

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
SPECIALTY CROPS PROGRAM

TO: Cranberry Handlers

FROM: _____, Agent of the Secretary of Agriculture

SUBJECT: Referendum Instructions - Cranberry Marketing Order No. 929

I. REFERENDUM PERIOD

_____, 20__ through _____, 20__ is the referendum period during which handlers may vote for or against proposed amendments to the Marketing Order regulating the handling of cranberries grown in the States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Washington and Long Island in the State of New York. All votable issues have been included in this Ballot.

II. INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING -- YOUR BALLOT MUST SUPPLY:

1. Your vote. Mark in the block of your choice.
2. The number of barrels of cranberries handles or processed during the 20__ crop year.
3. Your signature and address. If voting for a corporation, estate, or producer, show its name and your title. Enclosed is an envelope for returning the Ballot. No postage is required.

III. PERSONS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE

1. Any person who canned, froze, or dehydrated cranberries within the production area during the 20__ crop year (September 1, 20__ through August 31, 20__) is a handler of cranberries.
2. A business unit (partnership, corporation, association, estate, or firm) may cast only one vote; however, each separate entity is entitled to one vote.

Agent of the Secretary

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is OMB 0581-0189. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

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OFFICIAL PROCESSOR BALLOT

This Ballot MUST be signed and postmarked by _____, 20__ to be counted in this referendum.

1. I hereby certify that I am a handler of cranberries, and that, during the crop year from September 1, 20__, through August 31, 20__, _____ barrels of fresh cranberries produced within the production area were canned, frozen, or dehydrated by said handler.

2. Name of Handler:

*By: _____ Title: _____
(signature)

Name

Address

City, State, Zip Code

**** If the vote is cast on behalf of a corporation, estate, partnership, or cooperative, my signature certifies that I have the authority to take such action.***

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REFERENDUM QUESTIONS

A “YES” vote means you **favor** the change. A “NO” vote means you **oppose** the change.

YES	NO	Note: Where referenced, “Committee” means the Cranberry Marketing Committee.
()	()	1. Do you favor adding authority for the Committee to conduct production research and development projects? (§929.45)
()	()	2. Do you favor adding authority for a method whereby annual allotments are calculated on the basis of sales histories and adding provisions regarding excess cranberries? (§§ 929.10, 929.13, 929.15, 929.48, 929.49, 929.50, 929.52, 929.59, 929.60, and 929.61)
()	()	3. Do you favor limiting Committee member tenure to three consecutive two-year terms? (§ 929.21)
()	()	4. Do you favor requiring handlers to pay assessments on the weight of cranberries acquired rather than on the weight of cranberries handled? (§ 929.41)
()	()	5. Do you favor adding a definition for the term “barrel?” (§ 929.17)

Minor conforming, editorial, and non-substantive modifications of the order language included in the Secretary’s Decision have not been specifically described in the five referendum questions presented for voting, but will be incorporated in the Order as appropriate.

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