



CDFA NURSERY ADVISORY BOARD
PROSPECTIVE VOTING MEMBER APPOINTMENT QUESTIONNAIRE
Email resume and questionnaire to: nurseryservices@cdfa.ca.gov

APPLICANT PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: Chris Wichman Date: 11/10/2025
Mailing Address: [REDACTED]
Telephone Number: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION

Name of Company (include Nursery License #): Belmont Nursery B7184.001
Location (City and County): Fresno, Fresno
How long have you participated in this industry? 5 years

List names and dates of industry, trade, associations, and/or programs you are/and/or have been associated with:

<u>American Hort</u>	<u>Fresno County Farm Bureau</u>
<u>IPPS</u>	<u>Madera County Farm Bureau</u>

Please state the reason(s) you would like to serve on this Board (indicate any areas of individual specialty and/or experience):

As a leader in my company, and a board of director for Fresno County Farm Bureau, I understand the
importance to step outside of our individual businesses to share our voice, our story, and ultimately help
keep the dialog open between those creating laws, those upholding laws, and the businesses that need
to adhere to the laws. Keeping in mind how to educate the public about the reason/importance for the laws.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

What type of business are you involved with (check all that apply):

☒ Retailer ☐ Landscaper ☒ Producer

List the kinds of nursery stock that you have financial interest in (check all that apply):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Ornamentals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annuals/Perennials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indoor Foliage Plants
<input type="checkbox"/> Cut Flowers (production & wholesale)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Retailers (large & small business)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Turf/Sod
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sub-Tropical (e.g. citrus, avocado)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strawberry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IAB Assessed Nursery Stock (grapevine, fruit & nut trees, olives)
<input type="checkbox"/> Landscapers (must be licensed to sell nursery stock)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (list kinds): _____	

Approximate acreage or number of units within California (circle one): 30

Signature

11/10/2025

Date

Christopher Arthur Wichman

www.linkedin.com/in/chris-wichman-89b6b6196



I am a highly motivated self-starter with the skills necessary for business management coupled with the capacity to effectively lead team operations and driven by a creed of being a forever learner.

Work Experience:

Aug. 2021-Present

Belmont Nursery: Production Manager

(Full-Time) Oversee the day-to-day operations of the 20 acres of growing facilities. Manage/schedule five teams of full-time and seasonal workers. Hiring new team members, creating plans and pathways to engage/motivate. Terminating team members when needed. Maximize time by correctly budgeting hours. Coordinating staff levels with the order picking, projected planting, and labor requirements. Plan and run weekly production meetings. Walk the growing facilities and plan for production tasks. Direct yard projects. Tracking of efficiencies in processes to establish standards and setting goals. Work with the general manager to project annual sales goals. Disseminate information to the team in a timely manner. Participate as part of the leadership team to strategically plan for the future of the nursery. Other duties as needed.

Nov. 2020-Aug 2021

Belmont Nursery: Assistant Production Manager

(Full-Time) Under the direction, supervision, and collaboration of the production manager. I led morning team meetings to start the day on the same page. I planned employee schedules for the most efficient use of labor. Coordinate planting at both growing facilities. Participated as part of the team in the interviewing and onboarding of new team members. Ran the weekly production meetings, coordinated plans with the plant health team and the retail team. I walked the facilities to direct tasks needed to keep up with production. Further seeking efficiencies.

Apr. 2020-Oct. 2020

Madera Irrigation District: Canal Operator 1

(Full-Time) As a vital member of the irrigation network. I was tasked with the efficient, timely, and reliable delivery of surface irrigation water to farmers and other irrigation districts.

Dec. 2018-Dec. 2023

Digital Irrigation Relay Technologies: Co-Owner/Secretary

(Part-Time) I assisted with selling data collection/monitoring devices to growers/farmers for implementation into their on-farm programs. Invoicing, and management of company QuickBooks.

Sep. 2018-Apr. 2020

Pacific Agronomics Inc: Operations Supervisor

(Full-Time) As a leader within the company I oversaw the day-to-day field operations, employee scheduling, irrigation scheduling, time management, and GPS mapping. Oversight of the internship program, hiring and training of new employees.

Sep. 2014-Aug. 2018

Pacific Agronomics Inc: Lead Field Technician

(Full-Time) During the growing season I used the 503c Hydroprobe elite for the collection of soil moisture data that I would use for irrigation scheduling. Soil & tissue sampling to determine nutrient levels for my Certified Crop Advisors. GPS mapping, customer service, driving/navigating.

Jan, 2009-Sep. 2014

Pacific Agronomics Inc: Field Technician

(Part-Time/Seasonal) During the growing season I used the 503c Hydroprobe to gather soil moisture readings for my irrigation scheduler. Soil & tissue sampling to determine nutrient levels for my Certified Crop Advisor. GPS mapping, customer service, driving/navigating.

Education/Training:

July 2024-July 2025	<u>Horticultural Research Institute:</u> Leadership Academy Graduate of class of 2025
2023	<u>AmericanHort:</u> Greenhouse Technician Certification <i>Graduate of first class</i>
Aug. 2016-Dec. 2019	<u>California State University Fresno:</u> Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Jan. 2008-May 2012	<u>Fresno City College:</u> Associates in Science in Fire Technology <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Oct. 2010-Jun. 2011	<u>Fresno City College:</u> Firefighter Academy Class 35
Aug. 2003-Jun. 2007	<u>Bullard High School:</u> Diploma

Industry Involvement:

2025	<u>Madera Count Farm Bureau:</u> Agriculturalist of the year
Nov. 2025-Present	<u>Fresno County Farm Bureau:</u> Board member <i>representing the nursery industry</i>
Aug. 2023-Oct 2025	<u>Madera County Farm Bureau:</u> Board member <i>representing young farmers and ranchers</i>
Jul. 2023	<u>American Hort:</u> Cultivate Panel Member <i>John Kennedy's Great Game of Business</i>
2023	<u>California Farm Bureau:</u> 2023 Excellence in Agriculture Award Runner-up, <i>Attended annual conference 2023, 2024</i>
2023-Present	<u>International Plant Propagators Society:</u> Member <i>Attended 2023 Western Region Conference</i>
2023-Present	<u>Fresno Madera Young Farmers and Ranchers:</u> Madera County co-chair
2022-2023	<u>Fresno Madera Young Farmers and Ranchers:</u> Treasurer
Nov.2021-Present	<u>Fresno County Farm Bureau:</u> Member <i>Future Advocates for Agriculture concerned about Tomorrow class 18</i>
Jul. 2021- Present	<u>AmericanHort:</u> Member <i>Attended Cultivate 2021-2025, finished plant conference 2021, many webinars</i>
2016-2020	<u>American Society of Agronomy:</u> Member <i>Attended Soil Science conference 2016, 2017, 2018</i>
2017-2020	<u>Irrigation Association:</u> Member <i>Attended annual conference in 2018</i>

Volunteer Work:

2023-Present	<u>Beautify Fresno:</u> City clean-up events <i>Volunteering with the young farmers and ranchers program</i>
2020-Present	<u>Beautify Fresno:</u> Al Radka park clean-up <i>Partnered the adopt a park program with Belmont Nursery</i>
2019	<u>California Water Institute:</u> Service-Learning Project <i>Helped run the pump efficiency field day</i>
2018	<u>Center for Irrigation Technology:</u> Service-Learning Project <i>Testing data logging sensors</i>
2012-2014	<u>Madera Fire Department:</u> Resident Apprentice Firefighter
2012	<u>Sanger Fire Department:</u> Volunteer Firefighter
2009-2010	<u>Fresno Fire Department:</u> Explorers Program

References:

Available upon request