

**EXPERIMENTAL CONTAINER PERMIT
CALIFORNIA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE SECTION 1380
Application Instructions and Permit Requirements**

Application Instructions

- (1) Name and mailing address of the person or firm to be on permit. **The name of the applicant must appear on the experimental container as the packer, distributor, or marketer.** Name, telephone and fax numbers of applicant's authorized representative. **(NOTE: Must be applicant's representative, not container manufacturer's representative.)**
- (2) Name of the fruit, nut, or vegetable for which the container or pack permit is requested. **(NOTE: Only one commodity per application, i.e. peaches, table grapes, nectarines.)**
- (3) Quantity of the product shipped to fresh market by the applicant in all types of containers in the preceding year. Only containers packed in California may be counted toward the quantity shipped. However, if no shipments were made the previous year, give an estimated shipment for the current year. **(NOTE: This information is subject to verification.)**
- (4) Quantity of experimental containers or containers with experimental pack requested - - - the maximum allowed is 10% of previous year's shipment of same commodity or 10,000 containers, whichever is greater. If fewer than 10,000 containers were shipped the previous year, the applicant may ship only up to the number shipped that year.
- (5) The container's dimensions shall be expressed in inches and fractions of inches and shall include inside and outside dimensions, this should be from the manufacturer or supplier. If the application is for a bin, state the approximate pounds each bin will hold.
- (6) Describe the construction and material of the experimental container. This should be from the manufacturer or supplier. Describe the style and method of preparing experimental packs. If you have any questions regarding the description requirements, please contact the Inspection and Compliance Branch at (916) 900-5030.
- (7) Name and address of the container manufacturer/supplier. Name, telephone and fax numbers of the manufacturer/supplier and contact person from whom the experimental containers are to be obtained.
- (8) The reason for using the proposed experimental container or pack. This must include a statement of facts substantiating the need for the proposed experimental container or pack.

Permit Requirements

- (1) Five (5) days must be allowed for processing from the date of receiving the application to the first shipment.
- (2) Each such container shall be clearly and conspicuously marked with "Experimental Container Permit No. 000" or "Experimental Pack Permit No. 000" as indicated by the permit. This permit number will be issued with and will become a part of the permit to ship experimental containers and packs. Experimental bins should also be stamped with the date of shipment. (Attaching a dated tag to the bin is not acceptable.) "Experimental" may be abbreviated "exp" and "Container" may be abbreviated "cont". "Pack" and "Permit" may not be abbreviated.
- (3) Any issued permit expires at the end of one year or when the quantity of experimental containers have been issued, whichever occurs first. Upon proper application, a permit may be renewed twice. Prior to issuing a renewal, an applicant must provide the number of containers shipped on the last permit on a form provided by Standardization.
- (4) The following important quote is from the California Administrative Code: "No person may prepare, pack, transport, deliver, or sell commodities in experimental containers or experimental packs, mark such container with the permittee's assigned permit number, in excess of the quantities specified in the permit."

"Every person to whom an experimental container or pack permit has been issued shall keep an accurate record of all shipments of such experimental containers or packs including the place from which such shipments are made, the date of shipment, and the number of containers in each shipment. All such records shall be kept for at least one year and shall be delivered to the director or the Commissioner for inspection on demand at any time within that period."

Return application to:

Department of Food and Agriculture
Inspection and Compliance Branch - Standardization
1220 N Street, Sacramento, California 95814
Phone (916) 900-5030 – Fax (916) 900-5347