



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

June 18, 2015

**CALIFORNIA PISTACHIO RESEARCH PROGRAM
ASSESSMENT RATE FOR THE 2015-2016 MARKETING SEASON
SET AT \$0.0050 PER POUND OF ASSESSABLE WEIGHT**

TO THE PISTACHIO HANDLER ADDRESSED:

As recommended by the California Pistachio Research Board (Board), the California Department of Food and Agriculture has established an assessment rate for the 2015-2016 marketing season (being August 1, 2015 through July 31, 2016) on all California pistachio growers. This assessment is to be remitted on behalf of the growers by pistachio processors.

The assessment rate for the 2015-2016 marketing season has been set at the maximum rate allowable of \$0.0050 per pound pistachios based on assessable weight. One thirty-fifth of a cent (\$0.0035) of this rate will be utilized to fund the Program's regular budget while the other fifteenth of a cent (\$0.0015) will be directed toward funding endowed university research positions.

The Board office will provide the assessment form and instructions to all California pistachio processors in the month of August. Assessment checks are payable to the Board and shall be postmarked by December 15, 2015. Assessments postmarked after the December 15th deadline will be considered delinquent and will be assessed a late payment penalty as provided in the Section 58930 of the Food and Agricultural Code.

Growers who produce or market less than 1,000 pounds of assessable weight during the 2015-2016 marketing season and who pay assessments may apply for a refund of those assessments after July 31, 2016.

A copy of the Order of the Department establishing the 2015-2016 assessment rate is available from the Department's Marketing Branch. For questions about the assessment order, please contact Amy Uber of the Marketing Branch at (916) 900-5018. For questions regarding the California Pistachio Research Program, please call Bob Klein, the Program's Manager, at (559) 255-6480.

Sincerely,

Robert Maxie, Chief
Marketing Branch

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