

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAMS**

BALLOT FOR ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

TO PISTACHIO PRODUCERS:

All Pistachio Producers recently had the opportunity to nominate eligible candidates for membership on the Administrative Committee for Pistachios for the staggered one or two-year term of office ending on June 30, 20__ and June 30, 20__ . Producers are now being requested to vote for the candidates of their choice. Attached are voting instructions, eligibility requirements, and a ballot with the nominees listed. Please read the attached directions carefully and submit your completed ballot in the envelope provided, postmarked by or hand deliver to the California Marketing Field Office in Fresno, California no later than _____ .

FV-246 (05/06)

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**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
Fruit and Vegetable Programs
California Marketing Field Office
2202 Monterey Street, Suite 102B
Fresno, CA 93721**

**ADMINISTRATIVE
COMMITTEE FOR
PISTACHIOS**

OFFICIAL BALLOT MATERIAL

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
FOR PISTACHIOS
PRODUCER MEMBERS AND ALTERNATE PRODUCER MEMBERS**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE ATTACHED BALLOT

1. Voting Period: _____ through _____.
2. Refer to the ballots for all industry positions and districts for the current nomination and election process.
3. Voter Eligibility: Only Producers, including duly authorized officers or employees of Producers, shall participate in the election of Producer members and alternate Producer members of the Committee. No Producer shall participate in the election of Committee members in more than one district. If a Producer commercially produces pistachios during the current production year in more than one district, the Producer must vote in the same district in which he or she participated in the nominations process previously conducted. However, if the Producer did not participate in the nominations process, he or she may select in which district he or she wishes to vote and shall indicate it on the ballot. In certifying your eligibility, please be mindful of the following definitions: **PRODUCER**: means any person engaged within the production area in a proprietary capacity in the production of pistachios for sale. **PROPRIETARY CAPACITY**: Proprietary capacity means the capacity or interest of a producer or handler that, either directly or through one or more intermediaries, is a property owner together with all the appurtenant rights of an owner including the right to vote the interest in that capacity as an individual, a shareholder, member of a cooperative, partner, trustee or in any other capacity with respect to any other business unit. Also, please be mindful that not more than two members and not more than two alternate members shall be persons employed or affiliated with producers or handlers that are affiliated with the same handler and/or producer. Additionally, only one member and one alternate member in any one district representing producers shall be employed by or affiliated with the same handler and/or producer. **AFFILIATION**: normally appears as "affiliate of", or "affiliated with", and means a person such as a producer or handler who is: a producer or handler that directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, owns or controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with the producer or handler specified; or a producer or handler that directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, is connected in a proprietary capacity, or shares the ownership or control of the specified producer or handler with one or more other producers or handlers. As used in this part, the term "control" (including the terms "controlling", "controlled by", and "under the common control with") means the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a handler or a producer, whether through voting securities, membership in a cooperative, by contract or otherwise.
4. The attached ballots list the nominees by district as well as the number of producer positions you are entitled to vote for. Vote for the candidate(s) of your choice in the appropriate space. If you would like to vote for a producer that has not been nominated, write in the candidate(s) name(s) of your choice in the appropriate space(s). The person receiving the highest number of votes shall be the member nominee for that district and the person receiving the second highest number of votes shall be the alternate member nominee. In case of a tie vote, the nominee shall be selected by a drawing.
5. In the spaces provided, print your name, the producer's name (if different) address, and telephone number.
6. Certify that you are eligible to cast this ballot by signing and dating the ballot.
7. The completed ballot must be postmarked no later than _____ 20__ to be valid. Submission of the ballot must be by mail delivery or hand delivery only.
8. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). We also ask that you be mindful of the USDA's policy regarding Civil Rights and consider eligible women, minorities, and the physically challenged for membership on the Committee.
9. If you have any questions, please contact the California Marketing Field Office at 2202 Monterey Street, Suite 102B, Fresno, California 93721; Telephone (559) 487-5901.

RETURN BALLOT TO:

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAMS
California Marketing Field Office
2202 Monterey Street, Suite 102B
FRESNO, CA 93721
TELEPHONE #(559) 487-5901**

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAMS

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE FOR PISTACHIOS
MARKETING ORDER NO. 983**

DISTRICT 1 PRODUCER MEMBER AND ALTERNATE MEMBER BALLOT

(See attached instructions)

NOTE: YOU MUST BE A PRODUCER IN DISTRICT 1 TO VOTE ON THIS BALLOT. IF YOU ARE A PRODUCER IN MORE THAN ONE DISTRICT, YOU MAY ONLY VOTE FOR CANDIDATES IN ONLY ONE DISTRICT. PLEASE DISCARD THE OTHER BALLOTS.

PRODUCER NOMINEE LIST

DISTRICT 1 (SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA): DISTRICT 1 HAS 4 PRODUCER MEMBER POSITIONS AND 4 ALTERNATE PRODUCER MEMBER POSITIONS TO BE FILLED. CAST YOUR VOTE BY CHECKING THE BOX NEXT TO THE NOMINEE OF YOUR CHOICE OR SUBMIT A WRITE IN CANDIDATE. EACH PRODUCER IS ENTITLED TO CAST ONLY ONE VOTE FOR EACH POSITION TO BE FILLED. YOU MAY VOTE FOR 8 CANDIDATES (ONE FOR EACH POSITION).

LIST OF CANDIDATES:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Write in Candidate | |

SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION IS REQUIRED ON REVERSE OF BALLOT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAMS

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE FOR PISTACHIOS
MARKETING ORDER NO. 983**

DISTRICT 2 PRODUCER MEMBER AND ALTERNATE MEMBER BALLOT
(See attached instructions)

NOTE: YOU MUST BE A PRODUCER IN DISTRICT 2 TO VOTE ON THIS BALLOT. IF YOU ARE A PRODUCER IN MORE THAN ONE DISTRICT, YOU MAY ONLY VOTE FOR CANDIDATES IN ONLY ONE DISTRICT. PLEASE DISCARD THE OTHER BALLOTS.

PRODUCER NOMINEE LIST

DISTRICT 2 _____ CAST YOUR VOTE BY CHECKING THE BOX NEXT TO THE NOMINEE OF YOUR CHOICE OR SUBMIT A WRITE IN CANDIDATE FOR EACH POSITION. EACH PRODUCER IS ENTITLED TO CAST ONLY ONE VOTE FOR EACH POSITION TO BE FILLED. DISTRICT 2 HAS 3 PRODUCER MEMBERS AND 3 ALTERNATE MEMBER POSITIONS TO BE FILLED. YOU MAY VOTE FOR 6 CANDIDATES.

LIST OF CANDIDATES:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (Producer Member) | |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Write in Candidate | |

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE FOR PISTACHIOS
MARKETING ORDER NO. 983**

DISTRICT 3 PRODUCER MEMBER AND ALTERNATE MEMBER BALLOT
(See attached instructions)

NOTE: YOU MUST BE A PRODUCER IN DISTRICT 3 TO VOTE ON THIS BALLOT. IF YOU ARE A PRODUCER IN MORE THAN ONE DISTRICT, YOU MAY ONLY VOTE FOR CANDIDATES IN ONLY ONE DISTRICT. PLEASE DISCARD THE OTHER BALLOTS.

PRODUCER NOMINEE LIST

DISTRICT 3 (NORTHERN CALIFORNIA): CAST YOUR VOTE BY CHECKING THE BOX NEXT TO THE NOMINEE OF YOUR CHOICE OR SUBMIT A WRITE-IN CANDIDATE FOR EACH POSITION. EACH PRODUCER IS ENTITLED TO CAST ONLY ONE VOTE FOR EACH POSITION TO BE FILLED. DISTRICT 3 HAS 1 PRODUCER MEMBER AND 1 ALTERNATE MEMBER POSITION TO BE FILLED. YOU MAY VOTE FOR 2 CANDIDATES.

LIST OF CANDIDATES

(Producer Member)

(Producer Member)

(Producer Member)
Write-in Candidate

SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION IS REQUIRED ON REVERSE OF BALLOT

