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**New Website for California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association**

San Diego, California – On November 30, 2010, the California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association (CACASA) unveiled [www.cacasa.org](http://www.cacasa.org), an innovative website designed to highlight the multi-faceted work of County Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers of Weights and Measures throughout California. County Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers of Weights and Measures carry out the laws and regulations of the state and enforce local ordinances. They are the first line of defense against the introduction of injurious plant and animal pests and protect the consumer through their dedicated enforcement of agricultural and weights and measures laws and regulations.

The new website will feature a blog where professional weights and measures and plant health officials throughout the world are invited to exchange ideas on protecting consumers and combating invasive pests and disease.

“It is our hope this website will help share our story with the world about the importance of our enforcement activities that protect California consumers and our control and eradication efforts to protect California’s \$36 billion agriculture industry and environment from the devastation caused by harmful pests and diseases that infiltrate our borders,” said Bob Atkins, Commissioner and Sealer for San Diego County and President of CACASA. “We also want it to serve as an idea exchange and help facilitate communications between states on these issues,” added Atkins.

Each day California County Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers of Weights and Measures ensure that consumers get what they pay for at the pharmacy, the grocery store and the gasoline pump. They are also continually surveying for harmful pests and plant diseases that could damage some of the 300-plus agricultural crops grown in California, a large part of the global food and fiber supply. It is estimated that invasive species in the United States cause major environmental damages and losses adding up to almost \$120 billion per year.

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