is working on creating a website containing useful information for the pepper industry.



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The Pepper Commission will be meeting remotely on Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 9:00 A.M. via the following Zoom Link: <https://bit.ly/3L1kZTp> - Phone # 1-669-900-6833 – Meeting ID: 816 0648 0845 – Passcode: 617736

For the past several years the Commission has been a member and active participant with the California Specialty Crops Council (CSCC). The CSCC provides the Commission the opportunity to work with similar groups to focus on research, education, and regulatory activities, which can affect California agriculture. By representing a variety of groups, the CSCC is well supported when communicating industry issues with state and federal agencies. The CSCC also acts as a conduit of information between its members and various entities. For more information you can visit the CSCC website at www.specialtycrops.org.

The Commission is currently working on a comprehensive email list to streamline the distribution of information to the industry in a more efficient and cost-effective method. Please reach out to the Commission office or email nathan@tabcomp.com to be included.

2025-2026 Research Projects

Kung Lee	Insect Pest Management	\$20,000
Bob Gilbertson	Surveillance for TSWV Resistance	15,000

Research Priorities 2025-26

Research priorities change from year to year which will help our growers to continue to grow peppers profitably in California. Research dealing with control of insects, weeds, and diseases has been the major focus of our funding, and we expect that to continue. Areas of interest that have been discussed recently in our latest commission meeting are topics such as:

- Verticillium Wilt – Santa Clara Valley
- Cucumber Mosaic Virus – San Joaquin Valley and Oxnard Plain
- Curly Top Virus - San Joaquin Valley and Oxnard Plain
- Pepper Weevil – Oxnard Plain
- Whitefly Control – Coachella & Imperial Valley
- Aphid Control – Statewide (removal of partial use of Imidacloprid has affected control)
- Tomato Spotted Wilt Virus - Statewide

In addition, research proposals involving the efficiency of water and fertilizer use will be considered.

The accompanying financial report shows the Pepper Commission income and expenditures for the 2025-26 fiscal year. The Commission based its income off 235,000 tons of fresh and processed peppers. In order to maintain a healthy budget, the Commission agreed to increase its assessment rate to \$0.60 per ton at the last annual meeting February 26, 2025.

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The Commission's books are audited annually by an independent Certified Public Accountancy firm, and any pepper industry member wanting a copy of said audit may apply to the Commission office.

Fiscal Year: March 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025

Account Name	Budgeted	Amount To Date
INCOME		
Assessment Income, 2025-26	\$141,000	\$64,330
Interest Income	1,000	3,136
Total Income	142,000	67,466
Carryover from 2022-23	<u>85,000</u>	<u>86,000</u>
Income/Carryover	\$227,000	153,466
EXPENDITURES		
Management Services	\$36,000	\$18,000
Legal Counsel	2,500	0
Audits	4,450	0
Office Supplies	300	323
Telephone	750	451
Postage	300	0
Reports & Publications	1,200	0
Travel & Mileage	400	337
Meetings	1,000	0
Insurance	1,400	247
Website	3,500	2,810
Marketing Branch, CDFA	16,000	4,693
Market Enforcement Branch	3,200	0
California Specialty Crops Council	6,000	0
Production Research	35,000	0
Production Research Reserve	5,000	0
Chemical Research	4,000	0
Total Expenditures	\$121,000	\$26,860
Net Income	\$142,000	\$40,606
Cash Balance	\$106,000	\$147,480

The Commission and staff are always available to answer questions or assist in any way they can. Nathan Sano (nathan@tabcomp.com) is the Board Manager, and JD Allen (jdallen@tabcomp.com) is the Assistant Manager, and they can be contacted via email or at (559) 591-3925.

California Pepper Commission		
MEMBERS		ALTERNATES
Producer Representatives		
Brian Alarid Gonzales	District 1	<i>Vacant</i>
William Terry Ventura	District 2	Grant Talley Arroyo Grande
Mike Chuck Gilroy	District 3	Colin Muller Woodland
Ben Migliazzo Le Grand	District 4	<i>Vacant</i>
Adrian Zendejas Coachella	District 5	Patrick Pinkard Helm
Handler Representatives		
Matthew Terra Escalon	Bell Pepper Processing	<i>Vacant</i>
Carlos Marquez Le Grand	Chili Pepper Processing	Dan Brotslaw Turlock
Glen A. Fischer Ventura	Bell/Chili Pepper-Other	<i>Vacant</i>
Emily Baloian Fresno	Fresh Bell	<i>Vacant</i>
Benito Juarez Woodland	Pepper Seed	Brandon Kreutz TS&L Seeds
Public Representative		
Dave Nirenberg Camarillo		<i>Vacant</i>
Staff		
Nathan Sano (Manager) Dinuba		JD Allen (Asst. Manager) Dinuba