

2022 ASSESSMENT UPDATE:

2022 Assessment Invoices were sent out in October and were based on the reported number of planted acres as stated on 2022 Acreage Reports. If you have not already done so, please send payment for half of the total amount stated on your invoice by November 15, 2022. The remaining amount is due by February 15, 2023. If you did not harvest all of your planted acreage, this fact must be verified by a member or alternate member of the CWRAB from the district in which you grow wild rice. If a field is ninety percent (90%) harvested, it is to be considered completely harvested. Please reach out to Elise Oliver, eoliver@calapple.org, if you did not harvest all of your planted acreage and need to arrange for verification or have any questions regarding assessments.

FSMA FINAL RULE: REQUIREMENTS FOR ADDITIONAL TRACEABILITY RECORDS FOR CERTAIN FOODS

The FDA issued a final rule on November 15th, that establish traceability and recordkeeping requirements for persons who manufacture, process, pack, or hold foods included on the Food Traceability List. Companies will need to maintain records containing Key Data Elements (KDEs) associated with specific Critical Tracking Events (CTEs) and provide information to the FDA within 24 hours or within a reasonable time to which the FDA has agreed. Compliance date for all persons involved is January 20, 2026. To view a Stakeholder webinar regarding this recent rule, please click [here](#). Please do not hesitate to contact the CWRAB office with any questions.

WASHINGTON D.C. HILL VISITS:

In September, CWRAB staff traveled to Washington D.C., to advocate on behalf of the California wild rice industry in preparation for the reauthorization of the 2023 Farm Bill. CWRAB staff met with members on both the House and Senate Agricultural Committees. If you have any questions or any topics of interest for the 2023 Farm Bill, please do not hesitate to contact the CWRAB office.

CWRAB PARTICIPATES IN USA RICE DAY AT THE US EMBASSY IN LONDON, UK

The California Wild Rice Advisory Board traveled to London from October 10-14, 2022 to participate in the UK Rice Association Symposium and the USA Rice Day at the US Embassy. Both the Symposium and USA Rice Day featured presentations by the CWRAB and served as a networking opportunity with importers, distributors, and retailers of wild rice and other rice products in the UK. In addition to these events, CWRAB staff also participated in trade meetings, store visits, and market briefings. For more information on these events, please do not hesitate to contact the CWRAB office.



CWRAB AT USA RICE DAY

AB 2183 SIGNED BY GOVERNOR NEWSOM

On September 28, 2022, Governor Newsom signed into law AB 2183-Agricultural Labor Relations: Elections, authored by Assembly member Stone. Previously, union elections were conducted via secret ballot. AB 2183 instead provides agricultural workers the right to vote for or against union representation by mail balloting or through card check. Beginning January 1st, employers will have the opportunity to opt-in to labor-peace compacts, which triggers mail balloting. For employers who do not opt-in to labor-peace compacts, non-labor peace elections, or card check, will be utilized in order to certify unions as bargaining representatives of an employer's employees. For a detailed explanation of the various differences between labor peace elections and non-labor peace elections or how this law may affect your operation, please do not hesitate to contact Elise Oliver eoliver@calwildrice.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **United States Agricultural Export Development Council Annual Workshop- Baltimore, Maryland**
 - Date: November 16-18
- **Office Closed for Thanksgiving**
 - Date: November 24-25

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RECIPE CORNER

Pumpkin and California Wild Rice

Risotto

Ingredients:

- 1 shallot, minced
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 3-4 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 bunch fresh sage leaves
- 1/4 cup white wine
- 1/2 cup Arborio rice
- 1/2 cup California wild rice
- 1 32 ounce container Organic Vegetarian Pho Soup Base
- 3/4 cup cooked and puréed pumpkin meat or pumpkin puree (I used the meat from 4 mini pumpkins)
- salt and pepper, to taste
- grated parmesan, for topping

Directions:

In a large sauté pan with lid, cook the diced shallot and garlic in the olive oil over medium high heat until translucent. Add sage leaves and continue to cook until fragrant. Add the wild and arborio rice to toast. Once the rice begins to brown, add the wine to deglaze the pan. Stir, then salt and pepper to taste, and begin adding the vegetarian pho stock. Add 1 cup and let it cook down. Do this until there is only one more cup left, then whisk in the last remainder of the pho and the pumpkin puree, and cover with a lid until remaining liquid is absorbed by the rice. The wild and arborio rice should be fully cooked, but not gummy.

