

TO: CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL PRUNE DEHYDRATORS

RE: FRENCH PRUNE DRY-AWAY RATIOS

In accordance with Section 993.162 of Federal Marketing Order No. 993, you are requested to provide the following historical French prune dry-away information.

1. The most recent six years of dry-away ratios rounded to the nearest hundredth, i.e., 3.10 for each commercial prune dehydrator you own or operate.
2. The city in or near which each dehydrator is located.
3. The county or counties from which this dehydrator receives prunes.
4. In the case of dehydrators receiving prunes from multiple counties, indicate the estimated percentage of production each county supplies to this dehydrator. The percentages for each dehydrator must total 100%.

This information will be used to compute the dried weight equivalent for diverted fresh prune plums if the California prune industry recommends and USDA approves a voluntary green diversion program for next crop year. The Prune Marketing Committee needs this information by June 1, so that computations can be completed and regional dried weight equivalents can be recommended at the mid-June Supply Management Subcommittee meeting.

The marketing order previously contained dried weight equivalents used in the early 1970's when the industry has implemented green diversion programs. However, a recent rule change has given the PMC the flexibility to compute and announce dried weight equivalents by growing region based on actual dry-away ratios for recent crop years. This will enable growers to be more equitably credited for diverted tonnage.

Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

[insert name]
Executive Director

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