

DEPARTMENT OF  
**AGRICULTURE, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

Promoting and protecting agriculture, environmental quality, and ensuring equity in the marketplace.

Stacy K. Carlsen  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER  
DIRECTOR OF WEIGHTS AND  
MEASURES

June 9, 2015

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Marin County Board of Supervisors  
3501 Civic Center Drive  
San Rafael, CA 94901

**SUBJECT: PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH CERTIFIED PRODUCER  
CERTIFICATE FIELD INSPECTION FEE**

Dear Supervisors:

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt resolution establishing a new fee to recover reasonable costs of providing inspection services on Marin County Certified Producer Certificate holders as authorized under California Food and Agricultural Code Section 47020 (c) (3).

**SUMMARY:** The Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures is requesting the Marin County Board of Supervisors approve a Certified Producer Certificate program fee to help offset a portion of the actual costs to perform field verification inspections. The proposed fee will result in recovering approximately 54% of the actual costs of performing the inspections. The Department determined this new fee is modest and will have minimal impact on industry.

The department intends to conduct field inspections on Certified Producer Certificate holders a minimum of once every three years. If there are compliance issues, inspections will be performed on a more frequent basis as determined by the department until any issues are resolved. The fee of \$45 per hour would apply.

Any complaints received about a certified producer will be immediately investigated and a site inspection will likely be performed. If any direct marketing violations are found, the certified producer will be charged the fee of \$45 per hour. If no violations are found, there would be no inspection fees charged.

Field inspections will begin after July 15, 2015, and will generally be scheduled, but may be unannounced. In most cases the owner or owner's representative will accompany the inspector(s) during the field inspection.

A letter was sent to the affected industry on May 19, 2015, regarding the proposal to establish certified producer certificate field inspection fees.

See Attachment A.

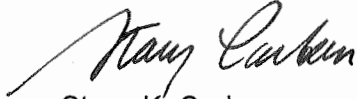
**FISCAL IMPACT:** The proposed fee would result in approximately \$700 of new revenue in FY 2015-16, and will help offset program inspection costs.

**ALTERNATIVE TO RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Not adopting the proposed fee would result in the department not performing these site verification inspections on Certified Producer Certificate holders to ensure compliance with direct marketing regulations. It would also not close the loop regarding the inspection of all aspects of the direct marketing program.

**REVIEWED BY:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Department of Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	County Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
<input type="checkbox"/>	Human Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A

Respectfully submitted,



Stacy K. Carlsen  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Director of Weights and Measures

Attachment