

**BALLOT FOR ELECTION OF PRODUCER MEMBERS
AND ALTERNATE PRODUCER MEMBERS**

Pistachio producers in Districts ____ recently had the opportunity to nominate eligible candidates for membership on the Administrative Committee for Pistachios (Committee) for the two-year term of office ending June 30, 20____. Producers are now being requested to vote for the candidates of their choice. Enclosed are voting instructions, eligibility requirements and a ballot with the nominees listed. **Please read the voting directions carefully and submit your completed and signed ballot in the enclosed envelope. To be valid, the ballot must be signed and postmarked, faxed, or hand delivered to the Administrative Committee for Pistachios Office in Fresno, California, by _____, 20__.**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING ONE OF THE ENCLOSED BALLOTS

1. VOTING PERIOD: _____, 20__ through _____, 20__.
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” 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.

“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. 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.

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 signed, and postmarked, faxed or delivered by _____ 20, ____ to be valid.
8. USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities. Please see **bottom of ballot** for more details. We request that you be mindful of 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 Administrative Committee for Pistachios: 4938 E. Yale Avenue, Suite 102, Fresno, CA 93727; Telephone (559) 255-6480; FAX (559) 255-6485.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
SPECIALTY CROPS PROGRAM

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE FOR PISTACHIOS
MARKETING ORDER 983

PRODUCER MEMBER AND ALTERNATE MEMBER BALLOT

DISTRICT 1 BALLOT

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 vote for candidates in only one district. Please discard the other ballots. Duplicate ballots cannot be counted.

PRODUCER NOMINEE LIST

District 1 (Southern California) consists of Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Tulare, and Ventura counties.

District 1 has ___ producer member positions and ___ alternate producer member positions to be filled. Each producer is entitled to cast only one vote for each position to be filled. You may vote for ___ candidates (one for each position). Cast your vote by checking the box next to the candidates of your choice and/or submitting write-in candidates.

District 1 Candidates:

- Candidate _____
- Candidate _____
- Candidate _____
- Candidate _____
- Candidate _____
- Write-in Candidate _____
- Write-in Candidate _____
- Write-in Candidate _____
- Write-in Candidate _____

SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION IS REQUIRED ON REVERSE OF BALLOT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
SPECIALTY CROPS PROGRAM

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE FOR PISTACHIOS
MARKETING ORDER 983

PRODUCER MEMBER AND ALTERNATE MEMBER BALLOT

DISTRICT 2 BALLOT

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 vote for candidates in only one district. Please discard the other ballots. Duplicate ballots cannot be counted.

PRODUCER NOMINEE LIST

District 2 (Central California) consists of Fresno, Kings, Madera and Merced counties of California.

District 2 has ___ producer member positions and ___ alternate producer member positions to be filled. Each producer is entitled to cast only one vote for each position to be filled. You may vote for ___ candidates (one for each position). Cast your vote by checking the box next to the candidates of your choice and/or submitting write-in candidates.

District 2 Candidates:

- Candidate _____
- Candidate _____
- Candidate _____
- Candidate _____
- Candidate _____
- Write-in Candidate _____
- Write-in Candidate _____
- Write-in Candidate _____
- Write-in Candidate _____

SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION IS REQUIRED ON REVERSE OF BALLOT

USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
SPECIALTY CROPS PROGRAM

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE FOR PISTACHIOS
MARKETING ORDER 983

PRODUCER MEMBER AND ALTERNATE MEMBER BALLOT

DISTRICT 3 BALLOT

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 vote for candidates in only one district. Please discard the other ballots. Duplicate ballots cannot be counted.

PRODUCER NOMINEE LIST

District 3 (Northern California) consists of all counties in California where pistachios are produced that are not included in District 1 or District 2.

District 3 has ___ producer member positions and ___ alternate producer member positions to be filled. Each producer is entitled to cast only one vote for each position to be filled. You may vote for ___ candidates (one for each position). Cast your vote by checking the box next to the candidates of your choice and/or submitting write-in candidates.

District 3 Candidates:

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| Candidate | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Candidate | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Candidate | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Write-in Candidate | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Write-in Candidate | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION IS REQUIRED ON REVERSE OF BALLOT

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
SPECIALTY CROPS PROGRAM

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE FOR PISTACHIOS
MARKETING ORDER 983
PRODUCER MEMBER AND ALTERNATE MEMBER BALLOT
DISTRICT 4 BALLOT**

NOTE: You must be a producer in District 4 to vote on this ballot. If you are a producer in more than one district, you may vote for candidates in only one district. Please discard the other ballots. Duplicate ballots cannot be counted.

PRODUCER NOMINEE LIST

District 4 (Arizona and New Mexico) consists of the states of Arizona and New Mexico.

District 4 has ___ producer member positions and ___ alternate producer member positions to be filled. Each producer is entitled to cast only one vote for each position to be filled. You may vote for ___ candidates (one for each position). Cast your vote by checking the box next to the candidates of your choice and/or submitting write-in candidates.

District 4 Candidates:

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| Candidate | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Candidate | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Candidate | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Write-in Candidate | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Write-in Candidate | _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION IS REQUIRED ON REVERSE OF BALLOT

