



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD & AGRICULTURE

Karen Ross, Secretary

August 21, 2015

**NOTICE OF THE 2015-2016
RICE RESEARCH PROGRAM ASSESSMENT RATE**

TO THE RICE PRODUCER OR RICE HANDLER ADDRESSED:

At its August 6, 2015 meeting, the Rice Research Board (Board) recommended and the California Department of Food and Agriculture subsequently approved, a rate of assessment for the California Rice Research Program (Program) at eight cents per hundredweight (\$0.08/cwt.) or the equivalent thereof, on all dry rough ("paddy") rice marketed by producers to handlers during the marketing season beginning September 1, 2015, through August 31, 2016. The assessment rate increased from seven cents per hundredweight (\$0.07/cwt) to eight cents per hundredweight (\$0.08/cwt) a total change of one cent (\$0.01/cwt) from the prior fiscal year. This is the maximum assessment rate for rice research assessments and cannot be increased without an amendment to the program order.

Assessments on rice for milling become payable at the time payment is due to the grower: either when the paddy rice is sold to the miller or when the cooperative sells members' paddy rice, as appropriate. Assessments on rice for seed purposes become due when harvested rice is cleaned or used for seed purposes, whichever is first.

To facilitate collection, millers, seed cleaners, and all other first rice handlers are required to collect the assessments and remit them to the Rice Research Board for and on behalf of producers. Millers may withhold assessments from monies they owe producers. Seed cleaners may add assessments to the charge they make for cleaning rice. In addition, assessments for rice under loan with the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) shall be collected from millers or other handlers who handle rice on behalf of producers.

Assessment report forms for the 2015-2016 marketing season will be mailed to all millers, seed cleaners, and other handlers of rice. All assessments must be reported and remitted monthly to the Rice Research Board.

If you have questions regarding the Rice Research Program, please call Mr. Dana Dickey, Manager of the Rice Research Board, at (530) 673-6247, or contact Bob Maxie at the number below.

Sincerely,

Robert Maxie, Chief
Marketing Branch

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