May 4, 2022

**To:** **Participants – Strawberry Registration and Certification Program**

**Subject:** **Virus Indexing Fee Increase**

Participation in the California Strawberry Nursery Stock Registration and Certification Program is voluntary. Participants in the Program are required to complete virus indexing for applicable Foundation Block clone material. Additional mother plants may be submitted as service samples for indexing by the Department.

Starting with the 2022 season, the annual fee for registration of Foundation Blocks will be increased to $1,650 for each planting, plus $100 for each additional plant indexed in excess of 30. The cost of service sampling will be $110 for each mother plant index tested.

The Strawberry Registration and Certification Program is currently operating at a deficit and the updated fee structure is necessary to keep the program solvent. Increases in personnel and operating costs of the greenhouse facilities have increased beyond the revenues collected. CDFA will continue to monitor program expenditures and revenues to ensure that the program operates at cost.

To address any questions regarding the new virus indexing testing fees, CDFA will hold a webinar on Monday, May 16, 2022, from 3:00 to 4:00 pm. See details outlined below to participate.

**<u>Strawberry Virus Indexing Update</u>**
> **Zoom Meeting Link**: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81215635140
> **Meeting ID**: 812 1563 5140
> **Passcode**: strwbrry@3
> **Dial-In**: 1-669-900-6833
> **Dial-In Meeting ID**: 812 1563 5140
> **Dial-In Passcode**: 7967213468

> If you need reasonable accommodations as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act or if you have questions regarding the public meeting, please contact Phuong Lao at (916) 654-0435. Requests for reasonable accommodations should be made no later than three days prior to the meeting.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Nursery, Seed, and Cotton Program at (916) 654-0435 or nurseryservices@cdfa.ca.gov.

Your participation and continued support for the Strawberry Nursery Stock Registration and Certification Program is greatly appreciated.

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**State of California**
Gavin Newsom, Governor