



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE
Karen Ross, Secretary

November 4, 2024

**Notice to File: Information regarding
Pierce's Disease Assessments Paid during the 2024 Season**

Report Due: January 10, 2025

TO ALL WINERIES AND WINEGRAPE PROCESSORS:

The Pierce's disease assessment, paid by California growers of crushed grapes, supports research, outreach programs, and other activities related to Pierce's disease, its vectors, and other serious grape pests and diseases. Pursuant to Section 6047.20 of the California Food and Agricultural Code (FAC), the California Department of Food and Agriculture (Department) is required to conduct a referendum among eligible grape growers in the state to determine whether they favor continuing the collection of the Pierce's disease assessment for another five years.

In order to conduct this referendum, the Department must first establish an up-to-date list of persons who paid the Pierce's disease assessment on grapes crushed during the 2024 season (July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025). Once this list is established, all eligible growers of record will be given the opportunity to vote on whether the assessment should continue.

The Department needs the cooperation and assistance of all wineries and winegrape processors to establish an accurate list of growers. Therefore, pursuant to the provisions of Section 6047.21(c) of the FAC, notice is hereby given to wineries and winegrape processors to file with the Department, **no later than January 10, 2025**, the following information relating to the payment of Pierce's disease assessments:

Required Grower Information

- The operation name, first and last name, employer identification number (EIN; if available), mailing address, telephone number, and connected purchases (or assessment paid) for each grower from whom your firm received California grapes during the 2024 season.

According to Section 6047.13 of the FAC, all information submitted by wineries and winegrape processors pursuant to this notice to file process will remain confidential. Please contact the Department's Marketing Branch if you would like more information or have questions about this confidentiality provision or the protection of proprietary information provided to the Department.

(Over)



How to submit the required information:

The electronic (Excel) version of the Grape Crush Inquiry workbook includes a tab titled "Grower List" which may be used to submit the required grower information. To access an electronic version of the Grape Crush Inquiry, please visit: cdfa.ca.gov/mkt/grapecrush.html

If you choose not to use the electronic Grape Crush Inquiry workbook, this information must be submitted by mail. Enclosed with this letter is a green Grower Information Certification Form with a Grower Information Worksheet printed on the reverse side. Please follow the steps below for submitting the required grower information by mail:

1. Complete the first page of the green Grower Information Certification Form.
2. List all growers who you purchased grapes from or growers you custom crushed for during the 2024 season on the reverse side of the Grower Information Certification Form.
3. Open your completed Grape Crush and Purchase Inquiry to the Data Page.
4. For each purchase on the Data Page, enter the matching Grower Number from the Grower Information Worksheet. Every purchase on the Data Page should have a Grower Number entered.
5. Mail the completed forms in the enclosed prepaid envelope to:

ATTN: CDFA Grape Crush
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 6-100
Sacramento, CA 95814

Wineries and winegrape processors may also submit their own forms or computer printouts if they contain the same fields. If choosing this option, you must still submit the first page of the Grower Information Certification Form with your signature.

Please be aware that failure to submit this mandatory report may result in enforcement action against your entity under the California Food and Agricultural Code.

If you have any questions about this notice to file process, the information required to be reported, or if your entity is a cooperative, please contact Miranda Townsend or Denise Sanchas with the Department's Marketing Branch at (916) 900-5018.

Sincerely,



Joe Monson, Branch Chief
Marketing Branch

Enclosures