



October 1, 2009

**NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT FOR THE CALIFORNIA CELERY RESEARCH PROGRAM**

**TO THE CALIFORNIA CELERY PRODUCER ADDRESSED:**

The California Department of Food and Agriculture, upon the recommendation of the California Celery Research Advisory Board, has established an assessment rate of one and six-tenths cents per one hundred pounds (\$0.016 per cwt.) to be levied on all celery producers. The assessment rate applies to the season beginning October 1, 2009, and continuing through September 30, 2010. The assessment rate is applicable on all celery delivered by producers and received by handlers. This assessment rate is the same as last year's rate.

Assessments due will be remitted directly to the Celery Research Board (531-D North Alta Avenue, Dinuba, California 93618) by each first handler of celery produced in California during the period October 1, 2009, through September 30, 2010. Any producer who handles his or her own celery is also a handler and shall be responsible for payment of the full assessment due.

Assessment payments are due and payable on the first day of each month following the month in which celery is harvested and prepared for market. If assessments are not paid (postmarked) by the 15th of the month in which they are due, they will be considered delinquent. Handlers whose assessment payments are delinquent may be subject to the penalty provisions of the Food and Agricultural Code. Assessment reports will be supplied monthly to all handlers for the reporting and payment of assessments due.

In determining the assessment, the following conversion factors for fresh celery are to be used: \$0.0096 per standard container (carton) and \$0.0096 per WGA heart material container; \$0.004 per one-dozen celery hearts container (carton); \$0.008 per two-dozen celery hearts container (carton) and \$0.006 per eighteen celery hearts container (carton). Celery marketed for processing will be assessed by actual net weight.

Persons who produce and market less than three hundred thousand pounds (3,000 cwt.) of celery during October 1, 2009, through September 30, 2010, may apply for a refund of assessments collected following September 30, 2010. The refund of assessments shall be made upon the application of the producer and upon verification of the quantity of celery produced for market and delivered to handlers during said marketing season.

If you have any questions concerning the assessment rate or the Celery Research Program, please contact J.D. Allen, Manager of the California Celery Research Advisory Board, 531-D North Alta Avenue, Dinuba, California 93618, telephone (559) 591-0434, or April Izumi with the Marketing Branch at the number below.

Sincerely,

Robert Maxie, Chief  
Marketing Branch

