

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 10, 2021**

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## **CALIFORNIA FRESH FRUIT ASSOCIATION APPLAUDS THE LAUNCH OF OPTUMSERVE SITE FOR COVID-19 VACCINATIONS**

**Fresno, California** – The California Fresh Fruit Association (CFFA) is pleased with today’s announcement from Governor Gavin Newsom regarding the launch of the OptumServe site at Reedley College to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to citizens in the Central Valley. This news is welcomed relief for rural communities and essential workers in the food and agriculture sector, as the San Joaquin Valley region has dealt with a shortage of vaccine availability for these valuable employees.

President Ian LeMay stated, “California agriculture has been an “essential” business throughout the entire COVID-19 pandemic, continuing to supply the nation and world with a safe and healthy food supply. Despite challenges constantly being thrown at it, the agriculture industry continues to adapt to meet this moment. The increase of COVID-19 vaccinations at the OptumServe site at Reedley College is a good step forward for members of our industry and rural communities. The road to get beyond COVID-19 has been long for us all, announcements like today’s are welcomed and give us a glimpse of hope for our future.”

The increase in COVID-19 vaccinations at the OptumServe site will begin to provide 420 vaccinations daily. Vaccinations for Phase 1A and 1B which includes the food, grocery and agriculture sector are currently top priority for distribution.

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*The California Fresh Fruit Association is a voluntary public policy association that represents growers, packers, and shippers of California table grape, blueberry, kiwi, pomegranate and deciduous tree fruit communities. CFFA serves as a public policy representative for these growers, shippers and packers, on issues at both the state and federal levels. More information about the California Fresh Fruit Association can be found at [www.cafreshfruit.org](http://www.cafreshfruit.org).*